

Why I am pro-life

Usually when people hear the phrase “pro-life” they think about the issue of abortion, but being pro-life is truly about loving all humans from conception to their natural death. I believe that the issue of euthanasia is similar to that of abortion in many ways. In both cases we are killing a human being who is not loved nor appreciated by our society. An unwanted baby, the disabled, the sick and the elderly are all seen as inconveniences with no value.

The Nazis did not value these people either and from 1939 to 1945 they killed millions of people including Jews, the elderly and disabled. Sometimes they used a gas chamber but they also used lethal injection. America was horrified by the Nazis actions yet we are now legalizing this very thing – euthanasia.

Webster’s dictionary defines euthanasia as mercy killing; the act of putting to death, painlessly, a person suffering from an incurable and painful disease or condition. By definition, euthanasia should only be done to a person who is already dying. But in our society today, being terminally ill is no longer necessary. Now, if someone is struggling with depression and is feeling unloved or that they are a burden, they

can simply choose to end their life. Several states in our country have legalized euthanasia (which is when a doctor administers the lethal drug) as well as assisted suicide (where a doctor prescribes the drug and the person takes it on their own). The thing is that everyone has bad days and loneliness and other feelings that can come and go. In that small, desperate, lonely moment, without someone to give them hope, people would be allowed to make the rash decision to end their own life.

People who are dying or those in great pain may see euthanasia as their way out of suffering. In his pamphlet, "Life Matters: Doctor-Assisted Death by Suicide," William L. Toffler, M.D. states, "In Oregon, I regularly receive notes that the state's Medicaid health plan will no longer pay for many important services and drugs for my patients, even including some pain medications. At the same time, assisted suicide is fully covered and sanctioned by the state of Oregon – funded by our collective tax dollars." Instead of helping patients deal with the pain, our country has started simply offering to end their life but this is the giving up of hope and compassion. Losing our sense of compassion for others means we have no hope for the future. Pope John Paul II said, "America, your very future as a nation

depends on your willingness to protect the right to life of the most defenseless in your society.”

The question was, “Why am I pro-life?”. I am pro-life because I have been given the gift of life and I will stand up and defend the weak and protect the innocent. As Edmund Burke said, “All that is required for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing.”