

“Why I Am Pro-Life”

This essay, which began as a requirement for the Sacrament of Confirmation, helped me to grow as a Catholic. I had to seriously ask myself why I was pro-life and look deeply into my own beliefs which are still being formed. I am thirteen years old. My birthday of January 27, 2008, followed on the heels of the thirty-fifth anniversary of the legalization of abortion in the United States of America. I am a survivor because my parents did not choose abortion but welcomed me into the world.

I have recently been reading some of the words of Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta who died in 1997 and was canonized a saint by Pope Francis in 2016. I find her life interesting because she experienced the reality of abortion during her life time, just as I experience it. She says “Every child is a gift of God . . . created for greater things”. (Where There is Love, There is God, 2010)¹ These words helped me to think and reflect upon the beauty and the gift of every single life. I cannot help but think of the millions of lives that have been eliminated since the passing of *Roe vs. Wade* in 1973 and wonder who these little children would have been if they had been allowed to be born. Surely there would have been doctors, scientists, researchers, teachers and even priests and religious nuns among them.

Mother Teresa goes on to tell us that abortion kills not only the life of the unborn child but also murders the conscience of the mother of that child.¹ It is, in my mind, a crime of self-harm to the mother that will not be easy to fix. Although

abortion might seem like an easy solution to something that is very inconvenient, the price is a very steep one in that the mother will most likely suffer the consequences of this decision.

I am pro-life. As a young person growing up on a farm, I am continually called to care for lives in fragile states. New born lambs and calves sometimes require much care. During this process, I formed my opinion of my pro-life status. Mother Teresa warns us that abortion causes people to be spiritually poor and that is the worst type of poverty that can exist.

Mother Teresa was grateful to her own mother for bringing her to life. I am grateful as well for my own life and will do my part to preserve the lives of all unborn children.

Sources cited: [Where There is Love, There is God](#) (2010)