

The Detrimental Effect of Abortion in Society

She looked so perplexed, this woman. Tears filled her eyes over a matter most important as she left the clinic. What terrible news could she have just received? Was it cancer? Was it her? Was it a loved one? Or was it something else that traumatized her so deeply? She didn't think it would feel this way, such guilt and regret controlling her. How was she supposed to know it would be so hard, after all it was just tissue right?

Unfortunately, much of society today is deceived by this word "tissue" that comes up so often. What does abortion really mean? And is it just tissue that is being aborted? According to the Medline Plus Medical Encyclopedia, abortion is a "procedure, either surgical or medical, to end a pregnancy by removing the fetus and placenta from the uterus ("Abortion")." So what does fetus mean? Fetus is a Latin word meaning "young in the womb" (Lewis). Women who abort greatly affect themselves as well as the lives of those around them. The effects of abortion are overwhelmingly detrimental to society.

Consequently, abortion creates the wrong view of sin in society. If people can play around outside the bounds of marriage and the baby who results can be removed, they can pretend that the immorality never happened; presenting the idea that abortion is "just fine". The Bible states in Romans 14:12, "So then every one of us shall give account to himself to God." Even though something appears to be "just fine" that does not always prove to be the case. Each person's actions whether good or bad, shameful or praiseful will be put in account before God. Abortion allows for society to avoid the feeling of guilt. The over-all message of today is, "If it's not illegal it must not be too bad." This provokes an increased level of self-willed actions. One takes it upon himself to make the final decisions. But doesn't the Bible command that we see God as the supreme authority?

1 Corinthians 11:3 says, "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ...and the head of Christ is God." Clearly the Bible tells us that man does not get to call all the shots! So if sin

is not so "bad" and abortion is really "just fine", then, ultimately, consequences are eliminated. If the consequences are eliminated, abortion is capable of persuading society to its acceptance. People like the idea of sinning and bypassing the consequences.

Not only does abortion create the wrong view of sin, but also it creates spiritual blindness to the truth in society. People assume that abortion is merely the removal of "tissue," but real babies with hands and feet are being killed, babies with living souls! Psalms 139:16 states "Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them," also Jeremiah 1:5a says, "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee;" A clear picture is presented of life in the womb! God has "fearfully and wonderfully" created us (Psalm 139:14). Along with social assumptions of abortion being the removal of tissue, society also assumes that no one gets hurt. Both physical and psychological effects result for the mother. She can physically experience infection and bleeding, along with damaged organs, which may interfere with future fertility. She can psychologically experience guilt, regret, depression, and long-term emotional instability. The child never has a chance to experience life because life is literally ripped away from him.

As if a distorted view of sin and blindness to the truth are not terrible enough, abortion also creates desensitization to evil in society. The barrier between right and wrong becomes increasingly eliminated, and the idea of abortion leads to desensitization in other areas. If abortion is "just fine" what is wrong with homosexuality and gay marriage (two factors also contributing to the burning down of society)? Judges 21:25 reads, "...every man did that which was right in his own eyes." As the distinction between right and wrong is eliminated and God is not looked to for truth, man has no choice but to look to himself. He has to be his own standard of right and wrong. In today's society few people like to hear the word "bad" or admit when something is "bad" because, remember, many view themselves as the ultimate standard of right and wrong, and who likes to be denied his own

opinion? According to Jeremiah 17:9, "The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked: who can know it," how can there be any foundation behind one's own opinion? Proverbs 20:9 asks, "Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?" It is a rhetorical question; no one has a pure heart because sin is universal in the lives of man!

People need to hear the truth about abortion in society, but first must come an overriding compassion for those who are blindly being lead astray, having no Shepherd. God does not want people like hard-hearted Jonah, who knowing the truth, refuse to obey God, but those who understand truth and want to obey the call to righteousness. In order to fight against abortion, society needs the truth of the Word of God. As a final note from Scripture, Isaiah 53:6 reads, "All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." Although society is blinded to the truth, persuaded to acceptance, and desensitized to evil by abortion today, the Savior is willing and ready to receive His children. Aren't we glad He wasn't aborted? If anyone had the "right" to abort, it would have been Mary, to protect her innocence! Mary put her trust in God, selflessly giving up her future to Him.

Works Cited

"Abortion," in *MedlinePlus Medical Encyclopedia*, 2005 ed., Medical Encyclopedia Online, accessed 26 October 2006.

Charlton T. Lewis, *A Latin Dictionary* (book online), 1879, accessed 26 October 2006.