## Intricately Designed, Inherently Valuable

"We cannot diminish the value of one category of human life-the unborn-without diminishing the value of all human life."-President Ronald Reagan. Human life is inherently valuable. Most everyone would agree that human life, with its capacity for innovation, creativity and love, is a treasure worth preserving, but confusingly and devastatingly, for many, this sentiment does not apply to the unborn. The Bible ascribes value to the unborn, while abortion disregards this value. Three of the many reasons I am pro-life are: I am a Christian and I trust the Bible as the complete Truth, abortion is immoral and unjust, and the defense of abortion is fraught with inconsistency in reasoning.

First and foremost, I am pro-life because I am a Christian and I trust the Bible as the source of ultimate Truth. The Bible ascribes value and personhood to the unborn. In the Bible there are countless verses that prove that God is pro-life. Jeremiah 1:5 states, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart..." God didn't just do this for Jeremiah, this is a repeated theme stretching throughout both the old and new testaments. God has a plan for us, He creates us for a purpose, and He knows us before we are born. For the Christian, being pro-life shouldn't be a debatable topic. God lays it out extremely clearly.

I am also pro-life because abortion is the killing of an innocent baby. Despite what you may hear in the media, a baby is a living person. At just 12 weeks in utero, the baby has all of his or her body parts intact. It is an unjust, immoral act to slaughter any inculpable human being, including a tiny baby. In the Declaration of Independence it states, "All people are created equal and have certain unalienable rights, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Our country was built on the principles of this document, and it is impossible to obtain the last two if you can't even have the first: life. These babies can't defend themselves. They don't deserve death.

Another reason I am pro-life is that arguments created by the pro-choice hemisphere are illogical. One of their favorite assertions is to say that it is not a baby in the mother's womb: it is a "fetus." However, this is an invalid argument, because despite the fact that pro-choice advocates love to call these babies "fetuses" to dehumanize them and make the act of abortion more palatable, the word "fetus" is a Latin word which means "offspring." Therefore, they dismantle their own argument using their own terms. Additionally, many states recognize the unborn as persons when a pregnant woman is murdered. Why is it that a person who murders a pregnant woman is charged with a double homicide in 38 states if the baby is not a person? Why is it permitted for the mother to consent to kill her own baby legally, if it's illegal for another person to? This reasoning is inconsistent and contradictory.

In conclusion, I am pro-life for many reasons: the first, and main reason being, God is at the center of my life, making the Bible the foundation of my values, principles, and morals. Additionally, abortion is immoral and unjust, and there are too many contradictions in pro-choice reasoning. God created each of us in His image. It's time we stop ending inherently valuable lives that He has intricately designed, and devote ourselves, at all costs, to the protection of the unborn.

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