

People of Life and Science

Science is the method people use to learn how the natural world works, how technology works, how the human body works. Some people have characterized the pro-life movement as being anti-science. One of the main reasons some people believe this to be true is their “non-scientific” argument that abortion is unsafe and hurts women. Some individuals claim that abortion is among the safest procedures a woman can have, but unlike what they say, science supports the fact that having an abortion can lead to serious physical and emotional health risks for women. The great speaker, Martin Luther King, Jr., once said that “Science gives man knowledge which is power” (King). The pro-life movement uses and will continue to use this scientific knowledge to empower women, by making them aware of the dangers of abortion and thus, prevent them from the agony that comes from having one.

The pro-life movement’s claim that abortion harms women is said to be unsubstantiated and non-scientific. Opponents say science completely backs the assertion that abortion is an extremely safe procedure. They claim that pro-life individuals misrepresent the truth about the risk of depression, suicide, infertility, health problems, and even the guilt women feel after having an abortion. Most pro-abortion advocates say that the majority of women do not regret their decisions to get an abortion. They feel women need abortion, that it helps them. Former Secretary of State and pro-abortion advocate, Hillary Clinton, states, “You cannot have maternal health without reproductive health. And reproductive health includes contraception and family planning and access to legal, safe abortion” (Jenson). Therefore, many people say that the pro-life community is opposing science by discouraging women from having an abortion that could help them and their health.

Although pro-abortionists believe that the pro-life movement deceives women about the health risks that come from abortion, science says differently. Many studies have shown that abortion leads to serious emotional issues for women that can even lead to suicide. A scientific study of health risks associated with abortion was published in 2011 in the British Journal of Psychiatry. The study showed that women who have had an abortion have a 138% higher risk of mental health issues compared to a woman who has not. And a woman who has aborted has a higher risk of anxiety, depression, alcohol and drug use, and even suicidal thoughts. Planned Parenthood, the world's largest abortion provider, admits that serious complications may be fatal with the abortion procedure, including allergic reactions, blood clots in the uterus, undetected ectopic pregnancy, infection, and injury to the cervix and other organs (Illinois). In addition, the Mayo Clinic suggests that abortion can cause scarring of the uterine wall which can affect fertility in women (Tobah). Dr. Beverly McMillan, a former abortionist, also states, "Abortion has been linked to increased risks of developing breast, cervix, and uterine cancers" (McMillan). After researching scientific study after study, the pro-life community has learned that abortion is not safe. Abortion helps no one. Abortion is destructive to babies *and* mothers.

Proponents of life are trying to help women in any way they can from the mental and physical risks of abortion. They are doing this by using scientific knowledge to show the frightful results an abortion can bring to their child and themselves. One of the ways they are doing this is by meeting with people in schools, church groups, and pro-life events to open minds to the reality of abortion and the effects abortion not only has on children, but on women as well. They present scientific studies to show that women suffer greatly from abortion. They offer literature with images of human life at all stages inside a mother's womb from the scientific technology of 3D and 4D ultrasounds. They also direct them to websites that present the

scientific information about the complications of abortion and the health consequences that go along with it. The pro-life workers are doing everything they can to caution women about the dangers of abortion, not give falsehoods about how abortion is the right thing for them. A woman should be wrapped in the love and joy of her child, not the sorrow and danger of abortion. Scientific knowledge and technology help the pro-life advocates accomplish this.

Women who face unexpected pregnancies feel powerless. They are told to take the “easy way out” and have an abortion; it is the “safe” and best decision they can make. Then they are forced to deal with the aftermath alone. The pro-life community is trying to empower them by giving them the scientific knowledge to make the right decision. Science explains in a completely objective way the truth about everything. Science explains and shows that abortion does hurt women. Former National President of Women Exploited by Abortion, Lori Nerad, explained the alarming effects having an abortion brought her, “I’ll wake up in the middle of the night, thinking I hear a baby crying. And I still have nightmares in which I am forced to watch my baby being ripped apart from me. I simply miss my baby. I constantly wake up wanting to nurse my baby, wanting to hold my baby. And that’s something the doctor never told me I would experience” (Flanders). The pro-life movement is using science to help women, so they never have to suffer like Lori Nerad and so many others. A woman will never find true peace in the world if she decides to abort her baby. However, if she decides to choose life, she will not find guilt, but peace. Not sorrow, but joy. And not shame, but love. With the help of science, the pro-life community is trying to shape a world where every single human being has a chance for life and where no woman has to suffer from the agony and destruction of abortion.

Works Cited

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