

The Christian and Abortion

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1) The issue of abortion

- **Worldwide**

Number of abortions per year: Approximately 42 Million

Number of abortions per day: Approximately 115,000

- **Where abortions occur:**

83% of all abortions are obtained in developing countries and 17% occur in developed countries.

- **Who's having abortions (age)?**

52% of women obtaining abortions in the U.S. are younger than 25: Women aged 20-24 obtain 32% of all abortions; Teenagers obtain 20% and girls under 15 account for 1.2%.

- **Who's having abortions (marital status)?**

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- **Why women have abortions**

93% of all abortions occur for social reasons (i.e. the child is unwanted or inconvenient).

- **Other reasons**

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- The question then is: "Is a foetus a living human person?"

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 - Being sin it separates the person from God (Isaiah 59: 2)
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 - Jeremiah 1: 5 Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart
- God is the one who creates the foetus in the mother’s womb
 - Psalm 139: 13 For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb
- For us murder is once for all forbidden; so even the child in the womb. . . is not lawful for us to destroy. To forbid birth is only quicker murder. . . . The fruit is always present in the seed.

TERTULLIAN (C. 160–AFTER 220)
- The Christians needs to understand that abortion is wrong. It is an act of murder and any intention to abort a foetus is an intention to murder a human life.
- What about cases of rape and incest?

- We have seen that only 1% of abortion cases are due to rape or incest.
- It is very unfortunate when someone falls pregnant under these circumstances but she must ask herself some hard questions in dealing with this
 - Would I want to take that life that is in me because I didn't ask for it?
 - Will the consequences of having an abortion aggravate the trauma that I have already been through?
 - Would it not be better to give birth to the baby and give it up for adoption than to take its life?
 - In understanding that a foetus is a God created human being what would God have you do?
 - A woman we recently heard speaking at a conference said that her father is a rapist but she loves her mother so much for not aborting her. She is now serving the purpose of God in her life.
- As horrid as abortion is it is forgivable.
 - The last thing a person needs after having an abortion is to be condemned.
 - They are normally under so much guilt that they already know condemnation. What they need is love and grace.
 - Repentance and the receiving of God's forgiveness is absolutely essential for the person's healing and wholeness.
 - This also goes for men who have encouraged a woman to have an abortion.
 - Repentance includes the choice to not have pre-marital to extra marital sex
 - It also necessitates the repentance of self centeredness, which is a prime reason for abortion, to Christ centeredness
 - I have a right to free speech, but not to shout "fire" in a theater. A person's right to anything stops when it injures or kills another living human. Should any civilized nation give to one citizen the absolute right to kill another to solve that first person's personal problem?

JOHN WILKE

A professor in a world-acclaimed medical school once posed this medical situation -- and ethical problem -- to his students: "Here's the family history: The father has syphilis. The mother has TB. They already have had four children. The first is blind. The second had died. The third is deaf. The fourth has TB. Now the mother is pregnant again, The parents come to you for advice. They are willing to have an abortion, if you decide they should. What do you say?"

The students gave various individual opinions, and then the professor asked them to break into small groups for "consultation." All of the groups came back to report that they would recommend abortion. "Congratulations," the professor said, "You just took the life of Beethoven!"