
2005

Children: America's Greatest Natural Resource, Second Edition

Don P. Diffine Ph.D.

Harding University, ddiffine@harding.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/belden-monographs>



Part of the [Economics Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Diffine, D. P. (2005). Children: America's Greatest Natural Resource, Second Edition. Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/belden-monographs/20>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the The Belden Center for Private Enterprise Education at Scholar Works at Harding. It has been accepted for inclusion in Belden Center Monographs by an authorized administrator of Scholar Works at Harding. For more information, please contact scholarworks@harding.edu.



HARDING
UNIVERSITY

CHILDREN



**AMERICA'S GREATEST
NATURAL RESOURCE**

by
D.P. Diffine, Ph.D.

A
 Commemorative Issue
 of
The Entrepreneur
 a quarterly journal
 of the
 Belden Center for
 Private Enterprise Education

All rights reserved
 Copyright January 2005
 Second Edition

Requests for permission to
 reproduce this publication should
 be addressed in writing as follows:

D. P. Diffine
 Harding University
 Box 12245
 Searcy, Arkansas 72149-0001
 (501) 279-4470
 Fax: (501) 279-4195
 e-mail: ddiffine@Harding.edu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter	Page
Introduction: A Beautiful Choice or an Unglamorous Option	iii
1. Doctor, Lawyer, Merchant Or Chief?	1
2. Life and Death Matters Before Us	3
3. America's Deadly New Civil War	7
4. Let's Celebrate Life Every Day	11
5. Part of the Human Family . . .	17
6. The Unborn Child in the Light of Scripture	23
7. Life and Death Before Birth -- A Journal Account	27
8. When the Womb Becomes A Tomb	33
9. A National Prayer for Life . . .	35
10. Life Begins at Conception -- Medical Testimony	37
11. Abortion and the Future -- Medical Testimony	45
12. Death in the Name of Life . . .	49

Table of Contents (Cont'd)

Chapter	Page
13. The Choice of a New Generation?	53
14. Dealing with Human Sacrifice	55
15. God is Pro-Life	61
16. Biblical Remedies to Promote Healing	65
17. A Prayer for Humanity	69
18. That Wonderful Adoption Option	71
19. Your Mother was Pro-Life ..	75
20. Live and Let Live	79
21. A Tale of Two Mothers	83
22. A Special Bond Across the Years	85
23. Passing Through Reunion Station	87
24. Practical Ways to be a Friend of the Human Family	91
25. We'll Be There	95
Acknowledgments	97
References	101
Organizations	116

INTRODUCTION: A Beautiful Choice or an Unglamorous Option?

"I was born to a woman I never knew, and raised by another who took in orphans. I do not know my background, my lineage, my biological or cultural heritage. But when I meet someone new, I treat them with respect. For after all, they could be my people."

-- James Michener

Family. It is the closest thing to immortality this side of the grave. Family is the past, the present and the future. Family is for growing up in, for going away from, for coming home to. Family is America's most productive and efficient department of health and human services. Real families bend but don't break in responding to life's challenges.

We are all a part of God's family, the best of His creation. As the earth rotates, the lives of natural and adoptive families are often inexorably linked. This, in part, is also their story regarding real life and death matters. God often moves in mysterious ways to complete the family circle.

So, it is with deep and fond appreciation that this monograph honors, among others, young women with crisis pregnancies who, though unmarried, boldly and wisely developed adoption plans in the name of Godly charity and true religion. With strength of character, they carried their babies and also preserved their own health

Introduction

and self-worth. Then, by ushering the new babies safely into the world at full term, the birthmothers selflessly gave their babies something that adoptive parents could not: birthdays.

Thereby concluding that chapter of their lives with compassion and love, the birthmothers released their babies to fill the aching voids in the hearts of childless couples. In a sense, the babies were given life twice. I would hope that we could all express a very positive attitude toward adoption and manifest a fuller understanding of both the sorrow and joy that adoption brings to those involved.

It is not just enough to be right in these matters. If we deeply care about life, let us change our hearts, open our hands and extend help by being actively involved. Above all, the developing pre-born child is part of the human family and deserves our welcome into and guidance through life's noble journey.

Consequently, and because of the fresh start that was granted to all participants in this great and tender human drama, we thank God each day for every remembrance of these birthmothers and their unselfish maternal love. Such is the Kingdom of Heaven: "Take heed that ye despise not one of those little ones; for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven (Matthew 18:10).

1. DOCTOR, LAWYER, MERCHANT OR CHIEF?

Today we celebrate life and the Giver of life who makes it not only possible but also worthwhile.* Author and novelist James Michener is indeed a member of a prestigious and talented club of famous adoptees. The adoptees' names, and in many cases the events of their lives (warts and all), are known to us. Each, as a fallible, mortal human being, was born with a free will to do good and/or evil:

Founder of Wendy's International Dave Thomas ... former President Gerald Ford ... founder of Apple Computers Steve Jobs ... Olympic Decathlon Gold Medal Winner Dan O'Brien ... pioneer bird watcher John J. Audubon ... actor Richard Burton ... Olympic figure skater's Peter and Kitty Carruthers ... newscaster Faith Daniels ... actor Ted Danson ... professional football player Eric Dickerson ... actor Hugh O'Conner ... Olympic diver Greg Louganis ... professional baseball player Jim Palmer... Olympic ice skater Scott Hamilton ... former First Lady Nancy Reagan ... former President Reagan's

*The text of this monograph includes excerpts from a keynote speech the author presented at the 30th Annual Celebration Dinner sponsored by Christian Homes of Abilene, coinciding with the placement of their 1,000th baby for adoption. The reader is also referred to the author's book by the same title.

Doctor, Lawyer, Merchant or Chief?

son Michael Reagan ... senator Robert Byrd ... Christina Crawford, daughter of Joan Crawford ... Admiral Farragut ... rock singer Deborah Harry ... television program host and author Art Linkletter ... actor James McArthur ... the patriarch Moses ... Karen Ann Quinlan ... first recorded adoptee King Sargon of Mesopotamia ... explorer Henry Morton Stanley ... Congressman Jim Lightfoot ... actress Melissa Gilbert ... orchestra leader Les Brown ... author Edgar Allan Poe ... Miss USA Lynette Cole...both Faith Hill and Tim McGraw...

One has to wonder in amazement at the terrible loss to our human family of another 40 million babies who, in the past 30 years, were denied their human potential to make the above mentioned list. What could they have become: Doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief? We will never, never know. Where and when, along the way, did we forget that our Declaration of Independence itself set forth our "inalienable rights" first to life, and then to liberty, and the pursuit of happiness...?"

Therefore, this monograph deals over and over again with two profound questions: (1) What can we do, in the name of Godly Charity and True Religion, to keep on providing help, assistance, support, love, care and nurturing for birthmothers?; and (2) What can we also do to keep finding ways, in these complex legal times, that such children can continue to fill the aching voids in the hearts of other childless couples?

2. LIFE AND DEATH MATTERS BEFORE US

In life there certainly are profoundly sad events which prohibit a parent from fulfilling a God-given duty so deeply cherished. This letter to his unborn child, published originally in the *Christian Herald*, was found on the body of a soldier (no further details are known):

My child, sleeping now in the dark and gathering strength for the struggle of birth, I wish you well. At present you have no proper shape. In time and through the life of your mother, whom I deeply love, there will be something in you that will give you power to fight for air and life. Such is your heritage, such is your destiny as a child born of woman -- to fight for life and hold on without knowing why.

May you seek always and strive in good faith and high courage in this world where men grow so tired. Keep your wonder at great and noble things like sunlight and thunder, the rain and the stars, the wind and the sea, the growth of trees and the return of harvests. Keep your heart hungry for new knowledge; keep your hatred of a lie; and keep your power of indignation.

Now I must die, and you must be born to stand upon the rubbish heap of my errors. Forgive me for this. I am

Life and Death Matters Before Us

ashamed to leave you an untidy world. In thought, as a last benediction, I kiss your forehead. Good night to you -- and good morning and a clear dawn.

The letter is so deeply resolute: a parent courageously laying down his life for a real, and yet unborn, child. In this monograph we deal with quite the opposite: the issue of parents needing to live for, and/or with, their yet unborn children.

I have always believed that special kids and special parents were meant to get together. This is an astounding list of "Who's Who" of adoptive parents, not to mention millions of others who, although not famous, have lovingly assumed that surrogate role with dignity and stewardship:

actress Jamie Lee Curtis ... actress Nell Carter ... actor Ted Danson ... actors Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman ... actress Michele Pfeiffer ... singer Pearl Bailey ... actor Paul Newman ... actors Roy Rogers and Dale Evans ... columnist Estelle Parsons ... humorist Art Buchwald ... baseball player Willie Mays ... actress Gloria Swanson ... Hedy Lamarr ... actor Bob and Dorothy Hope ... Joan Fontaine ... actress Bette Davis ... actress Helen Hayes ... actress Eve Arden ... actor Henry Fonda ... actor George Burns ... Senator Lloyd Bentson ... Congressman James Oberstar ...

Life and Death Matters Before Us

Senator Paul Simon ... Senator Larry Craig ... clothing designer Oscar de la Renta ... actor Sammy Davis, Jr. ... entrepreneur John DeLorean ... actress Mia Farrow ... actor Woody Allen ... singer John Denver ... actor Ed McMahon ... actor Carrol O'Conner ... actress Valerie Harper ... actress Julie Andrews ... Charles Bronson and Jill Ireland ... baseball player Tim Burke ... talk show hostess Sally Jesse Raphael ... newscaster Barbara Walters ... Congresswoman Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky ... Congresswoman Deborah Pryce ... Congressman Ron Klink ... Congressman Thomas Bliley ... Senator Gordon Humphrey ... Senator Jesse Helms ...

Again, there are some on the list about whom we know all too well when it comes to their triumphs and tragedies. They are in many ways a slice of "everyman" as is each of us.

3. AMERICA'S DEADLY NEW CIVIL WAR

Sometimes we unwittingly trivialize great social issues. Once, when our kids were teenagers, I facetiously told an audience that I was puzzled as to why we had the great debate about when life begins -- at conception or at birth. To a parent of any teenager, I said, "It's obvious that life begins when the kids leave home!" Mom and I have been so busy raising our children, that we really haven't had a chance until now to step back and examine the process.

From the time that our son (presently a husband, daddy, and a family practice physician), and our daughter (now a professional accountant) were placed in our hands at about two to three weeks of age, it has felt as if the calendar has had a fast forward on it. They started out as Dr. Dobson describes all infants "... a noise at one end and a mess at the other." And now here we are relishing the wonderful world of bonus babies in the form of grandchildren.

I will attempt to start with impartiality, which will at times yield to passion, as we take on this life and death matter as it has evolved over the years to become what the late Mother Teresa recently called the abortion controversy -- "the great issue of our time." Really, is it possible to be both pro-choice before conception and pro-life after conception? I think so.

Most of my thinking came together in the fall of 1993 as I prepared remarks as a keynote speaker for the 30th Annual

America's Deadly New Civil War

Celebration Dinner for Christian Homes of Abilene. That same fall of 1993, and while a guest at Parents' Weekend early in my son's freshman year in medical school (University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences), we found ourselves touring an anatomy lab with other proud moms and dads.

A lady behind us, as she pointed to a 26 week old "fetus" that was preserved on display in a gallon-size glass bottle, made the following comment to another lady next to her: "That's the age my baby was." The second lady responded, "Oh, you had a miscarriage at 26 weeks?" "No," the first lady replied, "I'm describing my son -- the one who's now a freshman here in medical school, who was born very prematurely at 26 weeks." The "fetus" in the bottle was hardly the size of a full grown hamster. The story hardly needs any more commentary.

"Fetus" is Latin for "baby."

I was flabbergasted more recently to read that "fetus" is Latin for "baby." Do the law and the courts have any right to set priorities so that the convenience of the mother takes precedence over the life of the baby? "Certainly not," says Supreme Court Justice White.

Personally, I have never understood how some good intentioned folks could conduct a

America's Deadly New Civil War

candlelight vigil for convicted murderers on death row and at the same time be pro-abortion which is nothing more than administering, yes, capital punishment to an innocent unborn baby.

Free will is everybody's option. Nevertheless, actions do have consequences. We can be both pro-choice before creating life and pro-life thereafter. Before conception there is a choice. After conception there is a baby. The quick and deadly option of abortion is wrong. Let the baby decide.

Much ink has been spilled over the years, and certainly much blood shed, over these issues. This monograph is just another addition to the long list of publications on these issues. Hopefully, the material herein will motivate people to further study and also work toward a greater understanding of God's will on these issues.

One may not agree with every word printed in this monograph nor should one feel he needs to do so. It is hoped that the reader will think about the points laid out in the monograph, and then decide for himself. In the meantime, let's all be known as a true friend of the family and pass the word:

One man awake,
Awakens another
The Second awakens
His next-door brother.
The three awake
Can rouse a town

America's Deadly New Civil War

By turning the whole place
Upside down.
The many awake
Can make such a fuss
It finally awakens the rest of us.

One man up with dawn in
his eyes.
Multiplies.

4. LET'S CELEBRATE LIFE EVERY DAY

The following is a continued partial text of this author's keynote address at the Christian Homes banquet in 1993.

Yes, there is a great debate in the land. Some years ago, I spoke to a "pro-life" women's group on one occasion. To get their attention right at the beginning, I told them I was "pro-choice." They were, at the very least, mildly upset until I proclaimed, "I'm for letting the baby decide!"

We will live forevermore some day, because our Father in Heaven is Eternal.

Alas, children enter our home and make so much racket for 20 years we can hardly stand it. Then they depart leaving the house so silent we think we will go mad. And so, we celebrate life and look at our own son and daughter. They have completed the First Quarter of the Human Race. And at this point, they are ahead! But it's an awfully long journey through Eternity. We want them to make it as sure as they can.

We want them to remember this -- there is a God, and man is His child. We will all die some day, because our earthly mother and father were human. I helped preach two funerals in the past three months. We will live forevermore some day, because our

Let's Celebrate Life Every Day

Father in Heaven is Eternal. That's the "Good News" we want to pass on to them.

Our son, the family practice physician and also Biochemistry graduate from Harding University, wrote the following, in part, on his medical school application:

... My goal is to help people gain mobility, battle against needless suffering, and avoid premature death. My wife's mission is to pay back, through a life of medical service and research, that gift that was given to me those many years ago....

I'll never forget that note our daughter wrote me as a little girl: "I love you Dad, and I know you love God and Jesus." Isn't that the way it's suppose to be? First, in life, our children learn to love their parents. Then they learn to love their parents' Bible. Finally, they learn to love their parents' Savior.

This was also written by our daughter as she reached the midpoint of her teen years:

FATHER AND FRIEND

It seems like you've always been there
for me,
Not as authority but as my friend.
Something inside you only I can see,
Like a noise in a whispering wind.

Let's Celebrate Life Every Day

My time spent with you has been
worthwhile,
Especially the day of the baseball
game.
You knew how to bring my face to
smile,
It makes me feel like a queen in her
reign.

Overcoming the trials that we once
had,
Inside of my heart I would always
know,
A bond shared by a daughter and her
dad,
So special that it would forever grow.

So to my father and my special friend,
All my blessings and love to you I
send.

Without organizations such as Christian Homes of Abilene (and in Arkansas, Childrens' Homes of Paragould, and Southern Christian Home in Morrilton), where would our "special" son and daughter be? Would they have had a life, a name, or even a proper burial? Probably not. The womb, which should be the safest place in the world, could have become their tomb. It has for 40 million others in the past two and a half decades.

Some people may feel that your efforts here at Christian Homes don't add up. But, without a doubt, you have successfully

Let's Celebrate Life Every Day

subtracted more than 1,000 potential casualties from the total, for sure. And now down the road there is a bonus we never even thought about in 1970. Grandchildren!

Christian Homes President Nancy Miller used to remind us to not make our children feel too "special." She told us the story about the child on the playground asking others, "Are you adopted?" "No." -- "Oh, too bad." When ours did excel, especially athletically, people would ask, "Did they get that from you?" "No," I'd say, "it just runs in the family" -- or "No, that's why we adopted."

The womb, which should be the safest place in the world, could have become their tomb.

Of course, the first question people always ask is "Do they know they're adopted?" Sure! They'll never remember a time when they didn't know. That's the key. You've got to be truthful. We told them, early and often, that we found them in a big, family-size box of "Cheer." I mean, why lie to them. Never underestimate the value of delivering a message of truth on the wings of humor. Ah, kinship.

High school was an exciting time for us. Our daughter learned the "goods" and "bads" of being Treasurer for a couple of organizations. Our son, a superb quarter

Let's Celebrate Life Every Day

miler, helped set a school record in the mile relay at the state track meet and was a true gladiator as a defensive end in football.

Now, you ask, were there ever times, however brief, that we felt like "wringing their necks?" Sure. Did we ever return from a car trip and feel the urge to "dropkick-them-through-the-hedge?" You bet. Were there ever times when their ingratitude or procrastination just about sent us "around the bend?" Oh, yeah. Did we struggle to gain even primitive two-way communication? Uh-huh. Have we ever wished they wouldn't tell people their last name? Yep. Are we on a "first-name basis" with several auto-body shops in town? Sure.

Nevertheless, I would like to share with you a partial text of the traditional senior letter that parents present to their Harding Academy graduates just prior to their Commencement exercises. The opening paragraph of the letter I wrote my son just before high school graduation and then the closing paragraph of a similar senior letter to my daughter (the in between pages contained a chronicle of interesting events in their lives to date):

Here, on the eve of your Graduation is your senior letter which we have been writing (and rewriting) in our minds for nearly two decades. You are, as you know, our special son. From the beginning, you were so "special" in the way that you came

Let's Celebrate Life Every Day

to us, and "special" in the procedure of your selection into our home. You are "special" because, as our adopted son, you seem to have that "extra-special" touch of God's beauty treatment in your physical appearance. We have always believed that God made "special" children and "special couples" to get together the way we have in our stay-together-forever, two parent, Christian family.

AND THEN ...

This senior letter concludes, dear daughter, the same way it began. Please know that you have always been so much fun to be around. We do so look up to you. We are so proud of your tender conscience. You are always teaching us something wonderful. You never cease to amaze us. You are the best -- truly World Class. You'll always be in our "Hall of Fame." You make us so happy and proud -- so much so, that we just have one final request -- can we have your autograph?

5. PART OF THE HUMAN FAMILY

This chapter concludes the text of the author's 1993 keynote address at Christian Homes of Abilene.

Ladies and gentlemen, how did we arrive at this point? Dumb luck? Providence? Only our Heavenly Father knows. Who else could have known that things were set in motion when a young sailor was stationed in Honolulu in the early 1950's. There, while working part-time as a used car salesman, he attended church with a family whose little girl would attend Abilene Christian University a decade later.

That young lady often babysat his children while in college. And she admired him so much, she even let him try to talk her out of marrying a no-account West Coast guy who was at that time a marginal student, going nowhere and without hope. Nevertheless, love conquers all.

A half dozen years later, and while living in San Antonio in the Air Force where I was the Commander of the 3707th Basic Training Squadron, we were pleased to take the advice of this gentleman and begin a great adventure with Christian Homes. I'm glad that the home study found us to be "normal (Ok, you gave us the benefit of the doubt)."

So, we extend a "thank you" to (our kids grew up calling him "Uncle Dusty") our dear friend, Dusty Rhodes -- his delightful wife, Nancy -- and to our Father in Heaven who made life not only possible, but also worthwhile.

Part of the Human Family

And, no doubt you have heard the expression, "God couldn't be everywhere, so he made Mothers." I'd like to suggest a footnote to that: "Mothers couldn't be everywhere, so God made organizations like Christian Homes." And truly, when the history is written of those pioneers who stood in the breach (no pun intended), the name of Nancy Miller will most certainly be in the headlines. Amen?

*Mothers couldn't be everywhere,
so God made organizations like
Christian Homes.*

Organizations like Christian Homes were built by extraordinary efforts of a growing minority. The efforts of these people have been, in three words: "Tre--Men--Dous!" The constituency of Christian Homes will be forever in their debt. You might be mindful sometimes -- in the office, in the store, at the bank, or at a seminar -- of the debt you can't repay to yesterday, but can render only to tomorrow. Of course, you are under no obligation to what the past has been.

Forget not that the men and women who shaped yesterday also shaped today; but remember that you can shape tomorrow. Most people can easily ignore any debt they might owe to the past. Some men and women, however, feel a profound obligation

Part of the Human Family

to yesterday and tomorrow. Maybe you are one of them!

America is the oldest living Republic. Our Constitution doesn't guarantee a good life, prosperous life, happy life, or a long life -- just the protection of life. We make of our lives what we will! As I have told my students and my children, "There are talents given to us and us alone. We must use them and reinvent ourselves every day."

Where is the redemptive value of a lifetime of work? How do you spell relief? F-A-M-I-L-Y. Family makes it all come alive. You be the best dad, husband, brother, son -- mom, wife, sister, daughter you can be. Give them good memories. And how will we and our young people beat the odds when it comes to marriage and family (they have one chance in two of making it)?

For starters, try for long courtships. Go through the seasons with that person. Do your homework on him. Is he mean, lazy, dishonest? He might have some weird mood swings when there is a full moon and the hormones are at high tide. Study him.

After you pair off with the benefit of clergy, daily reaffirm your personal values, firmly grasp what is important in life. Daily choose a mutually enriching environment for your mate, your children, and yourself. Daily consider your family worth preserving and enjoying. You'll have the power to say "Yes" to your family and "No" to anyone or anything else.

Part of the Human Family

Then, the person who marries our kids will be so fortunate indeed. So, will our grandchildren. And perhaps their great-grandparents too -- four living generations blessed with that one decision. Create a strong, loyal family, bound together and deeply rooted in faith and trust. Work with purpose. Take what they've accomplished and build on it. You don't conquer real families.

A century and a half ago, a young attorney, Daniel Webster, in summing up the court case of Dartmouth College vs. The State Board of Education (which was trying to take over that private college) -- Webster said this to the Judge: "It's a small school, sir -- But there are those who love her."

Regarding your role as a member of this extended family called Christian Homes of Abilene -- if you should ever question your role, remember this: There is no greater gift than to have God's little ones entrusted to you. God must love them very much, because somehow He gave them you. If He rewards you, far beyond your worth, by letting you, in some way, be their benefactor, then who are you to question His wisdom?

And so, as we "Celebrate Life," I ask you these two final questions. First, "what will you do, in the name of Godly Charity and True Religion, to keep on providing help, assistance, support, love, care and nurturing for birthmothers?" And second, "what will

Part of the Human Family

you also do to keep finding ways, in these complex legal times, that such children can continue to fill the aching voids in the hearts of other childless couples?"

It has been a great ride. I'm glad we bought a ticket. Aren't you?

Yes, Christian Homes of Abilene is, by some measures, a small organization, but "there are those who love her," for sure. So, we salute you and commend you to your task. Thank you for making it possible, long ago, for us to "Celebrate Life" today.

Our house is mostly empty again. On one wall hangs a framed copy of "Ode To An Adopted Child." And one of our guest bedrooms, which used to be our son's bedroom, has been retrofitted into a nursery. So, especially tonight we say, "Thanks -- thanks for the memories." It has been a great ride. I'm glad we bought a ticket. Aren't you?

6. THE UNBORN CHILD IN THE LIGHT OF SCRIPTURE

Each of the following scriptures is freestanding. Together, each tile of the broad mosaic sends a compelling message that hardly needs commentary:

“And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them (Genesis. 1:27).”

“I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live ... (Deuteronomy. 30:19).”

“You shall not commit murder (Ex. 20:13).”

“And for your life blood I will surely demand an accounting. I will demand an accounting from every animal. And from each man, too, I will demand an accounting for the life of his fellow man. Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made man. As for you, be fruitful and increase in number; multiply on the earth and increase upon it. (Genesis 9:5-7).”

“Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, ‘Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you

The Unborn Child in the Light of Scripture

were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations' (Jeremiah 1:4-5)."

"All souls are mine (Ezekiel 18:4)."

"Or know ye not that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have from God? and ye are not your own; for ye were bought with a price ... (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)."

"And the man knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man with the help of Jehovah (Genesis 4:1)."

"Lo, children are a heritage of Jehovah; and the fruit of the womb is his reward (Psalm 127:3)."

"For thou didst form my inward parts: Thou didst cover me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks unto thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made ... My frame was not hidden from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lower parts of the earth. Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows right well! My substance was not hidden from You when I was made in secret and intricately wrought ... Your eyes did see my substance, yet being unformed; and in Your monograph all my members were written, which in

The Unborn Child in the Light of Scripture

continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them (Psalm 139:13-16)."

"Did not he that made me in the womb make him? And did not one fashion us in the womb? (Job 31:15)."

"If men strive and hurt a woman with child (one who is pregnant) so that her fruit (child) depart from her ... and if any harm follow, then you shall give life for life (Exodus 21:21-24)."

"Thus says The Lord, your Redeemer, and He Who formed you from the womb: I am The Lord Who makes all things (Isaiah 44:24)."

"Have You not poured me out as milk, and curdled me like cheese? You have clothed me with skin and flesh, and have fenced me with bones and sinews. You have granted me life and favor, and Your visitation has preserved my spirit (Job 10:10-12)."

"And Job spake, and said, Let the day perish wherein I was born, and the night in which it was said, there is a man child conceived (Job 3:3)."

"For three sins of Ammon, even for four, I will not turn back my wrath, because he ripped open the pregnant women of Gilead in order to extend his borders. (Amos 1:3)."

The Unborn Child in the Light of Scripture

"There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to Him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, ... (Proverbs 6:16-17)."

"Know ye that the Lord He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture (Psalm 100:3)."

"He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together (Colossians 1:17)."

"Thus saith the Lord, thy redeemer, and He that formed thee from the womb. I am the Lord that maketh all things ... (Isaiah 44:24)."

"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:41)."

"For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salvation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy (Luke 1:44)."

"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven (Matthew 18:10)."

7. LIFE AND DEATH BEFORE BIRTH -- A JOURNAL ACCOUNT

I have personalized this stark journal account to dramatize the humanity involved:

Week 1 -- This is the first day of the rest of my life. My parents do not know it yet as I am as tiny as a grain of sand, but it is I, for sure. And I am to be a boy. I shall have brown hair and brown eyes. Much has already been determined, even the fact that I shall love to run and play. My human life has begun. It's an amazing thing. Even before implantation, the gender of my new life can be determined. And at implantation, my new life already consists of hundreds of cells. Additionally, I have developed a protective hormone to prevent my mother's body from rejecting me as foreign tissue.

Week 2 -- There are those who say I am not yet a real person and that only my mother lives. However, I am real, just as a small slice of bread is not truly the whole loaf. My mother is, and I am, too. My new life has developed its own blood cells. The placenta is part of my new life and not of my mother. Toward the end of this week I will experience occasional pulsations of a muscle that will become my heart.

Week 3 -- My mouth has been formed, and I can open it. In less than a year, I shall be laughing and two years from now talking. I would be ungrateful if my first word I said wasn't "Mama." My eyes are starting to develop, too. The foundation of my entire

Life and Death Before Birth

nervous system has been laid out. What a week this third week has been! My heart began beating all by itself. From now on it shall gently beat for the rest of my life without ever stopping to rest. After many years it will tire. It will then stop, and I shall probably die of old age as all mortals do because their earthly parents were human. But praise God I can live forever because my father in Heaven is eternal!

Week 4 -- I am growing rapidly every day. I am still very small, only 1/10 of an inch long and yet already my eyes, spinal cord nervous system, lungs, stomach, and intestines are taking shape. My arms and legs are becoming more defined. But I'll have to wait a long time yet before those little legs will raise me to my mother's lap, before these little arms will be able to swing a baseball bat and embrace my father. My tiny little heart, which began beating on the 18th day, now pumps all the more confidently. All this has happened before my mother was aware of my new life within her.

Week 5 -- My heart continues to beat regularly. Forty pairs of muscles are developing along the trunk of my new life. There is regular blood flow within my vascular system and my ears and nasal development have begun.

Week 6 -- My skeletal movements began this week. It will still be twelve more weeks before my mother may notice any stirrings.

Life and Death Before Birth

My heart energy output is reported to be almost twenty percent of an adult. My skeleton is complete and the reflexes are present. Electrical brain wave patterns can be recorded as ample evidence that "thinking" at some level is taking place in my new life. This is what separates me from the animals. I am a thinking person. My hands are forming tiny fingers. They are quite small, but soon I will be able to grasp a baseball and bat.

Week 7 -- Today the doctor informed my mom that I am living here just under her heart. She must be very pleased. I now look just like a tiny doll, with fingers, toes, and ears, too. If my lip is tickled I will pull away. Does all this please you, Mom?

Week 8 -- My parents are probably deciding on a name for me. However, they don't at this time know that I am a little boy. There are so many great names to choose from. I will probably need a middle name, too, for I am getting bigger everyday. All my body systems are present now and an electrocardiogram reading can be taken next week. I can make a tiny fist, get hiccups, suck my thumb, wake and sleep. All my organs are functioning -- stomach, liver, kidneys, brain -- all are intact. There are lines in my palms.

All future development of my life will simply be refinement of and an increase in size until maturity at approximately 23 years.

Life and Death Before Birth

All I need is nourishment. I can swim freely and even grab. All this is taking place two months before what in the "olden" days was called the "quickenings"--the first time I will be felt by my mother.

Week 10 -- At this stage, I am perfectly formed. I even have fingerprints. I can squint, swallow, retract my tongue. My hair is growing. It will be bright and shiny and auburn in color. I wonder what color of hair my mom and dad have. Will I favor my grandparents? Although it is dark all around me, I am just about able to see. When my mom brings me into the world, it will be full of sunshine and trees to climb. I want more than anything to see my mom. Do I look like you, Mom?

Week 12 -- I can breathe (fluid), suck my thumb, taste, cry, swallow, sleep and wake, and all organ systems are functioning, including mental. I am moving my arms and legs, inhaling and exhaling amniotic fluid, and my finger nails are appearing. Do you suppose my mom hears the whispering of my heart? I know that some children come into the world with physical problems but I am healthy and strong. My heart beats so evenly: lup-dup, lup-dup.

The ultrasound will show that you have a healthy little son, Mom! Science will tell you that a fetus of 12 weeks is not essentially different from one of 22 weeks or one of 32 weeks. Beyond 12 weeks, nothing new is

Life and Death Before Birth

formed. Now weighing about one ounce and stretching almost three inches long, I just continue to grow rapidly. I am developing separately from you, Mom. I have my own blood supply. My life is not my mother's life; I cling to it as much as she clings to hers.

Week 13 -- THIS MAY BE MY LAST ENTRY; THEY ARE COMING FOR ME NOW. I JUST WISH I COULD KNOW WHAT I'VE DONE TO DESERVE CAPITAL PUNISHMENT. COULDN'T MY MOTHER HAVE BEEN PRO-CHOICE BEFORE CONCEPTION AND PRO-LIFE AFTER CONCEPTION? WHAT IS THIS THEY ARE DOING -- DEATH IN THE NAME OF LIFE?

OH NO, THE WOMB IS GOING TO BECOME MY TOMB! HEY, THIS IS TERRORISM, HUMAN SACRIFICE, HOLOCAUST, CIVIL WAR. I AM TOO YOUNG TO DIE! WHATEVER HAPPENED TO LIVE AND LET LIVE? LET ME DECIDE. HEY, DON'T I GET A NAME, OR EVEN A PROPER BURIAL? WHY WON'T MY MOTHER LOVE ME? WHY WON'T MY COUNTRY SAVE ME? ...

8. WHEN THE WOMB BECOMES A TOMB

The dates reported in the aforementioned journal are approximate dates signifying when specific functions and development commence. All are well documented in medical journals, with some slight variations. To one who is intellectually honest, the conclusion is quite clear: life and its processes are present at fertilization. A new being has been created. Henceforth nothing else will be needed, except nutrition.

*All that is needed is nourishment
and time to grow.*

All of the vigorous activity described above occurs in the first half of pregnancy. The mother and the baby are separate individuals from conception. All characteristics have already been determined including skin pigmentation, sex, and intelligence potential. The individual's life as described below consists of continually overlapping and progressive stages of growth and development. All that is needed is nourishment and time to grow.

The life described in the journal did not have a chance to experience birth at nine months. But please note that life does not begin at birth. Birth is only an occasion marking the change of residence of an already-living, active person. By week

When the Womb Becomes a Tomb

twelve the face has assumed the baby's profile and muscle movements are more coordinated. The baby now exercises more energetically, turning its head, curling its toes, opening and closing its mouth.

Had the baby been allowed to develop into the fourth month, the mother would be starting to "show." The baby's ears would be functioning and there is some evidence that it would be soothed by the mother's voice and her heart beat as well as other external noises. The umbilical cord, an engineering marvel, would be transporting 300 quarts of fluids per day, completing the round trip of fluids every 30 seconds.

Before that last journal entry, there was life. Now, there has been a death in the name of life. Parents may not have wanted that child. God does: "Take heed that you despise not one of these little ones for I say unto you, that in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my father which is in heaven (Matthew 18:10)."

9. A NATIONAL PRAYER FOR LIFE

by E.J. Brennan

We came forth from many quarters,
one hundred thousand strong,
to focus our nation's conscience
on a gross and serious wrong.
Nearly thirty five million children
were aborted from the womb,
a plastic bag their only shroud,
a garbage can their tomb.

No comrades fought on either flank.
No sword or shield did fend.
Their nation left them on their own.
Alone they met their end.
No caisson bore them to their grave,
less friends and florals too.
For them no flag was flown half-
mast.
For them no bugle blew.

We weep for this our nation,
which feeds upon its youth,
for its eyes are sadly blinded
to equality and truth.
We pray for this our nation:
May this bloody slaughter cease,
So our God who gave it freedom
may restore to it His Peace.

10. LIFE BEGINS AT CONCEPTION -- MEDICAL TESTIMONY

by
Paul A. Byrne, M.D., Neonatologist

Dr. Byrne is chairman of the pediatrics department at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport, Connecticut. On September 28, 1989, he addressed the question of when human life begins in the following testimony at a special hearing on abortion sponsored by Connecticut's House-Senate Judiciary Committee. That testimony follows (courtesy of the American Life League):

1. I am Paul A. Byrne, a Doctor of Medicine. I reside in Bridgeport, Connecticut and I am licensed to practice medicine in Connecticut and Missouri. I attended St. Louis University Medical School and obtained my M.D. in 1957. I am certified by the American Board of Pediatrics (1963) and the Sub-Board of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine of the American Board of Pediatrics (1975).

I have been on a faculty of a medical school for 28 years. As a neonatologist I have taken care of many ill newly born and prematurely born infants. Often a neonatologist is consulted by the obstetrician before delivery, thus it is required that we have knowledge about the baby before he or she is born.

2. A new human life begins at conception when the sperm providing half the chromosomes penetrates the ovum,

Life Begins at Conception -- Medical Testimony

providing the other half of the chromosomes to form a new set of chromosomes. Or, to consider it from the aspect of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA), half the DNA is provided by the ovum, the other half by the sperm, to form new DNA.

The new DNA, the new set of chromosomes, is different from the DNA or the chromosomes of the father, different from the DNA or the chromosomes of the mother. The DNA is the genetic material present and duplicated in each and every cell of the body; it has the biochemical identity of a particular human being subsequently duplicated in the nucleus of every cell of that particular individual.

At conception the external characteristics used later for identification of the individual person -- namely, the color of the hair, the color of the skin, the color of the eyes, the sex, and the fingerprints -- are already determined. The DNA and the chromosomes are the constituents of the nucleus of this first cell. The nucleus is surrounded by the cytoplasm which is limited in space by the cell membrane.

The new human being, the new human organism, has the structure of a human being at this stage of development. Before, as well as after birth, growth and development occur. However, this

Life Begins at Conception -- Medical Testimony

growth and development is dependent upon environmental support.

3. The heart is beating at 21-23 days. Brain waves have been recorded at 43-45 days. (Handbook of Clinical Neurology, Vol. 30, p. 28, 1944). At eight weeks, when all the organs are present, the medical name of the human being changes from embryo to fetus. The medical name remains fetus until changed to infant at birth, which is the time a change of residence occurs. As far as reaching a determination as to when human life begins, there are no significant changes occurring at birth.
4. At all stages of development from conception to adulthood, biochemical identity is present in the nucleus of each and every cell. At all stages of development there is structure that is wholly and only human. Before and after birth an appropriate environment is always necessary for life to be supported.

Thus, from conception, the new human being has a particular identity, oneness, structure, internal metabolism and relationship to the environment, and occupies a limited space. These are the basic elements of the human structure essential to human life, and their presence clearly establishes the

Life Begins at Conception -- Medical Testimony

existence of human life. Without this structure no human functions can occur.

5. Knowledge of the activities and development of new human life has greatly increased and has been generally disseminated over the past 17 years. This recent burgeoning of knowledge concerning fetal activity and development has occurred because of the more general and experienced use of ultrasonography in examining and observing the fetus, and medical-scientific breakthroughs in the study of amniotic fluid.

As a result of the more general and experienced use of ultrasonography, it is now clear that at a very early age the fetus moves -- and does so with purpose. The fetus roots, sucks his or her thumb, and seeks out a position of comfort allowing for growth with minimal physical constriction. Ultrasonography has confirmed and clarified the fact of movements of the chest of the fetus. These are the movements that after birth will be breathing movements.

Confirmation of this fact combined with analysis of the amniotic fluid has substantiated that fluid is formed in the lungs, which is then ejected into the amniotic fluid, an occurrence necessary for intrauterine physiology. Thus, due to great advances in the use of

Life Begins at Conception -- Medical Testimony

ultrasonography and the study of the amniotic fluid (as well as other related developments), medical knowledge concerning fetal development and when human life begins has significantly and quantitatively increased since 1973.

6. It is now possible for the fetus to survive outside the uterus 18-20 weeks after conception. The technical capabilities for keeping these infants warm, providing ventilatory support, as well as improving nutrition through parenteral routes, have greatly improved since 1973. In 1976, the F.D.A. approved the use of intravenous fat to provide nutrition for these prematurely born infants.

Currently, oxygen-bearing perfluorocarbons, also known as "liquid air," are being perfected as a means of ventilating premature babies whose lungs are too immature to breathe air; in August 1989, researchers at Temple University reported promising results in both animal and human experimental tests.

7. Many textbooks on human embryology state that a new human life begins at conception. (See, e.g., Langman, *Medical Embryology*, p. 3 (1963): "The development of a new individual commences with fertilization"; Thomas, *Introduction to Human Embryology*, p. 52 (1968): "Fertilization is significant in that

Life Begins at Conception -- Medical Testimony

new life is created ..."; O'Rahilly, *Developmental Stages in Human Embryos*, p. 9 n.1: "... 'the initiation of new life' occurs at that moment when fertilization 'is completed by fusion of the two sets of chromosomes'"; Arey, *Developmental Anatomy*, p. 55 (1965): "The formation, maturation and meeting of a male and female sex cell are all preliminary to their actual union into a combined cell, or zygote, which definitely marks the beginning of a new individual."

These texts are recognized as authoritative in the medical profession; I am personally familiar with them, and it is my opinion, based upon a reasonable degree of medical certainty, that their representations concerning when human life begins are accurate. I have never read a medical text or heard of any medical doctor writing or stating that what exists at conception is not a new human life.

I have read, however, that some believe that a new human life begins at implantation in the uterus, which occurs about one week after conception. However, successful in vitro fertilization (fertilization outside the womb, i.e., in a culture dish or test tube) has now made it possible to observe the new human life immediately after fertilization and, therefore, observe the cells divide prior to implantation. Observation of this

Life Begins at Conception -- Medical Testimony

development provides further evidence that human life begins at conception.

Moreover, if one defines viability as the potential "to live outside the mother's womb, albeit with artificial aid" (*Roe vs. Wade*; 410 U.S. 113, 160 (1973)), in vitro fertilization would seem to have moved the date of viability back to conception. Clearly, upon and after fertilization, the new human life does survive outside the mother's womb for several cell divisions. Currently, with in vitro fertilization, after several cell divisions it facilitates continued growth to move this new human life to the more natural habitat of the womb.

Some day, moving the new human life to the womb may be unnecessary. Having successfully performed in vitro fertilization, all that is now necessary for full development of the new human life outside the womb is a determination of what is necessary to sustain new human life and then invent and produce an artificial womb. Should this occur, we could have fully developed living human beings who would not be human life under the definition of human life that requires implantation.

However, under a definition of human life that rests upon viability as defined above, this living human being is human life from conception, since his or her

Life Begins at Conception -- Medical Testimony

fertilization and full development would occur outside the womb.

8. Thus, for the reasons stated above and based upon my knowledge, skill, experience, training and education, it is my expert medical opinion that it is a fact that human life begins at conception.
9. I am familiar with the subject of abortion through reading and study. The most common methods of induced abortion are vacuum, curettage, saline, prostaglandin, and hysterotomy. It is my opinion, based upon a reasonable degree of medical certainty, that abortion destroys human life. Simply stated, before abortion there is life, after abortion there is death.

Postscript: According to Focus on the Family, in 1984, 61 physicians (including two past presidents of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology) signed a statement entitled "The Utmost Respect for Human Life," which reads in part, "We urge all those engaged in the abortion debate to recognize that a central issue in the discourse must include acceptance of the fact that induced abortion causes the death of a living human." They indeed see what God has long ago decreed.

11. ABORTION AND THE FUTURE -- MEDICAL TESTIMONY

by C. Everett Koop, M.D.

Dr. Koop, former Surgeon General of the United States and former Surgeon-in-chief at Philadelphia's Children's Hospital, is one of the world's most prominent surgeons. He has spent a life time studying the attitudes and trends of man's view of man from a medical perspective.

Abortion is not a medical problem. It is a social problem. Doctors have been asked to become social executioners in order to bring about a better society -- a far cry from the high calling to the healing art of medicine. But have we produced a better society?

We were told in the days before the Supreme Court abortion decisions that abortion-on-demand would reduce child abuse. Instead, child abuse has climbed by nearly 400 percent since 1973, even though we have prevented the birth of some 40 MILLION unwanted children through abortion.

We were told that abortion made legal would do away with illegal, dangerous abortions. Yet the experience in every country, including America, where abortion-on-demand became a legal right, is that illegal abortions increase rather than decrease.

Abortion and the Future -- Medical Testimony

We were told that we would have better sexual morality, but instead we have tremendous numbers of teen-age pregnancies resulting from sex education programs which deny a moral code and encourage a hedonistic life style. Abortion is presented as a back-up to contraceptive failure in this "do your own thing" life style.

The cheapening of human life brought about by abortion-on-demand has, like falling dominoes, brought two other curses upon our society. This first is "infanticide," the "killing" of a newborn baby by active or passive means because he is considered to have a life not worth living. What started off to be a woman's right to abortion-on-demand has become a woman's legal right to a dead baby.

Inasmuch as a woman has the right to a dead baby, does she not have the right to a dead baby outside the womb as well as inside the womb? Apparently she does! Medical journals published in the U.S. carry clear indication that doctors are practicing infanticide, and yet the law has apparently turned its back. Infanticide in reality is homicide.

The second curse is euthanasia, or so called "mercy-killing," the termination of the life of a dependent individual allegedly for his own benefit. Today, we receive reports about elderly people in HEW approved

Abortion and the Future -- Medical Testimony

nursing homes who are not having their infections and fever symptoms treated. The reasons have very little to do with limitations in medicine.

Frequently, such decisions are made by staff personnel based on social problems of the patient in question, such as the frequency of visitation by the family, the number of nursing hours required per week, and the general acceptability of the patient with the nursing home staff. Who knows what the next domino might be, as we systematically cheapen human life and undermine the family structure so essential to the future of our society?

When doctors are willing to become social executioners for millions of babies, we must examine what motives are used in justifying their actions. Usually, reasons given include preserving the life of the mother, the expectation of a defective child, rape, and incest. Even if these were valid reasons, they would account for only three percent of all abortions. A full 97 percent of abortions occur for matters of convenience and economy.

When doctors are willing to counsel the parents of a newborn child with a congenital defect to allow the child to starve to death, we should examine this motive as well. The typical answer is that these youngsters have a "life not worthy to be lived." Leo

Abortion and the Future -- Medical Testimony

Alexander, the American psychiatric representative to the Nuremberg trials, in trying to bring the origins of the Holocaust to the lowest common denominator, said that it all began with that concept that there was such a thing as human life not worthy to be lived.

Certainly, we have come to an age where the Hippocratic tradition of preserving human life means little. One could say without hesitation that we are at the crossroads of the corruption of medicine with the corruption of law.

Postscript: Angela E. Hunt, author of *The Hidden Holocaust* projects this scenario: "Abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia are ... dominoes in a line; abortion has fallen, infanticide is tottering, and euthanasia may soon follow."

12. DEATH IN THE NAME OF LIFE

The two views of life and death of the unborn are inexorably linked. The abortionists, to be successful in promoting their cause, must portray their approach as guilt-free and all other alternatives, including adoption, as neither viable nor proper. To the contrary, before conception there is a choice. After conception there is a baby.

We must sound the call, that there is another road not taken which, if taken, will allow birthmothers to put aside some of their personal needs for a few months and have the confidence they have chosen the best course -- adoption.

The big lie coming from the abortion lobby is that "adoption is the worst thing you can do for a child." Alice would have loved this Wonderland. Isn't it ironic that all of the pro-abortion people have already been born?

"Give peace a chance" is a popular chant of pacifists in times of war. Believe it or not, more unborn babies were killed last year in America, and in every one of the last 30 years, than were killed in all the wars in America's 220 year history.

In all the wars in which U.S. servicemen have been involved in over two centuries, 1.2 million Americans have died. As you read this, an unborn baby dies every 20 seconds, without fanfare. No newspaper obituaries, no funerals, just death in the name of life.

Death in the Name of Life

The unborn babies die without the benefit of due process guaranteed by the Fifth and Fourteenth amendments:

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury ... nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb ... nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law ... nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Far from safeguarding the mother's life, the maternal death rate from abortions is four times higher than it is for natural childbirth.

They fall at the rate of 4,000 a day. Less than one percent of these abortions are for hardship cases such as rape, deformity, incest, and threat to the mother's life. Even in the cases of rape, judges rarely will set a death penalty for the rapist. The guilty father usually gets a few years punishment. However, the innocent baby in the womb may get capital punishment. What has this baby done wrong at all? Where is the fairness in all of this by creating a second victim?

Death in the Name of Life

Certainly this is not being done in the name of dealing with overpopulation. A large number of economists and agronomists tell us that the earth is very underpopulated and could handle ten times the present population. Only 15 percent of potential agricultural land is currently being cultivated; when there are famines the root cause is usually more to do with government policies than with farming strategies.

Dr. Robert Sassone, author of *The Population Handbook*, has offered a \$1,000 reward to anyone who can suggest a valid reason why we must limit population in the 21st century. He has had no takers. Certainly there is no population explosion in America as there is in some third world nations.

So many myths abound about abortion. And yet the facts are quite clear. Nationally, 82 percent of women obtaining abortions are unmarried. Thirty percent are teenagers. This strongly suggests that abortion is used as a form of birth control. In the United States today nearly one in three pregnancies ends in abortion.

Do we realize what we are saying? Nearly one-third of the babies conceived this year will not be born. How will we ever explain this to our Creator? Far from safeguarding the mother's life, the maternal death rate from abortions is four times higher than it is for natural childbirth (7.7 deaths per

Death in the Name of Life

10,000 abortions v. 1.84 deaths per 10,000 births). Some studies show that more than one-third of mothers of aborted babies also have mental problems later.

13. THE CHOICE OF A NEW GENERATION?

Presently a slight majority of Americans are reported as being pro-life as opposed to the so-called pro-choice abortionists' option. I would feel no differently if even a majority of Americans became pro-abortion. As the Apostle Paul has said in Romans 6:1, "Shall we sin all the more that grace may abound."

When the actual word "abortion" is used in the opinion surveys, Americans are opposed to it by a margin of three to two. Surveys have also shown that this issue is more important to women than it is to men. Fellas, maybe there is the solution to some of this -- if we could just get our men to stand by their women and step forward and help raise these children.

When the actual word "abortion" is used in the opinion surveys, Americans are opposed to it by a margin of three to two.

Is there a ray of hope? Yes. Abortions are on the decline; today there are fewer places in America that perform the procedure. In the last decade, more than 500 U.S. hospitals and clinics have stopped offering abortions. *The Washington Post* reported last year that "some older doctors have become disillusioned ... Many of them believe that abortion has become overused as a form of after-the-fact birth control."

The Choice of a New Generation?

And in case we didn't notice, pro-life candidates are winning public office now at an extraordinary rate, both in the House of Representatives and in the Senate. In 1992, of the 36 House incumbents who lost, 34 were pro-choice.

The abortionists claim that a woman has the right to her own body. However, the unborn child is not her body. The genetic code of the child that is unborn is different than that of the mother's. The unborn child may not even be of the same sex as the mother. The unborn child may have a different blood type than the mother. Therefore, the newborn is a new, unique human life.

Candidly, the pro-life forces have not been totally truthful about the Roe v. Wade decision. I don't know if it was willful or just an oversight. However, the truth is that the Justices declared that during the first trimester, abortion should be available on demand; that is when 90 percent of all abortions occur today.

In the second trimester, the right remains, but the state can regulate the procedure. During the third trimester, when the fetus is very viable and has been for some time, the state has an interest in preserving life and can bar abortions except those meant to preserve the mother's life or health. So technically, so-called abortion-on-demand for the entire nine months is stretching the point a bit.

14. DEALING WITH HUMAN SACRIFICE

Once again, I was very impressed with the comments and elaboration my son made on the written essay text portion of his medical school application:

When I was born, abortion was illegal in most states. There wasn't much information available about the circumstances of my birth, but I have to wonder if I would exist today, had I been conceived in the 1980's or the 1990's. I have a very high regard for human life because of my circumstances. I would like to give others what has been given to me -- life. I have high moral and ethical standards and a true interest in the well-being of mankind. I intend to make it my goal to help people gain mobility, battle against needless suffering and premature death. As an adopted child, I sense that my life's mission is to pay back through a life of medical service, that gift that was given to me many years ago.

Helen Westover was at one time a pro-choice feminist. Writing in *All About Issues*, she describes "the hardest case of all," which has to deal with how the pro-choice debate wounds adoptees:

Every syllable of the pro-abortion rhetoric wounds the adoptee. Many of us struggle with feelings of low self-esteem due to abandonment and rejection to which we feel we were

Dealing with Human Sacrifice

subjected. When adoptees hear "choice-speak," it cruelly reinforces all that self-doubt. Adoptees are another group of people who are injured by the pro-choice rhetoric. The Adopted People for Life Organization encourages adoptees in general to enter the pro-life struggle because it is our struggle. Our pre-born brothers and sisters, who in a saner time would have been adopted, are targets of the abortion slaughter, the millions whose luck ran out on January 22, 1973.

"Pro-life is pro-woman," says Dale O'Leary in *All About Issues*:

Pro-lifers must make it clear that pro-abortion feminists are wrong about women. Women are tough enough to protect their babies. Chastity is pro-woman; marriage and family are pro-woman. Women do not have to despair. As pro-life women we must bring our experiences forward. We know that women can stand up in difficult situations; we know that women are strong and courageous. We must reject the rhetoric of despair. We must give every woman hope.

Real women must stand up and be counted, but we want real men standing with us. Men, don't be afraid of being called male chauvinists or patriarchal sexist oppressors. Continue to stand up

Dealing with Human Sacrifice

for the family, for the real equality between men and women, and for life. We have to feel sorry for the pro-abortion women. They always look so angry. I think it is because they have such miserable lives.

Abortion oppresses women; it teaches women that men can't be counted on. It breeds hardness and disrespect towards women in the hearts of men. It puts a wall up between men and women that affects every part of their relationship. One of the big differences between pro-life women and pro-abortion women is that pro-life women are treated with respect by pro-life men. We are not oppressed. The pro-life movement is a wonderful example of how men and women can work together with true equality.

The pro-life movement must take back the question of women. We must build a coalition of women -- from all races, all creeds and all walks of life -- united in one thing: that the pro-abortion, anti-family, radical feminists don't speak for us. We must put forward articulate spokeswomen and demand to be heard. We must show the world that pro-life is pro-woman.

Frederica Matthewes-Green is editor of *Sister Life*. Here are her words as printed in

Dealing with Human Sacrifice

The pre-born is not a part of his mother's body anymore than an astronaut is part of his spaceship. The fact is that neither is viable without necessary access to oxygen, food, and shelter does not prove that they are not persons. Both the fetus and the astronaut are tenants, though in the case of the pre-born it cannot be denied that he can be an uncomfortable and demanding one. Does this give the mother the right to evict her unwanted tenant? The situation may be like that of the sea captain who discovers a stowaway and considers whether to throw him over board.

The missing factor in the analogy is that the pre-born did not take up residence in his mother's body under his own free will, but was called into being (in virtually all cases) by a consciously-chosen act that the participants were aware could have resulted in pregnancy. For both parents, undertaking to have sexual relations must be accompanied by a responsible recognition that the child may result.

That this result disproportionately taxes the woman, that the man can walk out, abandoning his responsibility to her and his child, does not prove that it is right for the woman to do the same. Choices that lead to greater

Dealing with Human Sacrifice

responsibility, greater accountability, are choices that lead to a stronger society for women and their children, and men as well. Choices that feed the cycle of needless abandonment hurt us all.

Postscript: Life is about dealing intelligently and realistically with options. Former President Gerald Ford, also an adopted child, said this on whether or not he misses the White House, as a result of being edged out of the re-election campaign of 1976: "I have always had the attitude, whatever you do, you do your best; and if you win, fine. If you lose, there's another game down the street." Again, I'm pro-choice in the sense that we should let the baby decide about his or her future naturally. How can it be otherwise?

15. GOD IS PRO-LIFE

Chapter 5 contained 22 scriptures from both the Old and New Testaments. There is one more which, like the others, is free standing in its own right. It makes a powerful statement:

“Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for such is the kingdom of God (Mark 10:14).”

Rosalynne Bush, writing in *Family Voice*, has a wonderful analogy to give us a historical perspective on the fact that adoption is Biblical:

In Biblical times adoption and foster parenting were quite common. Early Christians experienced adoption first-hand. Many rescued unwanted, abandoned infants and gave them good homes. Many adopted children received the same inheritance and status as those born to the parents. It's not surprising that God used the concept of adoption to explain His relationship to believers. Salvation is synonymous to being accepted into God's family. We have been grafted into God's family tree, becoming co-heirs with Christ. Our Father had such a high opinion of adoption that He chose to place His son Jesus in the care of an adoptive father --Joseph, the husband of Mary.

God is Pro-Life

I can only quote it from memory as I have misplaced Dr. James Dobson's *Newsletter* of a few years back. Therein, he had a lengthy and penetrating testimony by a physician struggling with life and death issues at birth. Here is what I remember:

The young medical doctor was seriously considering letting a deformed baby girl suffocate in the birth canal ... just then, the baby's hand and arm thrust out as if to push him away ... the doctor went ahead and delivered the baby, and apologizing to the parents for the legacy of this handicapped child that he had saddled them with ... if only, he thought, he had delayed the birth two or three more minutes this terrible tragedy could have been avoided . . .

... Twenty years later, he listened to a wonderful orchestral ensemble entertain a hospital group in which he was a member ... The young lady playing the harp especially caught his eye ... after the performance was over a middle-aged couple rushed up to him and said, "You probably don't remember us, do you? Did you see her? Did you see her?" ... Out of the corner of his eye he could see a beautiful young lady with a slight limp walking toward him...

God is Pro-Life

... This was the baby girl he had delivered two decades earlier ... They thanked him for her life ... He broke down and wept and asked the young lady if she would play something on her harp for him ... She played a beautiful Christmas type religious hymn, "Silent Night" ... He wept openly and told her that a great burden had finally been lifted from his life ...

Dr. Dobson in replying to abortionists, including some medical doctors, has said this, "Don't you see what a philosophical hole you have dug by denying the dignity of humanness to every unborn child? If you withhold that status at conception, you have an impossible assignment of deciding where to grant it later on. And, of course, to err is to commit murder in the eyes of God."

In promoting healing, how to disagree without being disagreeable -- that is the question. Charles Colson has said that in some ways the pro-life protest has backfired, as news footage shows Christians screaming and waving their Bibles with faces twisted with hate and anger.

Colson says that "we must woo people's hearts towards righteousness." We wound our witness of the truth of the Gospel and the love of Jesus Christ when we go around bayoneting the walking wounded instead of being a hospital for those in need. Confrontations reduced to shouting matches

God is Pro-Life

only rub salt into already open wounds being felt by the traumatized birthmothers as they try to deal with their pregnancies. Here is how Colson puts it:

A broken world will see either our faces twisted in hate or anger or they see the face of Christ, listening, serving, speaking the truth in love. The consequences of that choice go beyond even the saving of innocent lives. Let's not let our stridency play into the hands of those who would characterize Christians as stabbing both our neighbors and our cause itself. We should all be fighting this battle for unborn lives, seeking both to rescue the perishing and to pierce the callous conscience of a nation that has chosen to allow the killing.

Moreover, I like Dr. Dobson's non-confrontational attitude and tone in general toward the debate: "So what is left for us, interpersonally? We must simply agree to disagree and respond to one another with love and compassion. I hereby extend that friendship to you despite our differences. Until we are granted His infinite wisdom on the other side, that's the best we can do."

16. BIBLICAL REMEDIES TO PROMOTE HEALING

In my teaching of economic history, I take great pleasure in recounting a few paragraphs from *Democracy in America*, written in the 1830's by eminent French political observer Alexis de Tocqueville. He came to America searching for the key to our greatness:

I sought for the greatness and the genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her fertile fields and boundless forests, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her rich mines and her vast world commerce, and it was not there.

I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her vast public school system and her institutions of learning, and it was not there. I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her matchless constitution, and it was not there. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power.

American church religion, de Tocqueville wrote, is "a political institution which powerfully contributes to the maintenance of a democratic republic among the Americans"

Biblical Remedies to Promote Healing

by supplying a strong moral consensus amidst continuous political change.

I have always believed whatever our circumstances, we should make our peace with our Creator on His terms and live to be neither ashamed of yesterday nor fearful of tomorrow:

“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people (Proverbs 14:34).”

“Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6).”

“Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin (Psalm 51:2).”

“Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow (Psalm 51:7).”

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me (Psalm 51:10).”

“Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you (Psalm. 51:12-13).”

Biblical Remedies to Promote Healing

“Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people (Proverbs 14:34).”

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance (Psalm 33:12).”

“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then I will hear them from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and heal their land (II Chronicles 7:14).”

“Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain (Psalm 127:1).”

“Oh that my people had harkened unto me ... and had walked in my ways (Psalm 81:13).”

“Let every soul be subject unto the highest powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God (Romans 13:1).”

“Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the King (I Peter 2:17).”

Biblical Remedies to Promote Healing

According to the American Victims of Abortion Organization, "every baby who dies in an abortion has a mother, father, grandparents, a whole family whose lives are connected to that little life. Each one of these people is affected by abortion's tragedy in some way through a post-abortion syndrome of long-lasting feelings of pain, anger, and grief."

We need to remember that the pre-born person is part of the human family and deserves our welcome. There is some indication that the post-abortion syndrome is so disturbing and alarming to the individuals that it exceeds the trauma of the pre-abortion period of decision-making, according to the AVA.

If that is so, then there is much to be done in the area of post-abortion healing. "Compassion without compromise" is how my minister, Bruce McLarty, put it recently.

17. A PRAYER FOR HUMANITY

Former Chaplain of the U.S. Senate, Peter Marshall, once delivered this Independence Day prayer. I believe it fits best here:

God of our Fathers, whose Almighty Hand has made and preserved our Nation, grant that our people may understand what it is they celebrate.

May they remember how bitterly our freedom was won, the down payment that was made for it, the installments that have been made since this Republic was born and the price that must yet be paid for our liberty.

May freedom be seen not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to please do what is right. May it ever be understood that our liberty is under God and can be found nowhere else. May our faith be something that is not merely stamped upon our coins, but expressed in our lives.

Let us, as a nation, not be afraid of standing alone for the rights of men, since we were born that way, as the only nation on earth that came into being "for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith."

A Prayer for Humanity

We know that we shall be true to the Pilgrim dream when we are true to the God they worshiped. To the extent that America honors Thee, will Thou bless America and keep her as Thou has kept her free, and make her good as Thou hast made her rich, Amen.

18. THAT WONDERFUL ADOPTION OPTION

The facts are troubling. It is hardly a very positive "choice for a new generation" that one out of every three pregnancies ends by abortion. I don't know where or how this current generation developed a notion that it is not socially acceptable to consider the adoption option.

Apparently, in the minds of many people, the abortionists have done a pretty thorough job of destroying the other viable options available to a pregnant mother. We must do a better job of passing the word. The adoption option may be the greatest story never told, even though it is a "win-win" situation for everyone concerned. We especially need to get counselors of our young people to do their homework on this issue.

It is a far different world today from the early 1970's when we adopted our children. We had to wait a little longer for our daughter in 1973 than we did for our son in 1971. The reason was obvious: the Roe v. Wade decision handed down by the U.S. Supreme Court on January 22, 1973. Thereby, abortions on demand were legalized, especially and liberally in the first trimester of life and with certain conditions in the second and third trimester.

I shall never forget January 22, 1993. Our then 20 year-old daughter and I were watching a special on CNN commemorating

That Wonderful Adoption Option

the 20th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade. We watched it in silence broken finally by these words by my daughter, "Dad, was I in my birthmother's womb at the time the Roe v. Wade decision was handed down?" I replied, "Yes indeed; you were just barely into the second trimester of life."

She watched the program a little while longer, stood up, and in mock wiping of perspiration off her brow made this pronouncement, "Whew!" I greatly appreciated and sensed her relief. Approximately 40 million babies have not been so fortunate in the last 30 years.

The adoption option may well be the greatest story never told, even though it is a "win-win" situation for everyone concerned.

According to *U.S.A. Today*, the statistics that shape our nation are a bit scary. Prior to 1973, 19% of Caucasian babies and 2% of African-American babies were put up for adoption by their unwed mothers. Today the figure is 3% for Caucasian mothers and 1% for the African-American mothers.

I was not aware of it at the time that I spoke at Christian Homes' 30th Annual Celebration of Life Dinner in November 1993, but the week of November 19-25 is

That Wonderful Adoption Option

National Adoption Week. I would hope that at least that week every year we would express a very positive attitude toward adoption and manifest a fuller understanding of both the sorrow and joy that adoption brings to those involved. It is also my prayer that this attitude may continue all throughout the year.

ODE TO AN ADOPTED CHILD

Not flesh of my flesh,
nor bone of my bone;
but still miraculously
my own.

Never forget
for a single minute
you didn't grow
under my heart,
but in it.

19. YOUR MOTHER WAS PRO-LIFE

Dave Thomas, the founder and former senior chairman of Wendy's International, Inc., was a leading advocate of corporate adoption benefits. According to John Nesbitt's *Trendletter*, Wendy's pays up to \$4,000 to employees who adopt healthy children and \$6,000 if a child has special needs. Adoptive parents can take off as much as six weeks in paid time. Other companies are following Dave Thomas' lead: American Express, Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, Aetna Life and Casualty Company. May their tribe increase.

Said Thomas in a recent interview, "My message is to ask corporate America to put in adoption benefits; we need to encourage people to adopt." Thomas' publisher, GT Putnum's Sons, released this statement: "Never knowing his birthparents, Thomas lost his adoptive mother and was raised by a stern, working-class adoptive father." Dave Thomas was asked by former President Bush to be spokesman for "Adoption Works for Everyone."

Times are changing. In the next fiscal year, the Federal government will award \$20 million in bonuses to 35 states where adoptions are on the increase. In addition, \$5 million will go to promote adoptions across state lines and adoptions of children with special needs. The money comes from a 1997 law that streamlines adoption procedures. The goal is to double the annual adoption rate by the year 2002 and

Your Mother Was Pro-Life

to approximately 56,000 per year. Additionally, a tax credit of up to \$5,000 per child lets the taxpayer reduce income tax dollar-for-dollar based on adoption expenses. Income exclusion features of the current tax law let companies provide employees with up to \$5,000 in adoption assistance, without the employees having to report the help as taxable income. If qualified expenses are high enough, taxpayers can use both types of tax break.

FOR OUR ADOPTED CHILD

You are not the child of our bodies...
But you are the child of our hearts...
You are not flesh of our flesh...
But you are the joy of our life...

You are the fulfillment of our dreams,
The answer to our prayers,
A gift of God
for which we're truly thankful...

You are wonderfully our own...
And we love you
As only parents can love their own...

Bob Parkhill, director of social services for Christian Homes of Abilene, estimates that fewer than half of current unmarried teenage mothers will select the option to give birth to the child in their womb. Of that number, he estimates, only 5 to 10 percent will choose the adoption option.

Your Mother Was Pro-Life

Considering the adoption statistics prior to 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision, the answer is clear. The abortionists seem to be doing a better job in their recruiting than those of us who are pro-life. Where did we lose in the battle of words, so that our young people, in increasing numbers, would think that adoption is worse than abortion?

The abortionists would like people to believe that there are no parents waiting for these new babies.

Surveys of young people indicate that they are pushing adoption farther down the list of options. As Parkhill says, "We have failed to teach the sanctity of life." I really believe that it's part of a bigger problem connected with the baby busters -- the X and Y Generations. There is a prevalent attitude with them, and yet it is as old as Cain and Abel, that "nothing is really wrong if I don't get caught." It's a scary situation.

The abortionists would like people to believe that there are no parents waiting for these new babies. ABC did a special on "20/20" describing the conditions of Romanian orphans in desperate straits, many of them dying from terminal diseases. After the program, over 25,000 people wrote

Your Mother was Pro-Life

to ABC expressing a wish to adopt these children. Today there are 100 approved families waiting to adopt babies with Downs Syndrome.

And yet, in recent years, several made-for-television movies have put down the adoption option, painting adoption as a way that middle-class couples victimize poor young mothers. I just keep thinking about Edmond Burke declaring that "the only thing necessary for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing."

"Feminists," according to Rosalyn Bush, editor of *Family Voice*, "vehemently oppose adoption, declaring that it will destroy women and destroy the institution of the single mother." And just what is the so-called "institution of the single mother?" According to Bush, "These mothers seldom finish their education or land a job. As a result, 60 percent of the children raised by young single mothers end up on welfare rolls" which becomes a self-perpetuating lifestyle.

20. LIVE AND LET LIVE

I am grateful that our children's birthmothers developed adoption plans, thereby concluding that chapter of life with compassion and love. Their babies were given life twice, first by being ushered into this world safely at full term and secondly by being placed with our adoptive family.

In the process, the birthmothers preserved their own health and self-worth. As former President George Bush put it (some of his own grown children are also adoptive parents), "Adoption works -- for children who need homes, for people hoping to become parents, and for women facing a crisis pregnancy."

According to the National Council for Adoption there are, at any one time, between one and two million childless couples hoping to adopt in the near future. An average of 1.4 million babies have been aborted each year for three decades. This isn't rocket scientist stuff here. Why can't we get these folks together?

Consider this "adoption option" correspondence we received years later from Christian Homes President, Nancy Miller:

When you adopted your child from Christian Homes you probably heard us say something like "... the birthmother wanted to provide for her baby through adoption what she could

Life and Let Live

not provide herself.” We’re still making that same comment. But I want you to hear it straight from a letter we received from a birthmother who recently placed her baby through Christian Homes:

... Some people still can't understand why I didn't just get an abortion. But it's not for them to understand. Because I'm the one who made the decision and am living with it ... Not a day goes by I won't think about him and wonder how he is. But there will never be a day I'll look back and regret it, either. The day I saw him and held him, I knew I was his mother, but could never have been his parent ... But I also believe that there is a couple that is meant to raise him. If they try half as hard as my parents have, I know it will have been worth my time -- and pain, to give him the opportunity not only to live, but to have the best life possible.

I read a little definition in the church bulletin some years ago that went like this -- a little girl recently gave her definition of “adoption.” She said, “It's when you love someone and you ask them to come and live with you.” Simplicity is still the best way to say a thing, isn't it? God loves us too, and He has also adopted us as sons. And as our children became Christians early in their

Life and Let Live

second decade, they became honest-to-goodness adopted sons and daughters of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ in the Kingdom, forevermore.

We always felt very comfortable talking to our kids about the subject of adoption. As our adopted children, they were deliberately chosen whereas other parents have no choice in the matter. To show that blood kinship is not necessary for genuine love, we used ourselves as an example? Mom and I chose each other, and although we were strangers at one time, as the marriage has progressed we became closer than flesh-and-blood relatives.

God loves us too, and He has also adopted us as sons.

And so, our kids could understand that they were chosen for the same reason that Mom and I chose each other -- for genuine love -- and they can see clearly that they belong. We do appreciate so much that they see their membership in our family as the most secure and strongest human bond that there can be.

Never forget, we told our kids, that this means that we love you enough to die for you, enough to discipline you properly, enough to be proud when people praise you,

Live and Let Live

enough to be hurt when you hurt. And, heredity becomes very unimportant, when we consider that we are all related in the large family of God. It became our prayer that their joy in being our child would increase daily as they continue to grow in a special way in the wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man, as Jesus did.

21. A TALE OF TWO MOTHERS

Once there were two women
Who never knew each other
One you do not remember
The other you call mother

Two different lives shaped
To make yours one
One became your guiding star
The other became your sun

The first gave you life
The second taught you to live in it
The first gave you a need for love
The second was there to give it

One gave you a nationality
The other gave you a name
One gave you the seed of talent
The other gave you an aim

One gave you emotions
The other calmed your fears
One saw your first sweet smile
The other dried your tears

One gave you up -- it was all
that she could do.
The other prayed for a child
And God led her straight to you.

And now you ask me through your
tears,
The age old questions through
the years:

A Tale of Two Mothers

Heredity or Environment --
Which are you the product of?

Neither my darling -- neither
Just two different kinds of love.

-- Anonymous

22. A SPECIAL BOND ACROSS THE YEARS

Yes, the reader will note that I still occasionally collect excellent articles from the *Christian Homes Newsletter*. Here is a portion of a recent one from Nancy Miller:

We are often questioned about how young women and their families feel about placing their babies for adoption. It is our firm conviction that with proper counseling and the case work services, these girls and their families can come to terms with their decisions and continue their lives in a healthy emotional state. Adoption can be a very positive result. Portions of a letter from the mother of a young lady in our maternity program written to the baby says it best:

I am writing this to you, should you wonder why you were adopted. It is very important to me that you understand why you were placed for adoption. Your mother, my daughter, gave you up for adoption because she loved you enough that she wanted you to have a better life than you might have, were she to try to keep you. She wanted to be sure that you had the best, so she was willing to lay her feelings aside in order to do her best to assure that you receive the best.

A Special Bond Across the Years

You are doubly loved, you see. You were loved by your mother enough to give you up for a better life, and you were loved by your parents because they loved you enough to take you as their own. Not every one has that much love. Have a happy and fruitful life, always walk with God, and remember that you are loved by many people that may never see you here but who hope to see you in heaven one day. I love you; you are a part of me, my sweet little one.

23. PASSING THROUGH REUNION STATION

Life is certainly a lot more complicated today than in the early 1970's when we used to sit down and read the children's story books titled *Why Was I Adopted?* and *The Pretty House that Found Happiness* to our young children. Open adoptions of the 1990's are a far cry from the confidentiality and secrecy involved in closed adoptions of yesteryear.

I recently read a book titled *Birthbond* which chronicled reunions of several dozen adult adopted children with their birthmothers. I had good reason to read it as our son was about to be reunited as a young adult with his birthmother. The momentum toward reunion was driven in part by his concerns as a medical student, and as a new daddy himself, for a more complete health history, and also by his birthmother's medical situation as a recent cancer survivor.

Together, and over two years, we tiptoed into and through the reunion visits which went very well indeed. It was almost as if we were attending a class reunion after two decades and doing some power catching up on everyone's lives. The results were very good. More recently, we went through a similar reunion experience with our youngest child, also when she was in her mid-20's. Every case is different. Events come into play, setting things in motion. Reunions can interrupt lives and redefine relationships in both positive and negative ways. I don't bind our approach on anyone; it's a free country.

Passing Through Reunion Station

THAT SPECIAL GIFT

There is a girl that I do not know.
I don't even know her name.
I would never recognize her face,
but I love her just the same.

And now everyday I see her face,
And I look into her eyes.
And though she disappeared
without a trace,
I can hear her faintest cries.

She gave a special gift to me.
For which without a doubt
God smiled.
She saved a life and gave birth to
my family.
I love her, birthmother of my child.

I see all the things she used to do,
Every game she ever played.
As the years go by one thing is true,
Thoughts of her will never fade.

She gave a special gift to me.
For which without a doubt
God smiled.
She saved a life and gave birth
to my family.
I love her, birthmother of my child.

I know someday if we chance
to meet,
There is one thing I must say
Without you I was incomplete,

Passing Through Reunion Station

and I have loved you from
the day...

You gave that special gift to me.
For which without a doubt
God smiled.

You saved a life and gave birth
to my family.
I love you, birthmother of my child.

-- Anonymous

24. PRACTICAL WAYS TO BE A FRIEND OF THE HUMAN FAMILY

In our pro-life movement to help the unborn, let us not forget the woman who also needs help. Further, let's keep offering those opportunities to those who are considering abortion. I have said it before: the developing pre-born person is part of the human family and deserves our welcome.

Let's educate people at work about this issue. We should express that welcome in the work place by not letting the pregnancy distract from the woman's opportunity for advancement. Ask employers to include adoption benefits in their benefit packages.

Over a decade ago, Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority had a goal of thousands of maternity homes across the nation, run at no cost to the young mothers or the taxpayers. There, young mothers could opt for carrying their babies to full term with the assurance that adoptive parents were qualified and ready. Presently there are only 200 maternity homes nationwide. The Edna Gladney Center in Fort Worth is the largest, and yet the capacity is only for 144 women.

Our country has the capacity to once again be both moral and generous as we deal with this issue. Certainly we would put as much emphasis with our children on sex education as we would to warn them about drugs. This writer is certainly in favor of parental notification before abortions are performed on teenage young ladies.

Practical Ways To Be A Friend Of The Human Family

What about additional and ongoing tax breaks to encourage adoptions and more foster parenting? Write your elected officials. Press for legislation that favors the adoption option. Examine candidates on pro-life issues at election time. "The state comes to existence that man may live," said Aristotle. Participate in an aggressive advertising campaign for the adoption option.

*"The state comes to existence
that man may live."*

-- Aristotle

We can all write letters to the editor. Most of the media is in the other camp and it would be refreshing to have the pro-life, pro-adoption point of view on an editorial page at least occasionally. Contact a radio station and inquire about doing a talk-show on the pro-life issue; be sure to do your homework as tough questions may be asked. Make sure your area libraries have some pro-life books.

It's not just enough to be right. If we deeply care for the life of the mother and the baby, let us change our hearts and open our hands and extend help by being actively involved. Ask your local minister to preach a positive pro-life message. Pray at all times for God's help, as a little girl once said,

Practical Ways To Be A Friend Of The Human Family

"Dear Lord, please make the bad people good and the good people nice." Consider having a "Respect for Life" Sunday at your church and do something special on this day that is pro-family.

Build your programs each year around National Adoption week in late November. Sponsor seminars using good quality video aids and literature to groups free of charge. Help organizations with annual march-for-life demonstrations. Go to a local school and give an effective talk on pro-life issues.

Have a Mother's Day message printed and passed out in any organizations to which you belong. Subscribe to some right-to-life publications and keep informed. Wear the "Precious Feet," the international pro-life symbol. Above all, show profound concern for women in crisis pregnancies and facilitate the adoptions of infants into loving and caring families.

In so doing, we shall follow former President Ronald Reagan's advice and carry the message of the sacredness of every human life into the hearts and minds of every American:

I cannot commend too highly the dedication of young people who are working, struggling, and praying to encourage us to save unborn children and to provide crucial help to mothers with problem pregnancies. We

Practical Ways To Be A Friend Of The Human Family

cannot diminish the value of one category of human life -- the unborn -- without diminishing the value of all human life ... there is no cause more important.

Please remember the charge left with that audience at the Annual Celebration Dinner for Christian Homes of Abilene in 1993:

And so, as we "Celebrate Life," I ask you these two final questions: First, "what will you do, in the name of Godly Charity and True Religion, to keep on providing help, assistance, support, love, care, and nurturing for birth mothers?" And second, "what will you also do to keep finding ways, in these complex legal times, that such children can continue to fill the aching voids in the hearts of other childless couples?"

25. WE'LL BE THERE

We'll be there ... when you sleep
through the night.

We'll be there ... when you
need us to hold you tight.

For the first step you take,
And the first time you make it
Clear to the top of the stairs.

When you learn who you are
Wish on a star ... we'll be there.

We'll be there ... when your words
turn to rhymes.

Little one, we'll be there ... read you
stories at bedtime.

When you play at the park,
when you're scared of the dark,

When you learn how to pray
your first prayer.

Thunder and storm, when it's cold
or its warm ...

We'll be there.

We'll be there ... when you skin
up your knee.

We'll be there ... when you climb
to the top of the tree.

We will teach you to hike,
ride a two-wheel bike,
Build a kite that will soar through
the air.

When you wade through the streams,
when you dream your first dreams...

We'll be there.

We'll Be There

And we'll be there ... when you try
out your wings.
Yes, we'll be there ... when you're
questioning everything.

When you learn how to choose,
when you try and you lose,
When you find that the world isn't
fair.
When you stand or you fall,
You know through it all,
Mom and Dad are going to be
there.

Thanking God everyday that He
sent you our way and He trusted
you once to our care.
And wherever you roam,
you can always come home ...
We'll be there.

-- Anonymous

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND AFTERTHOUGHTS

There are numerous special people to whom this monograph is dedicated: my children, David and Danielle, World Class kids who will always be in my Hall of Fame; my wife, the joy of my life, Dion, who has been the wind beneath our wings all these years; to Ann and Vicky who lovingly, boldly and wisely developed adoption plans in the name of Godly Charity and True Religion; and, above all, to all the millions with different names and similar circumstances who are convinced that God moves in mysterious ways to complete the family circle.

Thanks also go to Mrs. Julie Allen, faculty wife, mom, and at the time, an accounting student, who walked in to the office recently with a copy of an upsetting article from Business Week. The author, persuasively but with flawed reasoning, conjectured that falling crime rates in the decade of the 1990s were due to legalized abortions on demand commencing in the early 1970s. Scary stuff.

Julie wondered about a way we could get the message of my 180-page book out to greater numbers of people. This monograph is the result of "Honey, I Shrunk the Book (printed at 20% the cost of the 1996 hard cover book by the same title)."

Many sources have been consulted in the preparation of this material, and credit has been given to various sources as they

Acknowledgments and Afterthoughts

were available. Mrs. Charlann Reely has a thorough collection of many of these, and we are profoundly indebted to her. Hopefully the References section will also give due credit and enable those who desire to do further study to consult those sources.

Spearheading the first edition of our monograph project in 2000, and assisting at the crucial stages of this monumental project, was our then-Belden Center Secretary, Mrs. Marcella Bailey, and our excellent student assistants, Whitney Long and Susan Tripp. Without the superb administrative talents of Mrs. Bailey, and the yeoman service of Whitney and Susan in transcribing the primary text, this monograph simply could not have been fully developed.

Thanks also go to Mr. Jimmy Jones and Dr. Larry Long who adeptly proofed the original 180-page hard cover book in 1996; their eagle eyes didn't miss much. Ms. Nancy Miller then-President of Christian Homes of Abilene, Dr. Jim Citty, Dr. Stan Schwartz, Dr. Mike Justus, Dr. David Burks, Dr. Jimmy Carr, Dr. Jim Carr, Mr. Bruce McLarty, Mrs. Pat Rice, and Dr. Neale Pryor thoughtfully sketched through various drafts of the hard cover book and provided helpful feedback.

Special thanks go to a true friend of the human family, Mrs. Trina Hoofman, our current Office Manager and founding director of the White County Foster Parents Association. She walks the walk.

Acknowledgments and Afterthoughts

Every effort has been made to include only reliable information. The author would welcome knowing about any possible omissions or errors. The author has also sought to locate and secure permission for the inclusion of copyright material in this monograph.

If any such acknowledgments have been inadvertently omitted, the author would appreciate receiving information so that proper credit may be given in any future printings. Care has been taken to trace authorship of select quotes and poems, with gratefulness to past writers for their supplying us with such a rich heritage.

Out of consideration for the faint of heart among us, I have chosen not to include any disturbing narrative about the physical operation of abortion itself. Others are more qualified or better equipped to provide those stark details. Above all, care must also be taken to evaluate every teaching or position in the light of Scripture, which is ultimate authority for our beliefs and practices.

In that regard, the *Entrepreneur* is a quarterly journal addressing contemporary issues from a moral perspective. One may not agree with every word printed in the *Entrepreneur* series, nor should feel he needs to do so. It is hoped that the reader will think about the points laid out in the publication, and then decide for himself. Hopefully, the material herein will motivate people to further study and also toward a greater understanding of God's will on life's issues.

REFERENCES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Aborting America, by Bernard Nathanson, MD., Toronto: Life Cycle Books, 1979.

"Abortion and the Churches: Protestants Wrestle with their Uneasy Consciences," by Kenneth L. Woodward and Alden Cohen, *Newsweek*, July 24, 1989.

Abortion and the Conscience of the Nation, by Ronald Reagan, Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1984.

"Abortion--Death Before Birth," by James Meadows, Montgomery, Alabama, 1977.

"Abortion in the Future," by C. Everett Koop, M.D.

"Abortion: A Look at the Questions and Controversies Surrounding a Major Societal Issue," by Dr. David Vanderpool, MD., *Christian Chronicle*, November, 1993.

"Abortion is the Murder of Preborn Children," by Garland Elkins, *Firm Foundation*, May 1988.

Abortion--Questions and Answers, by Dr. and Mrs. J.C. Wilke.

"Abortion, Right and Wrong," by Rachel Richardson-Smith, *Newsweek*, March 25, 1985.

References for Further Information

- "Abortion: There Are Two Victims," by Paula Brown, American Life League, 1994.
- Abortion, the Bible, and the Christian, Baker Book House, July, 1976.
- "Abortion: What is It," by Ray Dutton, Alabama Citizens for Life, Alabama 1978.
- The Adopted Family, by Florence Rondell and Ruth Michaels, Crown Publishers, 1965.
- The Adopted One, by Stein, Walker Press, 1984.
- An Adopted Woman, by Katrina Maxtone-Graham, Remi Book, 1983.
- "Adoption is Biblical," by Rosalyne Bush, *Family Voice*, March 1994.
- Adoption Encounter: Hurt Transition Healing, by Mary Jo Rillera, Triadoption Publishing, 1987.
- "As Adoptions Get More Difficult," by Harold Kennedy, *U.S. News and World Report*, July 25, 1984.
- Adoption: The Grafted Tree, by Laurie & William Wishard.
- "The Adoption Option," by Rosalyne Bush, *Family Voice*, March 1994.

References for Further Information

- "Adoption as the Option," by Bob Parkhill, Director of Social Services, Christian Homes of Abilene.
- The Adoption Searchbook, by Mary Jo Rillera, Triadoption, 1986.
- The Adoption Triangle, by Sorosky, Pannor and Baran; Anchor Press, 1978.
- "Adoption--What and When to Tell a Child," by Caroline Jabs, *Working Mother*, April 1991.
- Adoption Without Fear, by James Gretter, Corona Press, 1989.
- "America's New Civil War," by Merrill McLoughlin, *U.S. News and World Report*, October 3, 1988.
- "America: You're Too Young To Die," P.O. Box 1000, Valley Forge, PA 19482-9968
- "The American Family Is Alive and Well ... but Under Attack," by Dr. Lee Salk, *Bottom Line/Personal*, April 15, 1990.
- The Art of Adoption, by Linda Burgess, Cannon-Acropolis, 1977.
- Bailing Out, by Barry Lubetkin, Prentice Hall, 1991.
- "Before You Were Born," Life Cycle Books, Toronto, Ontario.

References for Further Information

- Being Adopted, by Mazine Rosenberg.
- Beyond the Hidden Pain of Abortion, by Patricia A. Bigliardi, Aglow.
- "Biblical Perspectives on Abortion," by Robert G. Dockery, Gospel Tracts International.
- "Biblical Principles--Concerning Issues of Importance to Godly Christians," Plymouth Foundation, Plymouth, Massachusetts, 1984.
- Birthbond, By Judith S. Gediman & Linda P. Brown, New Horizon Press, Far Hills, New Jersey 079031, 1991.
- The Book of Virtues, by William J. Bennett, Simon and Schuster, 1993.
- "Born or Adopted," by T. Pierce Brown, *Firm Foundation*, April 1988.
- "Break the Rule," by Marie Dietz, *All About Issues*, American Life League, April 1990.
- Building Your Child's Character, by Kay Kuzma, Cook Publishing, 1988.
- Care for the Soul: A Guide For Cultivating Depth and Sacredness in Everyday Life, by Thomas Moore, Harper Collins Publishers, 1993.

References for Further Information

- Children: America's Greatest Natural Resource, by D.P. Diffine, Harding Press, November 1996.
- Children of Fast-Track Parents, by Andree Brooks, Viking, 1988.
- "Children--Things We Throw Away?" by Melody Green, *The Last Days Newsletter*, August 1984.
- "Choose Life--The Choice of a New Generation," National Teens for Life, Washington, D.C.
- Coming Into Our Own: Understanding the Adult Metamorphosis, by Mark Gerzon, Delacorte Press, 1992.
- Cooperative Adoption, by Rillera-Kaplan, Tiradoption Press, 1984.
- "Cracking the Frenzied Code of Abortionspeak," *U.S. News and World Report*, February 3, 1992.
- "Crisis Pregnancy Centers: How You and Your Church Can Help," by Pamela Pearson Wong, *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- "Crisis Pregnancy: You Are Not Alone," by Dr. James Dobson, Mary Cunningham Agee, and Sydna Masse, *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

References for Further Information

"Dad, I'm Pregnant," by Dr. James Dobson and an anonymous pastor, *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Dear Birthmother, by Kathleen Silber and Phylis Speedlin, Corona, 1983.

"Dear Dads: Save Your Sons," by Christopher Bacorn, *Newsweek*, Dec. 7, 1992.

"The Decision of Life," by Dr. James Dobson and Gary Bergel, *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

"Designated Unperson," by Frederica Matthewes-Green, *All About Issues*, American Life League, May-June, 1992.

The De-Valuing of America, by William Bennett, Summit Books, 1992.

"The Doctor's Dilemma: The Battle Over Abortion," by Melinda Beck, *Newsweek*, July 17, 1989.

"The Drama of Life before Birth," *Life Magazine*, Time-Life, Inc.

"Eagles, Beagles, Babies and There Ought to be a Law," by The North Pulaski Pro-Life, North Little Rock, Arkansas.

Epilogue to American Women, by Margaret Mead.

References for Further Information

"The Facts of Life," by The Family Research Council, *Focus on the Family*, 1995.

"The False Memory Syndrome," by Martin Gardner, *Skeptical Inquirer--The Speakers Digest Health Section*, 1993.

The Family in America, by the Rockford Institute, 1993.

Family Reunion, by Ogden Nash, Little, Brown Publishers.

"Famous False Starts and Others Off the Charts," by Bob Fenster.

"Fetus is Latin for Unborn Child," by Juli Loesch, *Sojourner's Magazine*, November 1980.

"The First Nine Months," *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 1989.

"The Fractured Family," *Christianity Today*, May 25, 1979.

"G.O.P. Warned Not to Forget Family Values," by Thomas B. Edsall, *The Washington Post*, Sunday, February 12, 1995.

Handbook on Abortion, by John C. Willke, MD., Cincinnati: Hayes Publishing Company, 1971.

References for Further Information

- "Harder Hearts on Abortion," by John Leo, *U. S. News and World Report*, Nov. 20, 1995.
- "The Hardest Case of All," by Helen Westover, *All About Issues*, American Life League, May-June, 1992.
- "Healing Post-Abortion Trauma," by Holly Trimble, American Life League, 1994.
- "Help for Pregnant Teens," by Linda Roggow and Carol Owens, *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- "Help the Unborn -- Help the Women," by James R. Kelly, *In the Christian Century*.
- Helping Children Cope with Separation and Loss, by Claudia Jewett, Harvard Press, 1982.
- Hind Sights: The Wisdom and Breakthroughs of Remarkable People, by Guy Kawaski, Warner Books Publisher, 1995.
- How It Feels To Be Adopted, by Jill Krementz, Knopf Press, 1983.
- "How Long Oh Lord?," by Lottie Novak, *Christian Bible Teacher*, 1971.
- "How Pro-Life Protest Has Backfired," by Charles Coleson, *Christianity Today*.

References for Further Information

- "How to Get Married Without Feeling Harried," by Myrna Ruskin, 1995.
- "Hush Little Baby," by Dave and Jan Dravecky, *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- I Am Adopted, by Susan Lapsley, Bradley Press, 1974.
- I'm Still Me, by Betty Jean Lifton, Bantam Press, 1981.
- I Would Have Searched Forever, by Sandra Musser, Ian Publishing, 1979.
- "Identifying and Overcoming Postabortion Syndrome," by Dr. Paul C. Reisser and Teri K. Reisser, *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- If Experience I Such a Good Teacher, Why Do I Keep Repeating the Course, by J. Ellsworth Kalas, Dimensions for Living, 1994.
- "If They Had Graves," by Jeff Jarrett, *Firm Foundation*, January 1993.
- "If You've Had an Abortion," by Charles W. Swindoll, *Focus on the Family*, August 1990.
- "In Search for a Compromise on Abortion," by Stephen V. Roberts, *U.S. News and World Report*, November 6, 1989.

References for Further Information

"In India, They Abort Females," by Joe McGowan, *Newsweek*, January 30, 1989.

Language of Illusion: The Abortion Slogans, by Jean Garton, Life Cycle Books, 1984.

"Life Begins at Conception -- Testimony to the Simple Truth," by Paul A. Byrne, M.D., *All About Issues*, American Life League, April 1990.

Life Skills: Taking Charge of Your Personal and Professional Growth, by Richard J. Leider, Pfeiffer and Co., 1994.

Lost and Found, by Betty Jean Lifton, Dial Press, 1979.

Making Sense of Adoption, by Melina, Harper & Row, 1989.

"The Medical Quandry: Technological Change Raises New Policy Questions," by Jean Seligmann, *Newsweek*, January 14, 1985.

"More Choice, More Life," by David Gergen, *U.S. News and World Report*, July 17, 1989.

The Mulberry Bird, by Ann Brodzinsky, Perspective Press, 1986.

"The Myth of Overpopulation," by Mary Norri, Clovis, California, The Family Book Club.

References for Further Information

"National Prayer for Life," by E.J. Brennan, *All About Issues*, Nov.-Dec., 1993. American Life League, Stafford, Virginia.

"Nations Should Put a Priority on Adoptions," by Mike McManus, *Abilene Reporter-News*, Faith and Ethics section, Saturday, April 22, 1995.

"The New Politics of Abortion," by Michael Kinsley, *Time*, July 17, 1989.

Orphans at Home, by Joe White, Que Star Publishers, 1988.

"The Politics of Abortion," by Rush Limbaugh.

"A Prayer for America," by Former Chaplain of the United States Senate, Peter Marshal, July 4, 1947.

The Pretty House that Found Happiness, by Steck-Vaughn Company, Austin, Texas, 1964.

"Pro-Life is Pro-Woman," by Dale O'Leary, *All About Issues*, American Life League, May-June, 1992.

"The Pro-Life Message is an Evangelistic Message," by Holly Trimble, *All About Issues*, American Life League, May-June, 1992.

References for Further Information

- "Psychological Complications of Abortion", by Barbara LeBow, American Life League, 1994.
- "The Quagmire of Abortion Rights," by John Leo, *U.S. News and World Report*, July 13, 1992.
- "The Question Divine," by Ken Boger, American Life League, 1980.
- Raising Adopted Children, by Melina, Lois-Harper & Row, 1986.
- The Rebirth of America, by the Arthur S. DeMoss Foundation, 1988.
- Reinventing Your Life: How to Break Free of Negative Life Patterns, Jeffrey E. Young, Dutton Books, 1993.
- "Respect Life," by The Respect Life Committee, National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC, 1976.
- "Responding to a Woman With a Crisis Pregnancy," by Dr. Paul C. Reisser and Teri K. Reisser, *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- The Right to Live: The Right to Die, by C. Everett Koop, Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1976.

References for Further Information

- Sanctity of Life: The Inescapable Issue, by Charles W. Swindoll, Word Publishing, 1990.
- Search: A Handbook for Adoptees and Birthparents, by Jayne Askin, Harper & Row, 1982.
- Search Aftermath and Adjustment, by Patricia Sanders and Nancy Sitterly, ISAC, 1981.
- The Search for Anna Fisher, by Florence Fisher, Ficke, 1973.
- A Season to Heal, by Luci Freed and Penny Salazar, Nelson.
- Shared Fate, David Kirk, Simon Press, 1981.
- The Slaughter of the Innocent, by David A. Noebel.
- "The Spiritual Case Against Abortion," by Jerry Moffitt, *Firm Foundation*, February 11, 1986.
- "Struggling With a Crisis Pregnancy: Four Personal Stories," by Jeffrey Ford, David Ohayon, Pat Saxton and Sara Williams, *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- "The Theology of Abortion," *U.S. News and World Report*, March 9, 1992.

References for Further Information

- The Third Time Around--A History of the Pro-Life Movement, by George Grant, Wolgemuth and Hyatt, Publishers: 1984.
- "Twelve Things You Should Know About Abortion," by Robert G. Dockery, Pro-Life Education Alliance, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 1983.
- Twice Born, by Betty Jean Lifton, Peguin Books, 1977.
- The Unmarried Father, by Springer Pannor, 1978.
- The Wedded Unmother, by Halverson, Ausburg Press, 1980.
- "What Do People Really Think About Abortion?," by The Ad hoc Committee in Defense of Life, Murray Hill Station, New York.
- "What Does God Say About Abortion?," *Focus on the Family*, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- What Kind of Love Is This?, by Sandra Musser.
- "What Traditional Family?" by Jean Seligmann, *Newsweek*, Dec. 1, 1992.
- "What Was I Supposed to Be?" Acappella, music CD: *Better Than Life*. Word Inc., 1987.

References for Further Information

- Whatever Happened to the Human Race?, by Francis Schaeffer and C. Everett Koop, Old Tappan, NY: Fleming H. Revell, 1979.
- "When it Comes to Banning Abortion--Exceptions," by Marie Dietz, *All About Issues*, American Life League, April 1990.
- "Who Broke the Baby?," by Jean Garton, Minneapolis: Bethany Fellowship, 1979.
- Who is David?, by Evelyn Nerlove, Child Welfare League, 1985.
- "Who Shall Live and Who Shall Die?," by Paul Greenburg, *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, May 1995.
- Why Was I Adopted?, by Carole Livingston, Lyle Stuart Publishers, 1978.
- Why Marriages Succeed or Fail, by John Gottman, Simon and Schuster, 1994.

ORGANIZATIONS

American Life League, Box 490, Safford, VA 22554, (703) 659-4171.

Americans United for Life, 230 North Michigan Ave., Suite 915, Chicago, IL 60601, (312) 263-50.

American Victims of Abortion, 4177 7th St. NW, Suite 402, Washington, D.C. 20004.

Arthur S. DeMoss Foundation, St. Davids, PA.

Baptist Children's Home, 354 West St., Valparaiso, IN 46373.

Bethany Christian Services, 901 Eastern Ave. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

Children's Homes of Paragould, James Balcom, Director, 505 S. 2nd Ave., Paragould, AR 72450.

Christian Action Council, 701 West Broad St. #405, Falls Church, VA 22046, (703) 237-2100.

The Christian Action Council, 422 C. St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.

Christian Homes of Abilene, Nancy Miller, President, 242 Beach Street, Abilene, TX 79601, P.O. Box 270, Abilene, TX 79604, (915) 677-2205.

Organizations

Eagle Forum, 7800 Bonhomme, St. Louis, MO 63105 (314) 721-1213.

The Edna Gladney Home, 2300 Hemphill, Ft. Worth, TX 76110, (817) 922-6000.

Focus on the Family, Family Research Council, Colorado Springs, CO 80995.

Friends for Life, 914 E. Race, Searcy, AR 72143, (501) 305-4500.

Heritage House '76, Inc., "The Precious Feet People", Box 730, Taylor, AZ 85939.

The Human Life Foundation, 150 East 35th St., New York, NY 10016.

Liberty Godparent Ministry, P.O. Box 27000, Lynchburg, VA 24506, (804) 847-6806.

The Light House, 1409 E. Meyer Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64131.

March for Life, P.O. Box 618, Washington, D.C. 20013, (202) LIFE-377.

Mercy Ministries, P.O. Box 150829, Nashville, TN 37215.

National Adoption Center, Gloria Hochman, Director of Communications, 1500 Walnut St., Suite 701, Philadelphia, PA 19102, (215) 735-9988.

Organizations

National Council for Adoption, 1930 17th St.
NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, (202)
328-1200.

National Right to Life Committee, 419
Seventh St., NW Suite 402, Washington,
DC 20004, (202) 626-8800.

Post Adoption Center, Director Joanne
Slate, LPC, (512) 225-5151.

Pro-Family Forum, P.O. Box 8907, Ft.
Worth, TX 76112, (817) 531-3605.

Project "Young One", Inc., 212 SW Law
Ave., Racine, WS 53405.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Don Diffine is Professor of Economics at Harding University and Director of the Belden Center for Private Enterprise Education. Senior Research Associate of Harding's American Studies Institute, Dr. Diffine is listed in the Heritage Foundation's Guide to Public Policy Experts.

A member of the Governors Council of Economic Advisors, Dr. Diffine has provided Congressional testimony on business problems, economic impact statements, and inflation-recession dilemmas. He has 10 books and 20 monographs in print and presently serves on the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Council on Economic Education.

The recipient of the \$7,500 Freedoms Foundation Principle Award for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education, Dr. Diffine has received 16 additional Freedoms Foundation awards in the categories of Non-profit Publications, Economic Education, Public Affairs-Advertising, Public Address, and Published Works. He is the faculty winner of a \$1,000 First Place prize in a national essay contest judged by Nobel Economist Milton Friedman.

In 2000, Diffine was inducted into the Samuel Moore Walton Free Enterprise Hall of Fame. He received the "Champion of Enterprise" award in 1995 from the Students In Free Enterprise Hall of Fame in Kansas City. The First Annual Distinguished Scholar Award was also presented in 1988 to Dr. Diffine in Cleveland, Ohio, by the Association of Private Enterprise Education.

Dr. Diffine's wife, Dion, is from Kailua, Hawaii. She is a math teacher in the Searcy public schools. The Diffines have two children: David, a family practice physician in Kennett, MO; and Danielle, a senior financial analyst in Washington, D.C.