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Pro-life vs. Pro-choice

Although the Supreme Court determined in Roe v. Wade that abortion was a “fundamental right”, the issue remains to this day a controversial topic amongst Americans. Women were given an opportunity to choose a medically sound procedure without repercussions from the law for an abortion through the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court case of Roe v. Wade. The 7-2 decision gave women an outcome to take a path of full term pregnancy or to end the pregnancy by a surgical procedure: abortion. Under this profound law it shielded women from once considered a criminal act to have the freedom to make this decision. But this led many strong opinions from proponents and opponents whether it was a fundamental right.

Supporters for abortion have stated that life starts in a midway stage of pregnancy term that allows abortion as a choice from the beginning of conception to the midway stage of pregnancy. However, opponents are determining that a viable life in the womb begins at conception becomes debatable due to a several indications. Therefore, abortion should not be legal due to its moral implications.

Abortion on Fundamental Right is not accepted. The United States Supreme Court has already ruled abortion to be a “Fundamental Right.” Legally, abortion should not be withheld from citizens of the United States. To procreate or not is a choice that allows women to produce a child or not. In 1992 Planned Parenthood v. Casey document, Former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor indicated that the impact of reproduction rights by women gives them the governing process to produce life or choose to remove life from their bodies.  Planned Parenthood of Southern Pennsylvania v. Casey abandoned the trimester structure along with the consent from the outside family members.

Roe v. Wade is a landmark legal decision. Pregnancy is medically separated into three sections that a woman has access to a legal abortion up to the first two trimesters with the first section beginning from week 1 to week 12 and the second section from week 13 to week 26 which is approximately 6 months of pregnancy term. The last section of the pregnancy is week 27 to the birth of the infant. Former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor designated to let individual states to limit abortions while it didn’t create an “undue burden” on the woman’s right. This vague term left many areas of interpretation for governmental entities (states and courts) to implement oppositions in the future. Women found that this was blocking them from obtaining an abortion before the determination of whether a fetus is viable or not.

The Supreme Court has made immoral rulings in the past. The Court ruled abortion when a woman chooses to have a child until it becomes viable. Physicians were able to take into consideration of the women’s health if abortion could be permitted to be performed. Therefore, treating doctors had influence to dictate the emotional state of a woman seeking an abortion to have the final decision to prevent the abortion from occurring. Americans voiced their disapproval of abortion limited to when viability begins. Majority viewed that when the fetal heart begins should have abortion to be illegal.

Supreme Court gave abortion doctors to override any abortion restriction from emotional reasons for abortion. Doctors of medicine treat a patient covering areas not only to their physical status, but emotional and best age bearing state for the fetus. Therefore the Supreme Court gave medical doctors the ability to prevent admittance for a surgical procedure to end the pregnancy at any state of gestation in order to oversee the women’s health. The court has created a right to abort a child at any time even when viability possibility even though it affects the mental state of the woman. The idea of right of privacy involves the use of contraception for the woman to prevent conception as to the start of a person or human being in the womb which is the medical term namely a fetus should be all interchangeable. Thus the Constitution ruled out the word “person” because it did not include the fetus. Previously Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor spoke about “The Roe framework,” disagreement at the decision will seriously impact both sides of abortion. Technical procedures are being perfected to lessen the medical dangers to lower the risks of the mother’s health from abortion to where life of a child can be closer to living outside the womb in the first trimester of the pregnancy or conception.

The woman has the right to make the decision because she is dealing with her own body. Pro-choice begins when a personhood start after a fetus is “viable” (able to survive outside the womb or after birth). The beginning of life in the womb is namely an embryo and progresses into a fetus where the state of this new life is dependent on the mother’s complete system to sustain the commencement of life. Once the fetus is born, the United States views the actual date of birth to be start of being a person under the registration process of a person. So Roe v. Wade under the Fourteenth Amendment of the US Constitution does not view the unborn as a person.

Everyone has the right to choose what hair-length they want. In the same way, the woman has a right to choose whether the fetus is in her body or decide when to abort the fetus. Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg emphasized in Gonzales v. Carhart to relish any life producing limits of any individual without any boundaries with access to abortion procedures. Jeffrey Toobin, JD, infers the Roe v. Wade as abortion is an emancipation from carrying a pregnancy to full term. Science indicates the fetus cannot experience pain within the first trimester of gestation due to the cortex in the brain has not developed pain receptors.  Then into the second trimester of gestation, the cortex connections are developed enough to supposedly feel pain. Therefore the fetus is immune from pain by uterus atmosphere until birth. (Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists 2010)

A fetus is not the woman’s body, but it’s a separate person. Born human beings are entirely dependent on other people, but they are not dependent on one specific person. Anyone can take care of a newborn infant, but the pregnant woman can nourish her fetus. The fetus does not rely on a woman’s body for survival. Human beings are separate individuals. The laws were on abortion do not associate murder. The pregnancy can be viewed as a part of the woman’s body or a separate individual being with rights. People who oppose abortion often use the term ‘murder’ to represent abortion. When people know abortion is a murder, it often says more about how they feel about abortion than what it is.

There is no need to murder a child. Murder involves whether or not a fetus is a human being if a fetus is a child, whether or not abortion can rightly be murder for it is legal in many countries. If murder is unlawful killing, it would be a lawful killing that would not be murder. An unethical choice is to define murder in society unless the fetus is not human. If the fetus is a mass of impersonal tissue or something less than human, the life would not be an ethical challenge and would not be followed as murder. However if the unborn is human, then abortion cannot be morally justifiable.

Women are able to terminate a pregnancy. Abortion was justified as the population growth of control. According to an article by Kenneth R. Weiss, Los Angeles Times, the United Nations projected by year 2050 that the world’s population would amount to 9.3 billion similar to creating another country like India and China on our globe. Our resources would be stretched so thin that it would create starvation, low job force to enable poverty, and services to provide of medical treatments as well as over population in school services. According to Guttmacher Institute report of March 2018, women had terminated their pregnancy on average of 52 million abortions annually over a four year period 2010-2014 when contraception systems could not keep up with the population increases and abortion was utilized as a contraception method instead.

Woman’s right to choose to terminate a pregnancy under the condition when not “acceptable” to others. The history of women performing self-abortions was dangerous to the life of the mother. Professionally performed abortions reduce maternal injury and death. Therefore, it was unsafe and illegal abortion. Interviewed by Patt Morrison of the Los Angeles Times, Daniel R. Mishell, Jr. stated that before legalized abortion, women would try to get rid of their pregnancy by inserting into their uterus bent coat hangers, pointed knit needles, and chemically introduce radiator fluid. Back then individuals who performed illegal abortions were considered “back-alley” non-physicians offering to desperate women to pay any fee to rid their pregnancy. History shows 30 maternal deaths occurred from illegal abortions in 1972 per 100,000. But statistics indicated for 1.2 million abortions estimated the causes or 68,000 maternal deaths worldwide every year. (Bruce & Benatar) Another point is some fetuses have disorders when death is guaranteed before or shortly after birth. This includes the brain is missing; limb-body wall complex, organs were developed outside the body cavity. It would be unreasonably financially and physical hardship when women carry fetuses with a fatal congenital to the term. Outstanding expenses incur when Down syndrome parents were not able to care for their disabled children.

Believing in the right of a woman to decide if whether, when, and with whom she can bear a child. Whether safe or unsafe, abortion is still wrong. The first trimester where the fetus is underdeveloped is a woman’s right to have a choice on abortion. Abortion does not prove to be unsafe for the life and health of the mother. It is the second trimester that governmental states have intervened due to the fetus development and size increases complications for both mother and child thus regulations were protecting the health of the mother. Throughout the third trimester, the fetal development is near the completion. The state has prevented abortions through this stage in order to conservatively protect the mother’s health and especially the life of the fetus. But the choice is still with the mother.

Become a parent to an apparently healthy child or to terminate a pregnancy. An infant should not come to the world unwanted. An unintended pregnancy associated with birth defects, low birth weight, maternal depression, risk of child abuse, and delayed prenatal care, physical violence during pregnancy, and reduces rates of breastfeeding. According to the Centers for Disease Control, there were 45% of pregnancies were unintended among Americans in 2011 of all age groups, but higher in teens 15 to 19 years old at 75% .

Few exceptions exist. Fetuses feel pain throughout the process of abortion. Maureen Condic, Ph.D. mentions the fetus can feel pain as early as eight weeks of development and supporters agree that the nervous system of the fetus can respond to sensations in the first trimester. Kanwaljeet J.S. Anand mentions the fetus of 20 weeks or more of gestation that he focused on the high possibility pain is felt by the fetus inside the womb during intrauterine surgery and supplemented with mild anesthesia. Bernard N. Nathanson is a pro-life activist. He explained an abortion is carried out on a 12-week old fetus where the picture shows the child’s mouth open in a silent scream. The silent scream of a child was threatened with extinction.

If the birth leads to the death of the mother, then abortion is morally defensible. The mother has the right to live, but not the right of the fetus to be killed which can be a double-edge sword. According to Abortion in Self-defence, the life of the mother should be protected if endangered by the pregnancy will cause her to have a fatal end. The human host has priority of the fetus that should not determine the mother’s life to which death would be imminent. The fetus depends wholly for nutrition, but if harm to the mother’s body creates a life-or-death situation, then the abortion would reasonably secure the life of the mother.

The only consistent line to draw for life is conception. Life begins at conception where unborn babies should be individual human beings. When fertilization commences to be a human, a human is created with its individual genetic DNA. Jerome Lejeune, a French geneticist who discovered the added chromosome in the DNA that causes Down syndrome after fertilization expresses a new individual has been created that is completely different DNA from it’s original host parents. The conception takes place when the fetal movement is approximately 18-20 weeks where pregnancy becomes viable. The woman should make the decision to continue the pregnancy.

Dependency on the mother is explained that the born and unborn are equally dependent on the mother. Both proponents and opponents whether the womb containing a fetus or whether it be bore to full term of birth that they are still dependent on the mother for sustenance. It may come under discussion whether the fetus should be safeguarded by the mother as it would if it would a baby just born. If the fetus is a mass of growing cells, they would it just be another piece of the mother therefore it would be questionable if it is human or not. But since it is a replica of the both hosts (mom and dad), then it should be looked upon as being human as well. Others may look toward other criteria that if it has a soul during gestation or until after the birth. The chronological events of conception are when sperm and ovum intertwine to be secured in the uterine lining. Proponents of abortion believe this first event allows abortion to occur. But Opponents continue to include event the first event as conception to avoid the surgical removal of the embryo.

Pro-life argues the rights of an unborn fetus. Women should not be able to use abortion as a form of contraception. It is immoral to murder an unborn child for convenience. The Guttmacher Institute indicated less than 50% of the women to have abortions every year. Abortions were less than 10% reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2014 to undergo three or more previous abortions. Steven Levitt, Ph.D., summarized when abortion was legalized, Conceptions were five more time more than births that occurred as indication women were using abortion as form of birth control as well has utilizing their medical insurance to pay for the surgical procedure.

Evil action legal is wrong. An article by Fr. Mark Hodges reviewing Thomas Glessner’s book interview relates the protection of unborn fetuses under the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. If fetuses are consider human beings, and then they have the protection to have life and not be pursued under abortion to end their life. Allowing abortion upon the unborn clashes with original intent provided by these two famous U.S. documents. Glessner relates the documents that humans are made in God’s image and that all humans should the right to life, even if the unborn child resides in the mother’s womb. He continues to argues that unborn are human beings and abortion eludes the life of fetuses’ rights.

After considering both sides of the topic of abortion, I have reviewed the science, choices of health for the mother and the rights of the fetus including the financial socioeconomic impact for all involved. Pro-choice means abortion is a fundamental component of health care whether or not they decide to terminate a pregnancy at any given time in their lives. Pro-life focuses on the fetus rather than how abortion benefited the mother and families. Pro-choice believers support the right to privacy and the women have the choice to control their own bodies. Pro-choice defends and protects the people when the woman’s life is affected. We live in a country where there is freedom, and women continue to have the freedom to make a decision.

Pro-life comes with responsibilities. Women find themselves with an unplanned pregnancy that needs support. They need assistance to carry their babies. Pro-life has a belief when human life is saved no matter what the causes are and regardless of the possibility. Pro-life also supports every child has a right to live even though the mother is not financially able to support the child. The children were below the advantage and could die from the situation they forced to live.

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