

# ABORTION

UPDATED 9/19/07

## **“PROFESSIONAL DISHONESTY”**

“45 million deaths by abortion in our nation since 1973.”

“and to say nothing about forcing sharp scissors through the baby’s skull and into the brain – that is journalistic”

(Joel Belz, “Professional dishonesty,” *World*, (May 2007):5)

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## **“ABORTION EFFECTS”**

“In an ’04 Senate subcommittee hearing, Dr. Elizabeth Shadigan testified abortion increases the rates of breast cancer, placenta previa, pre-term births, and maternal suicide. Statistically, all types of death are higher with women who have had abortions. At least 49 different studies have demonstrated statistically significant increases in premature births or low birth weight risk in women with prior induced abortions. The frequency of early death for infants born after their mothers have abortions is 2-4 times the norm. Post abortion women have a five times greater likelihood of having an ectopic pregnancy and double the risk of cervical cancer.”

(The Foster Letter: Religious Market Update, Gary D. Foster Consulting, September 10, 2006 [Eternal Perspectives Summer ’06]: 2.)

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## **“ABORTION PARENTAL NOTIFICATION LAWS DO’T ALWAYS PRODUCE DESIRED RESULTS”**

“An analysis by *The New York Times* found that laws requiring minors to notify their parents or get their consent before having an abortion don’t appear to have produced the steep drop in teenage abortion rates for which advocates had hoped. The analysis, which looked at six states that introduced parental involvement laws in the last decade and is thought to be the first study to include data from years after 1999, found divergent trends. In Virginia, the rate barely moved when the state introduced a notification law in 1998, but did fall after the requirement was changed to parental consent in 2003. In Texas, the rate fell after a notification law went into effect, but not at the rate it had in the years before the

law. And in Tennessee, the abortion rate went down when a federal court suspended a parental consent requirement and actually rose when the law went back into effect. Parental involvement laws are now in place in 34 states. Supporters of the laws argue they promote better decision-making and reduce teenage abortions, while opponents say they chip away at abortion rights and endanger minors by exposing them to possibly violent reaction from some parents. Workers and doctors at abortion clinics said the laws had little connection with the real lives of most teenagers. Some even reported that they more often saw parents pressuring their daughters to have abortions than trying to stop them.”

*(The New York Times, 6 March 2006.)*

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### **“REAPING WHAT WE SOW—THE HARVEST OF MORAL RELATIVISM”**

“The devastating loss of moral absolutes is nowhere better seen than in America's rejection of the sanctity of human life. No barometer could provide a clearer reading of our moral condition. In the past 31 years, over 40 million unborn babies have been sacrificed on the altar of human convenience. Much talk about abortion has been centered on the so-called ‘hard cases’ which supposedly stand behind liberalized abortion laws, but the truth remains that the vast majority of abortions are performed for nothing more pressing than convenience.”

“The Alan Guttmacher Institute (a research agency of Planned Parenthood) has reported that 75 percent of persons seeking abortion stated that having the child would ‘interfere with their lives.’ Other research indicates that over 95 percent of all abortions are performed just because the parents do not want to be inconvenienced by the child.”

(Albert Mohler, “Reaping What We Sow—The Harvest of Moral Relativism,” Crosswalk.com, June 23, 2004, <http://www.crosswalk.com/news/weblogs/mohler/1269844.html?view=print>)

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### **“TEEN ABORTIONS”**

“The abortion rate among teens ages 15 to 17 has declined by more than a third since 1990, from 26.5 abortions per 1,000 teens in 1990 to 15.2 abortions per 1,000 teens in 1999. Overall, teen abortion rates have been declining since the late 1980s.”

“More than one-third of all teenage pregnancies in the U.S. end in abortion. The vast majority of teenage pregnancies are unintended, and close to half of those unintended pregnancies (45 percent) end in an abortion.”

(Child Trends Data Bank, “Teen Abortions,” December 16, 2003;  
<http://childtrendsdatbank.org/indicators/27TeenAbortions.cfm>)

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### **“LEAKED MEMOS REVEAL WORLDWIDE ABORTION SCHEME”**

“Our goal is to see governments worldwide guarantee women’s reproductive rights out of recognition that they are bound to do so,’ the CRR [Center for Reproductive Rights] authors wrote. ‘The Center needs to continue its advocacy to ensure that women’s ability to choose to terminate a pregnancy is recognized as a human right...Even under pro-choice Administrations, women’s right to choose has always needed, and will need again, the protection of the judiciary from hostile majorities in many, if not most, states.’”

(“Leaked memos reveal worldwide abortion scheme,” Citizen Magazine, March 2004, pp8-9)

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### **“CURRENT TEEN VIEWS ON ABORTION”**

“Where do American teens currently stand on the topic of abortion? The 2003 Gallup Youth Survey\* found that while a majority of teens (ages 13 to 17) do find abortion acceptable, a full third (33%) believe that it should be illegal in all circumstances. Approximately one-fifth of teens support the legality of abortion under *any* circumstances (21%), while twice that number (45%) believe it should be legal only under certain circumstances.”

### **“Gender Differences”**

“Abortion is frequently framed as a ‘women’s issue,’ but Gallup data indicated that teen opinions on abortion do not vary significantly between girls and boys. Thirty-five percent of girls believe abortion should be illegal under any circumstances, while 32% of boys feel the same way. Twenty-three percent of boys believe abortion should be legal under any circumstances, compared to 19% of girls.”

“\*The Gallup Youth Survey is conducted via an Internet methodology provided by Knowledge Networks, using an online research panel that is designed to be representative

of the entire U.S. population. The current questionnaire was completed by 1,200 respondents aged 13 to 17 between Jan. 23 and Feb. 10, 2003. For a complete description of the sampling and weighting procedures used to conduct the survey, click [here](#).”

([www.gallup.com/poll/tb/educaYouth/20030311b.asp?Version=p](http://www.gallup.com/poll/tb/educaYouth/20030311b.asp?Version=p))

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## **“YOUTH MORE CONSERVATIVE THAN THEIR ELDERS ON ISSUES INVOLVING RELIGION AND ABORTION, NEW UC BERKELEY SURVEY REVEALS”**

“The report, released today (Tuesday, Sept. 24) by the campus’s Survey Research Center as part of the center’s Public Agendas and Citizen Engagement Survey (PACES), is based on interviews nationwide with Americans ages 15 to 92. It provides a comprehensive assessment of the generation gap in American political opinions.”

**“Abortion.** Government restrictions on abortion are supported by 34 percent of adults over 26, while about 44 percent of youths ages 15 to 22 support such restrictions.”

(Janet Gilmore, “Youths more conservative than their elders on issues involving religion and abortion, new UC Berkeley survey reveals,” September 24, 2002 [www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2002/09/24\\_youth.html](http://www.berkeley.edu/news/media/releases/2002/09/24_youth.html))

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## **"THE COERCION OF ABORTION BY MEN"**

"The Elliott Institute reports some 40 percent of abortion cases involve coercion. A survey of women who've had abortions belonging to a group called Women Exploited By Abortion (WEBA) showed 33 percent were encouraged to have abortions by their boyfriends—higher even than the percentage (27 percent) pushed in that direction by abortion counselors. Husbands pushed for abortions the least, at only 9 percent. Fifty-four percent of respondents also said they felt "forced by outside circumstances" to have an abortion—hardly an indication of triumphal women's liberation."

(Steve Schwalm, “The coercion of abortion by men,” New London CT, January 21, 1998)

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## **“IS ABORTION A FACTOR?”**

“Joel Brind is a scientist, not an activist. But his latest research findings could keep partisans in the abortion battle shouting into the next century. Brind and his colleagues have spent several years trying to figure out whether abortion fosters breast cancer, and they used a powerful technique. Instead of trying to draw generalizations from one group of women, they pooled data from two dozen studies involving 61,000 women in 11 countries. The results aren’t comforting. In a paper released last week, the researchers conclude that abortion is a ‘significant independent risk factor for breast cancer’ one that raises a woman’s lifetime risk by roughly a third and causes ‘thousands of excess cases per year.’”

“Abortion may seem an unlikely trigger for breast tumors, but it’s a plausible one. During puberty and again during the first trimester of pregnancy, high estrogen levels cause a woman’s breast cells to multiply rapidly. The new cells remain unformed and somewhat cancer-prone until the later stages of pregnancy. But as other hormones ready the cells to make milk, they become more resistant to malignancy. It’s well known that giving birth reduces a woman’s long-term breast-cancer risk, and logic suggests that interrupting a pregnancy might have the opposite effect.”

(Geoffrey Cowley and Mary Hager, “Is Abortion a Factor?” Newsweek Magazine, October 21, 1996, p73)

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## **"FOR ABORTED FETUSES, A QUESTION OF PAIN"**

"A British panel of medical and scientific experts, who declared in October that fetuses may sense pain as early as 26 weeks."

"Appointed by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the panel advised British doctors to administer anesthesia to fetuses in late-term abortions and for various diagnostic tests."

"This is not a situation where someone simply decides she is sick of being pregnant."

"Dr. Mark I. Evans, vice chairman of obstetrics and gynecology at Wayne State University in Detroit... 'Third-trimester abortions are hardly ever done,' Evans said. 'And when they are, medicine is usually used to stop the heartbeat' so that the fetus is already dead when aborted."

(Jenifer Warren, "For Aborted Fetuses, a Question of Pain", Los Angeles Times, Sunday, January 4, 1998, pA3 and A30)