

Pro Life Arguments

1. Since life begins at conception abortion is akin to murder as it is the act of taking human life and is therefore in direct defiance of the commonly accepted idea of the sanctity of human life.
 - a. Here the argument is that abortion is a willful act of murder and should be dealt with as is any other act of murder.
 - b. There is also the accompanying implication that punishment acts as a deterrent
2. Adoption is a viable alternative to abortion and accomplishes the same result.
3. An abortion can result in medical complications later in life; the risk of ectopic pregnancies is increased
4. For women who demand complete control of their body, control should include preventing the risk of unwanted pregnancy through the responsible use of contraception.
 - a. The traditional Catholic position here is that control should come through use of the rhythm method or abstinence and not through the use of contraceptives
5. Many Americans who pay taxes are opposed to abortion, therefore it's morally wrong to use tax dollars to fund abortion.
6. Those who choose abortions are often minors or young women with insufficient life experience to understand fully what they are doing.
 - a. Many have lifelong regrets afterward.
7. Abortion causes psychological pain and stress.
 - a. A study of the medical records of 56,741 California medicaid patients revealed that women who had abortions were 160 percent more likely than delivering women to be treated for psychiatric problems

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1. Women choose to abort due to a lot of difficult circumstances.
2. The right to an abortion should be an individual moral choice and not determined by government mandate
3. Nearly all abortions take place in the first trimester when a fetus is attached by the placenta and umbilical cord to the mother and cannot be regarded as a separate entity as it cannot exist outside her womb.
4. Abortion is a safe medical procedure.
5. Abortion is not used as a form of contraception.
 - a. Pregnancy can occur even with contraceptive use.
6. Adoption is not an alternative to abortion because it remains the woman's choice whether or not to give her child up for adoption.
7. In the case of rape or incest, forcing a woman made pregnant by this violent act would cause further psychological harm to the victim.
8. The concept of personhood is different from the concept of human life.
 - a. Fertilized eggs used for in vitro fertilization are also human lives and those not implanted are routinely discarded
9. From a religious perspective, if God is so concerned about abortion why is it that 2/3 of all human embryos fail to develop successfully and are naturally aborted
10. From a sociological perspective, many of those who argue against abortion in the name of pro-life are hypocritical
 - a. In this regard Pro Choice advocates claim that it is hard to call yourself pro-life when you are working to imprison or execute women who access safe abortion care & strip reproductive healthcare from millions of low-income people
11. Some pro choice advocates point out that over the last fifty years it is estimated that there have been over 2 billion abortions world wide
 - a. Without abortion, problems of over population & scarcity of resources increase