

THE MOST IMPORTANT HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE OF OUR TIME

“  
40 is destined to become the premiere film  
for educating youth on abortion.

— Rebecca Kiessling, director of Save the 1 —  
”

PRO-LIFE CHAMPIONS AND SPIRIT JUICE STUDIOS PRESENT

40

STUDY GUIDE

A FILM BY  
JOHN MORALES

STUDY GUIDE WRITTEN BY  
CYNTHIA A. MORALES





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40 is a compelling new documentary that examines the effects of abortion on our nation over the last 40 years since Roe v. Wade. The film showcases interviews with dozens of pro-life leaders and presents abortion as the most important human rights issue of our time. 40 looks at both sides of this heated issue and addresses some of the strongest arguments for the pro-choice position. 40 also provides heartfelt testimonies from post abortive women and reports on the youth as the generation that will end abortion.

The 40 film is divided into 13 short segments, each addressing a different aspect of the abortion issue. This study guide offers additional resources as well as discussion questions educators at all levels may use in their classrooms.

### ATTENTION

This film cannot be legally shown in a public setting without a special license. If you would like to show 40 in a theatre, church, school or other large group setting, please email at [info@the40film.com](mailto:info@the40film.com) or call Pro-Life Champions at 847-803-4003 to obtain a license.

**THANK YOU!**



## I. Introduction - The Most Important Human Rights Issue of Our Time

“I believe abortion is the most fundamental human rights issue of our time, and always will be, even after we overturn *Roe v. Wade*.” — **Star Parker, Founder and President of CURE in 40**

“There’s no greater issue. There’s no greater cause than the fact that unborn children that are the most vulnerable are being killed by the thousands. And so I think that regardless of your political persuasion or religious persuasion or whatever you otherwise believe everyone can agree that human life must be protected especially in its weakest forms.” — **Lila Rose, President of Live Action in 40**

- The country is bitterly divided over abortion, and has been since the passage of *Roe v. Wade* in 1973.
- Reasons given by pro-choice proponents for abortion include bodily autonomy, fetal abnormalities, rape, the age of the mother (who, if young, is frequently quite fearful of pregnancy, or her parents or boyfriend), the woman’s perception that she is unable or unwilling to care for a child, and overpopulation.
- The pro-life argument is that all humans are persons, fetuses are humans, and therefore they deserve protection under the law.
- There is also an implicit recognition that what is legal is considered moral. Abortion is now legal, and so, in the minds of many, is considered moral. Pro-life proponents do not recognize the morality of abortion, but do recognize the reality that if abortion were to be made illegal, many people would not choose abortion simply because they respect the law.

### Study questions:

How do you stand on this issue? Which arguments do you find most persuasive, and why? Be prepared to outline the arguments on each side, accurately representing them. Can you think of additional reasons for each side that are not presented in the film?

1. Are your opinions based on emotion or factual data?
2. Although the outcomes of the philosophy are dramatically different, the basis

of each argument is the same: rights. Do human beings possess intrinsic “rights”? Why? Who says so? Do we have rights because the UN says so? The Constitution? From whence are “rights” derived?

3. Are relationships based solely on rights? Are there not other considerations? If there are intrinsic and basic rights, are there not intrinsic and basic obligations as well?

#### **Additional Resources:**

- The Declaration of Independence (United States)
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (United Nations)
- The Catholic understanding of natural law: <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/09076a.htm>



## **II. 40 Years After Roe**

“When I read the Roe V. Wade decision and realized that it would be legal in this country - not only legal but almost promoted - that you can kill any child in the womb up to and including the day of its birth; the child could even get born through an abortion and you could let it die by not giving it care, that was outrageous.”

— **Joe Schiedler, Founder of the Pro-Life Action League in 40**

“For the last 40 years, women have not been forced to have children against their will. It’s a very important thing for women to be able to decide for themselves when and whether they are going to have children. If you want to have a child, it’s a wonderful thing; but if you don’t want to have a child, being forced to is a form of enslavement.” — **Sunsara Taylor, Pro-Abortion Activist in 40**

### **A. What did Roe and Doe decide?**

- These two decisions ruled that a woman, because of her “right to privacy” has a constitutional right to abortion, and in issues of “health” that right extends throughout the pregnancy.
- Roe limited abortion in terms of “trimester” (in 1992 Casey v. Planned Parenthood updated this to “viability”) Doe, due to a broad definition of “health” legalizes abortion for all nine months of pregnancy.

### **B. What about the idea that fetuses are persons and all persons have a right to protection under the law?**

- The justices ruled in Roe that first, the Constitution does not define what a “person” is and no case law defines a fetus as a person;
- Second, that abortion was, especially before “quickening” allowed, or at least tolerated, under English Common law and early American law (“prevailing legal abortion practices were far freer than they are today”). So the justices felt unable to accept the fetus as a person. “We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins. When those trained in the respective disciplines of medicine, philosophy, and theology are unable to arrive at any consensus, the judiciary, at this point in the development of man’s knowledge, is not in a position to speculate as to the answer.” (author’s comment: note that the justices correlate “when life begins” with “personhood”).

### **C. Response to Roe v. Wade**

- Pro-lifers developed radical strategies that included sit-ins, pamphlets with graphic abortion photography and mass arrests.
- Activists got arrested on purpose in order to challenge the abortion law using a “defense of necessity.” Ultimately this tactic failed in court, and some activists spent a lot of time in jail (Dr. Monica Miller spent nine months in jail at one point). Activists, taking their cue from the Civil Rights movement, organized massive sit-ins at abortion clinics. Thousands were arrested.
- Unfortunately, at the same time, a few people, arguably deranged and definitely misguided, assassinated several abortion doctors over a period of years. This did not end abortion, but it did galvanize the pro-abortion advocates (who were, after all, operating on the side of the law) to argue that pro-lifers (all painted with the same brush) were dangerous, even murderous, and legal doctors and clinic needed legal protection against them.
- The federal government took action. In 1994, After these abortion doctors were killed, the federal government passed laws essentially outlawing (and imposing draconian punishments ) on these types of activities, by using RICO (a law passed to combat organized crime) against several pro-life activist groups, including Operation Rescue and Pro-Life Action League (after 20 years these charges were dismissed; they reached the Supreme Court twice).
- Radical action, sit-ins, blocking clinic doors, even (as related in Abandoned) chaining themselves to abortion doctors cars, did not accomplish what activists had hoped; abortions were not outlawed, and public opinion was not significantly altered.
- Other responses to Roe have been more successful in accomplishing their desired outcomes. These include the development of Crisis Pregnancy Centers, sidewalk counseling (which has been hampered by so-called “bubble zone law” which forbid pro-life activists from approaching a women within a certain distance of an abortion clinic, but still sidewalk counselors manage to save a tremendous number of babies)

and prayer vigils. These tactics will be addressed later in the study. (Author's note: In August 2014 the Supreme court overturned a Massachusetts "bubble zone" law. The effect on other such laws is as yet unclear).

### Study questions:

1. Casey v. Planned Parenthood updated Roe by stating that the state may protect the fetus after "viability." The definition of viability has changed as technology has improved. Does it make sense to define personhood on the basis of technology?
2. Lists and discuss the different ways that pro-life activists responded to the Roe v. Wade decision.
3. Have you ever seen a group of people protesting/praying outside an abortion clinic? What has been your response?

### Additional Resources:

Abortion statistics:

- <http://www.gutmacher.org/pubs/2008/09/23/TrendsWomenAbortions-wTables.pdf>
- <http://www.gutmacher.org/pubs/journals/3024498.html> (this article outlines the difficulties in collecting data for accurate statistics)
- <http://www.gutmacher.org/media/nr/2008/01/17/> (decline in abortions in recent years)
- Miller, Monica. Abandoned. Charlotte, NC: St. Benedict Press, 2012.
- Scheidler, Joe. Closed: 99 Ways to Stop Abortion. Rockford, IL: Tan Books and Publishers, 1993.



### III. My Body, My Choice

“We’re in the 21st century! And women have a right to choose. It’s our bodies.”

— *Pro-choice protester on the street in 40*

“When someone says, “it’s my body, it’s my choice,” I often look and them and say, what about the body of the child? I am not asking people to say that the baby’s right supersede the mother’s...my argument is that they are equal.”

— *Abby Johnson, former Planned Parenthood Clinic Director and Founder of And Then There Were None in 40*

“It’s my body, it’s my choice” is a veneer, and underneath is “I don’t know if I can count on the guy who said he loved me, I don’t know how my parents are going to react, I don’t know if my school will support me, or if I get a job, will I make a living wage and will it include health care. I mean, that’s what the reality is for most women.” — *Serrin Foster, President of Feminists for Life*

- The argument that is summed up by “my body, my choice” is called the “bodily integrity (or autonomy) argument.”
- This argument is considered by many to be the strongest pro-choice argument, because it bypasses the much weaker argument about the humanity or personhood of the fetus.
- One version of the argument can be presented thus. Pro-chooser: “let’s say doctors determine that a certain man (a violinist) needs your kidney to survive. Should the government force you to donate your kidney?” Pro-lifer (in horror!): “Of course not!” Pro-chooser: “(Gotcha!) And neither should the government force any woman to carry a fetus against her will. If she gets pregnant, she has every right to expel the fetus. Bodily autonomy is absolute.” (See resources for other presentations of the argument).
- Often this argument will compare the fetus to a parasite or trespasser of the mother.
- There are several weaknesses to the argument:
  - The two situations are not morally equivalent: a mother has an obligation to her pre-born child just as she has an obligation to her born child. Relationships matter. Secondly, “unplugging” from the “sick violinist” is not the same thing as abortion, which actively dismembers another person.
  - Fetuses are not parasites, either philosophically or biologically. They are created by an act of the woman (except in cases of rape, which we will address later) and her partner. This argument pretends that people’s actions do not have natural consequences. It pretends sex does not make babies; it pretends biology does not matter. For example, Joyce Arthur (Pro-Choice Action Network) says: “Legalized birth control implicitly provides the right to have sex without reproducing. In the U.S., this right is constitutionally-protected (U.S. Supreme Court cases: *Griswold v. Connecticut*, 1965; and *Eisenstadt v. Baird*, 1972.) Most abortions are caused by failed contraceptives, but regardless, consent to sex does not entail consent to pregnancy, any more than consent to swimming implies consent to drown.” (from “Personhood: Is a Fetus a Human Being?” referenced below) Author’s comment: This might be true if the purpose of swimming was drowning, but since it isn’t the analogy fails.
  - This argument rests on the false premise that bodily autonomy is absolute, but it is not. We are not allowed to do all sorts of things with our bodies, and pregnant woman have more restrictions put on them than others: They are exhorted, for

example, not to drink alcohol or take drugs during pregnancy; those who do have been successfully prosecuted and put into prison. In April 2014 this was extended to a woman who killed her born child with morphine laced breast milk: <http://www.ctvnews.ca/world/20-years-for-woman-who-killed-infant-with-morphine-laced-breast-milk-1.1760778>

### Study Questions

1. Have you ever asked yourself, “What is abortion? What does abortion do? What does abortion do to that unborn life? What is the unborn child?”
2. Are you persuaded by the bodily autonomy argument? If so, would you defend a woman who takes drugs her whole pregnancy and gives birth to a child affected by the drugs? Should she go to prison (many women have)? If so, should a woman be able to abort her 37 week fetus (3 weeks before her due date)? If not, why not?
3. If a new born baby is totally dependent on a mother, would that give the mother the right to kill it because it is inconvenient? If not, why not? Why would the location of the baby matter?
4. This idea that when birth control fails, you must have access to abortion is called “the contraceptive mentality.” It is this mentality that actually leads to an increase in abortion whenever contraception has been introduced in societies. In the US 54% of women walking into an abortion clinic are on a form of birth control the month they get pregnant. Does legalized birth control in fact give permission to have sex without babies?

### Additional resources

- The classic article outlining the bodily autonomy argument by Judith Jarvis Thompson: <http://spot.colorado.edu/~heathwoo/Phil160,Fall02/thomson.html>
- A withering response to the bodily integrity argument: <http://themattwalshblog.com/2014/03/04/i-am-afraid-of-this-indisputable-pro-choice-argument/>
- “Abortion and Thompson’s Violinist: Unplugging a bad analogy”; Comments on why the pre-natal child has the right under individual liberty to be in the mother’s womb” by Doris Gordon, Libertarians for life: <http://www.l4l.org/library/thomviol.html>
- “Why An Embryo or fetus is not a Parasite” by Thomas L. Johnson, Libertarians for Life: <http://www.l4l.org/library/notparas.html>





#### **IV. Aftermath of Abortion, Especially On the Black and Hispanic Communities**

“If you add up all the American casualties of brave men and women who died in all the major US wars in the 20th century combined they don’t equal the number of lives lost through abortion in just the year 2012 alone when over 1.2 million unborn children perished through abortion. Every day well over 3,000 children lose their lives in abortion clinics, and it’s never reported.” — **Jennifer Cadena, Narrator of 40**

“It saddens me when I hear that African American women are 12 percent of the population, but we make up 40 percent of children being aborted because, basically, I mean, we’re just throwing generations down the drain, down the drain. And we’re not giving our children a chance to live.” — **Brittany Chase, “saved” from abortion at abortion clinic in Chicago by a sidewalk counselor**

“Latinas make up about 16 percent of the US female population but they account for nearly a quarter of all abortions...to the tune of over 300 thousand every year... breaking down to over 825 abortions by Latinas every day.”  
— **Jennifer Cadena, Narrator of 40**

“When I was 16 years old I walked into Planned Parenthood for the first time in my life to exercise my freedom of choice, and I believed with everything that I had in my being at that time that it was a legal procedure and it was my right. Four years later at the age of 20 on my fifth abortion I realized for the very first time that my freedom of choice meant five children gone forever. Abortion is something that will be with you for the rest of your life. And so if you’re looking at this film today and you’re thinking you want to exercise your freedom of choice. Just know that freedom will be with you for the rest of your life. And that regret will never go away.”  
— **Yvonne Florczak-Seeman, President and Founder of Love From Above in 40**

• Nearly 57 million unborn children have been aborted since 1973. After reaching a high of over 1.6 million in 1990, the number of abortions performed annually in the U.S. has dropped to around 1.06 million a year. According to the Guttmacher Institute this is down from a high 1.608 million in 1990.

- Abortion affects the Black and Hispanic communities disproportionately. It happens 1452 times a day in the Black community. Although blacks make up 13% of the US population, black women have some 36% of the abortions. A Black baby is 5 times more likely to be killed in the womb than a White Baby.
- In New York City, in 2012 more black babies were aborted than born. 60% of black pregnancies in NYC end in abortion.
- New research released by Protecting Black Life (an outreach of Life Issues Institute) reveals that 79% of Planned Parenthood's surgical abortion facilities are located within walking distance of African American and/or Hispanic/Latino communities.
- Latinas constitute approximately 16 percent of US female population but account for nearly 24 percent of all abortions. Every day 835 Latino babies are aborted – over 300,000 a year.
- Minorities are targeted by the abortion industry and especially by Planned Parenthood, which was founded by eugenicist Margaret Sanger (a eugenicist is a person who believes some people are less worthy of life than others, and wants to “breed” people like animals to “improve the stock.” They believe in killing the “unfit.” German Nazis were quintessential eugenicists.)
- Women with “defective fetuses” are often pressured to abort by their doctor.
- Doctors have been sued for “wrongful birth” by parents of disabled children.

### Study Questions:

1. Have you ever thought that abortion would be an answer to a “problem”? Have you asked yourself about the long term effects of abortion on the woman and her community?
2. Have you ever considered that abortion policies in this country are racist? Are they? Why or why not?
3. Why is there a disproportionate number of abortions within the Black and Hispanic neighborhoods?
4. There is an assumption that disabled pre-born children would literally be better off dead. Is it true that a fulfilling life is not possible if you are disabled? If that is true, a person becomes disabled, should they be killed too?

### Additional Resources:

- <http://www.cnsnews.com/news/article/michael-w-chapman/nyc-more-black-babies-killed-abortion-born>
- <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/sky-high-abortion-rate-among-blacks-minorities-only-getting-worse-latest-cd>
- <http://www.lifenews.com/2013/06/27/most-dangerous-place-for-a-latina-in-the-u-s-is-her-mothers-womb/>
- More statistics from Guttmacher: [http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/fb\\_induced\\_abortion.htm](http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/fb_induced_abortion.htm)



## V. Is the Fetus Human? Is a Human Being a Person?

“Fetuses are definitely not babies. They have the potential to become humans. They will become babies if they go through a nine-month process of growing and developing within a woman’s body.” — **Sunsara Taylor, pro-choice activist in 40**

“...Every human life begins at conception when a fertilized egg now has a unique genetic pattern that did not exist before. That life goes through various stages, but it begins at conception.” — **Dr. Anthony Levatino, former abortionist/OBGYN in 40.**

“An adult who was a teenager, was a child, was a toddler, was an infant, was a fetus, was an embryo, was a zygote. It goes all the way back, and there is no one point, there is no personhood fairy that’s there to say, now you have real individuality. No. It goes all the way back to conception. Are we going to discriminate based on age in a way that is lethal? ...No that’s unethical, that’s immoral, and you don’t need religion to get there.” — **Kelsey Hazzard, Founder of Secular Pro-Life**

- The fetus is human. This is a fact. This is not a religious belief. Humans only give birth to other humans.
- The fetus is also a human being. There are no humans who aren’t human beings. Human being is another way of saying human.
- Finally, all human beings are persons. To separate human being from person artificially can only be done by someone who holds power over another person (or a group that holds power over another group.)
- It is also a fact that human life begins at conception (or, some wish to use the more precise word “fertilization”). This is also a scientific fact, not a religious belief. A sign at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, IL entitled “Your Beginning” states “All of us start as a single cell and then begin a wondrous journey of change in - and with - our moms. We start as a tiny embryo. Yet coded in our DNA are instructions for a marvelous process of growth and change. At 8 weeks we become a fetus and over the next seven months we will grow steadily bigger and more complex. It’s a universal human experience.”

- It is a sociological axiom that in order to kill another human beings, people must convince themselves that the human being they are killing is somehow less than human. For example, during World War II American soldiers referred to enemy soldiers as “Krauts” and “Japs.” Nazis compared the Jews to vermin that needed to be exterminated.
- The pro-choice response, articulated by Joyce Arthur, is that there is no “consensus” on whether or not a fetus is a human being. She argues; “Biology, medicine, law, philosophy, and theology have no consensus on the issue, and neither does society as a whole. There will never be a consensus because of the subjective and unscientific nature of the claim, so we must give the benefit of the doubt to women, who are indisputable human beings with rights.” Since there is no consensus, abortion rights are the reasonable choice.

### Study Questions

1. Pro-choice writer Joyce Arthur argues that there is no consensus on whether or not a fetus is human. Does “consensus” determine what is true?
2. In fact, do embryologists have consensus on whether or not the fetus is human, and when life begins? (see article by Dr. Dianne Irving).
3. “Personhood” is not a scientific concept but a philosophical one. Does it make sense to base abortion laws on science rather than philosophy?
4. Does it make sense to you to base “personhood” on arbitrary standards (consciousness, sentience, brain activity) or is it more reasonable to posit that personhood is synonymous with “human.” (google “define human” and see what comes up)?
5. Based on the 40 film and these other resources, are you persuaded that the fetus is a human person? If not, why not?

### Additional Resources:

— Pro-choice argument on whether or not the fetus is a human being (Personhood: is the fetus a Human Being? By Joyce Arthur, Pro-Choice Action Network, 2001) <http://www.prochoiceactionnetwork-canada.org/articles/fetusperson.shtml>

Author’s note: this article sums up very well the pro-choice arguments for abortion and it ranges beyond the initial question presented. It is also full of half truths and outright lies. One that I must expose is the assertion that “even the Catholic church allowed abortion until quickening until 1869”(if you check the foot note the reference is Robinson, B.A. 2000. Christian Beliefs on Abortion: Past and Present. Ontario Consultants on Religious Tolerance.) This assertion is patently false. The Catholic Church has never condoned abortion under any circumstances. This is the type of prevarication that exists frequently in pro-choice literature. An interesting question to ask is, why would they care?

— “When do human beings begin? ‘Scientific’ myths and scientific facts” By Dr. Diane Irving, Ph.D. <http://www.all.org/abac/dni003.htm>

— On doctors pressuring women to abort: <http://www.lifenews.com/2014/04/14/if-your-doctor-tells-you-to-abort-your-baby-get-a-new-doctor/>

— On doctors being sued for wrongful birth: <http://www.lifesitenews.com/news/jury-awards-couple-50-million-in-wrongful-birth-lawsuit>



## VI. When Does Social Justice Begin?

“The right to abortion is a right. It is a fundamental right for women’s lives. And being for the right to abortion means that I respect the humanity of women”

— *Sunsara Taylor, pro-choice activist*

“Unborn children are the most defenseless members of our society. They have no way to fight back. They have no way to speak out, no way to stand up for themselves, and so we see the attack on their fundamental right, their right to life when they’re being killed by the thousands each day legally as the greatest human rights abuse I believe our country has ever seen.” — *Lila Rose, President of Live Action*

- By Social Justice, we mean that “we hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal” to quote Martin Luther King Jr. and the Declaration of independence and therefore all men (human beings) have a right to be treated justly. Justice, classically defined, is “giving what is properly due to a person.”
- All human beings have an intrinsic right to life, because they have intrinsic dignity and worth by virtue of being human.
- Like all humans, they have dignity and worth simply because they are human; their worth is not based on their utility, whether or not they are conscious, can think, or care for themselves.
- Serrin Foster, the President of Feminists for Life used the phrase “Animal farm feminism” which declares that some people are more equal than others, and a woman has power of life and death over her fetus for that reason. This is opposed to social justice.
- Social justice is grounded in the natural law, not in any particular religious belief.
- Pre-born children are in the womb, which is exactly where they are supposed to be the first nine months of their lives. They have a right and expectation to be safe and protected. Social justice begins in the womb.

### Study Questions:

1. “Social justice” is often poorly defined. One definition is offered above. Another definition might be “treating everyone the same.” What is social justice? Can any definition be used to justify abortion?
2. Proponents of “social justice” often leave out abortion as an important component. Why do you think this oversight occurs? Do you agree with Fr. Frank “Rocky” Hoffman in the film when he says “without the right to life there are no other rights to talk about”?

### Additional Resources

— The Catholic Church has the richest deposit of teaching on the Social Justice. Indeed, the very term comes from Catholic social teaching. Here is a list of encyclicals and other documents developing the concept of social justice: <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/>



### VII. What About Rape?

“One of the most difficult issues to deal with is the issue that is always used to justify 100 percent of abortions, and that’s rape. And that’s why I think it’s important that those like me and Rebecca Keissling and Pam Stenzel and so many others who were born as a result of rape can speak specifically to that issue.”

— *Ryan Bomberger, Founder of the Radiance Foundation*

“My birth mother was abducted by a serial rapist and she actually went to two back alley abortionists and I was almost aborted. We met when I was 19 and she was thrilled to meet me. We had a beautiful reunion, but when I asked about abortion she did share with me that she would have aborted me if it had been legal and later shared about those two back alley abortionists, but I was legally protected. My birth mother did not chose life for me; she chose abortion, but pro-life advocates chose life for me.” — **Rebecca Kiessling, conceived in rape & Founder of Save The 1**

“I found out that I was pregnant from rape when I was 18 years old. Everyone who I had told about my rape and that I was pregnant told me that abortion was the answer. When I tried to tell the clinic workers that I wasn’t sure if I wanted to have the abortion, that I had been raped, no one offered me any help. They just kept passing me on to the next person. Everyone thinks it’s OK to kill a rapist’s baby, but what I found out is that I didn’t kill a rapist’s baby. I killed my baby. And coming to terms with that was far worse than having to deal with the rape itself because it’s every day of my life I’m missing a child, I’m missing a 14-year-old son”

— **Ashley Sigrest, post-abortion rape victim**

- Rape is a terrible crime, but abortion is not a compassionate response to rape. Abortion violates a woman a second time.
- If a pro-lifer makes an exception for rape, she is saying “some fetuses are more valuable than others; some fetus’ lives are negotiable, which negates the idea that all pre-born babies deserves to be protected in the womb. This is noted by Joyce Arthur in her pro-choice article referenced above.
- Abortion can be used by perpetrators to cover up the crime of rape. This has been exposed by Lila Rose of Live Action and Mark Crutcher of Life Dynamics. See references below.
- According to the CDC, there are over 32,000 rape-related pregnancies in the U.S. every year. The majority of them around 27,000 are born every year. That’s one percent of the birth rate in the United States.

### Study Questions

1. How would getting an abortion help a woman heal from the rape?
2. Do you think that a woman who has been raped is best served by abortion?
3. How do you respond to Ashley Sigrest’s statement “I didn’t kill a rapist’s baby. I killed my baby”?

### Additional Resources

These two resources show how Planned Parenthood abets the crime of statutory rape:

— Mark Crutcher and Life Dynamics’ expose: <http://www.childpredators.com/>

— Live Action’s expose: <http://exposeplannedparenthood.net/get-the-facts/planned-parenthood%E2%80%99s-history-of-exploiting-women-2/>

— A story about a baby born as a result of rape: <http://www.feministsforlife.org/hard-cases-julia-schoch/>



## VIII. Hear My Story

"I had an abortion when I was 24 years old and I know that I didn't feel any sense of regret for 11 years. I had kind of separated myself from it; but then I did feel great regret and remorse - deep, soul-wrenching regret and remorse."

— *Linda Couri, former Planned Parenthood Counselor*

"After the fact, when I was by myself that's when I did the most damage to myself. I tried to hide it as much as I could because it was killing me on the inside. And I would say its OK it'll be fine. And it never was fine."

— *Andy Baldwin, post-abortive father*

### Study Questions

1. Not every woman feels regret from abortion right away. For some it could take decades before regret sets in. Is this a reason to keep abortion legal?
2. Men are affected by abortion as well. But legally men have no say on whether or not their partner aborts their baby. Should men have a say?
3. What are the physical, emotional, and spiritual effects of abortion on women and men?



### Additional Resources

— Silent No More is an organization that helps post-abortive women heal through sharing their stories: <http://www.silentnomoreawareness.org/>

— Other healing ministries include:

Caretnet: <http://www.caretndane.org/for-men/abortion-recovery-services-for-men/> Resources at Priests for Life: <http://www.priestsforlife.org/post-abortion/need-healing.aspx>.

Rachel's Vineyard: <http://www.rachelsvineyard.org/>



## IX. Planned Parenthood Exposed

“If people only knew what it really was like inside these abortion clinics, what Planned Parenthood really does, what their ideology is, what their practices are and then people would be upset and people would stand up and say we have to stop this.” — *Lila Rose, President of Live Action*

- Live Action documented that Planned Parenthood covers up statutory rape, and also is willing to turn an eye to human trafficking <http://www.liveaction.org/traffic/>, as well as allowing babies born alive in late term abortions to die, <http://www.liveaction.org/inhuman/>
- Planned Parenthood receives over 500,000 million dollars a year from the Federal government for “family planning” and performs around 350,000 abortions a year. “Family planning” seems to focus on abortion and dispensing birth control, even though the Guttmacher Institute acknowledges that most abortions take place because of failed contraception.
- Planned Parenthood has deep roots in the eugenics movement; Margaret Sanger was a well-known eugenicist. In the late 19th and early 20th century, eugenics was a very popular philosophy. Eugenicists believed (and still believe) that people can be bred like animals to “improve the stock.” They usually define “superior” people as wealthier and whiter. These organizations are still promoting eugenics by supporting the limiting of Black and Brown people in Africa, Asia and Latin America. It was funded by wealthy Americans including John D. Rockefeller through the Rockefeller Foundation.
- Philadelphia abortionist Dr. Kermit Gosnell, convicted of killing three babies born alive after abortion in 2013, is the logical conclusion to these eugenicist and racist policies. Most of his clients were black.
- Dr. Day Garner, President of the National Black Pro-Life Union said in 40 “Kermit Gosnell is a racist of the worst kind because he preyed on women and young girls of his own race. For more than 30 years, Kermit Gosnell participated in and perpetuated the epidemic of black-on-black crime.”

### Study Questions



1. One student, after watching 40, asked why Yvonne Florzak-Seeman, who had five abortions, didn't "just use birth control." Yvonne went to Planned Parenthood for all 5 of her abortions. Planned Parenthood says on their website: "Birth control allows us to prevent pregnancy and plan the timing of pregnancy." Nowhere on their website do they admit that 54% of women who get an abortion are on birth control. They offer extensive counseling to their clients for birth control. In Yvonne's case, their counseling was not effective. What advice would you give to the "Yvonnés" you might know?

2. Were you aware that Planned Parenthood does not offer mammograms? That their condoms are rated substandard by Consumer Reports?

3. Given the reality that 54% of women who walk through the abortion clinic are on a form of birth control the month they get pregnant, how might teaching self-control and fertility awareness be a more practical way of

limiting unplanned pregnancies?

#### **Additional Resources:**

— [www.Liveaction.org](http://www.Liveaction.org). Lila Rose's organization has several videos and other documentation on this site to show Planned Parenthood's counselors abetting in human trafficking.

— Black, Edwin. *War Against the Weak: Eugenics and America's Campaign to Create a Master Race*. New York: Four Walls Eight Windows, 2003. Edwin Black is pro-choice, defends Planned Parenthood in the introduction to this book, yet exhaustively documents the eugenicist and racist roots of Planned Parenthood and Margaret Sanger. He makes the point that the eugenics movement developed in New York and was adopted by the Nazis, not the other way around.

## **X. I'm Afraid**

"The very young girls are afraid because they're very young, 14, 15 years old.

They're afraid the boyfriend has probably left them, and they feel like their whole life is gone. Or the girl who's going to college might think, "I can't do this. I have to go to school." And that's the most important thing to them and the most fearful to them at the moment." — *Katherine Mieding, sidewalk counselor*



- Fear might be the number one reason behind all the other reasons women choose abortion.
- Fears might be quite realistic: violence against pregnant women is common.
- Women may feel coerced into abortion by parents, boyfriends, or circumstances.

### Study Questions

1. If a woman is getting abortion out of fear, is that really “choice”? What might be some alternatives?

### Additional Resources

— Information about domestic violence and some assistance available to help those who may be affected: [http://www.babycenter.com/0\\_domestic-violence-during-pregnancy\\_1356253.bc](http://www.babycenter.com/0_domestic-violence-during-pregnancy_1356253.bc)

## XI. 40 Days for Life

“So that one hour of prayer, the 40-day time frame, those three activities – prayer and fasting, vigil and outreach, that was the birth of 40 Days for Life.”

— *David Bereit, Co-Founder of 40 Days for Life*

“We’ve seen nearly 7,000 babies that we know of, have been saved from abortion at the very last moment. We’ve had post-abortive women lead 40 Days for Life campaigns. We’ve seen it go from one city in College Station, Texas, to 482 cities in 15 different countries around the world.”

— *Shawn Carney, Co-Founder of 40 Days for Life*



• 40 Days for Life is a response to abortion that has been very successful since its inception. From [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com) in October 2014:

- 625,000 individual participants
- 17,000 churches
- 3,039 total campaigns
- 539 cities
- 24 countries
- 8,973 lives saved from abortion
- 101 abortion workers quit
- 54 abortion facilities closed

One person who was positively influenced by 40 Days was Abby Johnson who appears in 40. She directed a Planned Parenthood Clinic for seven years. 40 Days prayed outside her clinic. Because she was always treated kindly by the 40 days prayer warriors, when she decided she had to quit working at the clinic she went to them for help. Abby now has her own ministry helping clinic workers leave the abortion industry.

### Study Questions

1. Why do you think 40 Days has been so successful in changing hearts and minds about abortion?
2. Have you ever prayed outside an abortion clinic?
3. Would you be willing to bring friends, family and peers to pray?
4. How do you think that pregnant women might be especially affected by seeing teens praying?

### Additional Resources

— 40 Days for Life Website: <http://www.40daysforlife.com/>

— Johnson, Abbey. *Unplanned*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 2010 (this was published in conjunction with Tyndale Press).



## **XII. What Are My Choices?**

“I was born before Roe, but just barely. And most people today have never known a day without legalized abortion. And so, they never stop to think, what would a woman need? What would she want instead of an abortion? They never ask, why are so many women having abortions? And because they just buy into the status quo, they never question and think, maybe women deserve something better than abortion.”

— **Sally Winn, VP of Feminists for Life**

“I serve with Care Net, and we have over 1,100 of these centers, more of them every day being planted in the urban community, that are providing life-affirming solutions for women and men who find themselves in an unplanned pregnancy”

— **Rev. Dean Nelson, former Care Net Director**

“My mom placed me for adoption 45 years ago. I had no say-so in the situation, but I grew up in a household that certainly was far from perfect, but when I was 27 years old I sought out my parents, and I wanted to say to them one thing and that was thank you.” — **Troy Newman, President of Operation Rescue**

- Women deserve better than abortion.
- Pregnancy Resource Centers (or “Crisis Pregnancy Centers”) exist to help women choose life. They provide practical resources like baby clothes and cribs. Some provide life skills and parenting classes. Clients are mentored.
- Since ultrasounds have become more common PRCs have seen an increase in women choosing life. Mobile ultrasound vans are being used and PRCs have obtained ultrasound machines.
- Pro-choicers call PRCs “fake clinics” and claim they give out “false medical information.” This is interesting, since Planned Parenthood’s website is replete with misinformation about gestational development of the embryo and the fetus: <http://www.plannedparenthood.org/health-topics/pregnancy/stages-pregnancy-23953.htm>. For example, they fail to mention that the heart is beating 18-21 days after fertilization. They say “the heart is formed” at 7 weeks. They also state the “pregnancy begins at

implantation.” Pregnancy begins at fertilization. It is true that not all embryos implant. This doesn’t mean there wasn’t a pregnancy. This is a very early miscarriage (refer to Irving’s article above).

- If a woman does not feel that she is ready to parent, adoption is always an option. Literally millions of couples are on waiting lists, waiting for children to adopt.
- PRCs also help women who are post –abortive begin the healing process. Ministries such as Project Rachel, Rachel’s Vineyard, and others help women and men heal from abortion.

### Study Questions

1. Why might a woman choose abortion instead of adoption if she is not ready to parent?
2. What perceived barriers to adoption exist in the minds of the general public as well as a pregnant and abortion minded woman.
3. Pro-choicers often accuse pro-lifers of thinking that “life starts at conception and ends at birth.” Do you think this is true? What facts belie this assertion?

### Additional Resources

- <http://cnsnews.com/news/article/barbara-boland/planned-parenthood-did-1-adoption-referral-149-abortions>. Planned Parenthood adoption statistics
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BcNAXPlzAqs&utm\\_source=Good+Counsel+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=c7c483da2c-I+Made+My+Choice+1&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_20ca951faf-c7c483da2c-91888049](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BcNAXPlzAqs&utm_source=Good+Counsel+Newsletter&utm_campaign=c7c483da2c-I+Made+My+Choice+1&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_20ca951faf-c7c483da2c-91888049). Another example of assistance to women in crisis.

## XIII. March for Life

“I think at the level of the states, we’re seeing major victories. Over 200 pro-life laws have been enacted in the last three years. And also in the court of public opinion we’re winning. More Americans are self-identifying as being pro-life”

— **Jeannie Monahan, President of the March for Life Education and Defense Fund**

“Every generation has something that can define them and right now this generation right now I believe will define them as this is the generation that will end abortion.”

— **Bryan Kemper, Founder and President of Stand True Ministries**

- Every year since 1974, on or near the anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the March for Life takes place in Washington DC.





- Hundreds of thousands of people, mostly young people, march every year. In 2013, on the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade an estimated 650,000 attended the March for Life and the majority of them were youth.
- Energized activists are going back to their states to work on pro-life legislation at the state level.
- Many young people believe that they are the generation that will end abortion
- The tide is turning in the national polls on this difficult issue of abortion in our nation. According to a CNN poll in March of 2014, 58% of Americans want all or most abortions made illegal.

### Study Questions

1. Do you think that most youth are pro-life or pro-choice?
2. Long term, do you think that abortion will become more stigmatized and less utilized, even if it stays legal?
3. Abortion is being legally restricted in many states. Abortion clinics are closing their doors forever. Since 1980 over 1600 abortion clinics have closed with 87 closing in 2013 alone. Is this “endangering women” or “protecting the pre-born”?
4. Do you think that the tide is turning on the issue of abortion in America? In what ways?
5. Before viewing 40 and completing this study, would you have termed yourself pro-choice, pro-life, or unsure? Have your views changed as a result of this study?

### Additional Resources

- <http://marchforlife.org/>. Information on ongoing efforts by the March for Life Education Defense Fund. They now support activities year round and also post information on the upcoming march.
- <http://www.heartbeatinternational.org/archive/archived-updates/480-sanfran-austin>. Article on President of NARAL Nancy Keenan, who stepped down to “make room” for younger pro-choice activists. She noticed the Pro-Life movement is very, very young.
- <http://www.nwlc.org/resource/2013-state-level-abortion-restrictions-extreme-overreach-women%E2%80%99s-reproductive-health-care>. This is a pro-choice site which sounds the alarm that anti-choice laws are being passed! “In 2013, 22 states enacted a total of 70 abortion restrictions – the second highest number of abortion restrictions to become law in a single year. These state restrictions are a dangerous overreach into women’s personal medical decisions.”



# A WAKE UP CALL FOR AMERICA

**40** is a powerful reflection of the most racially, ethnically, and generationally diverse human rights movement the world has ever seen.

— Ryan Bomberger, co-founder of the Radiance Foundation —

PRO-LIFE CHAMPIONS AND SPIRIT JUICE STUDIOS PRODUCTION A JOHN MORALES FILM

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