

letters to the editor

**'Ultimate discrimination'**

It is great to be alive! despite circumstances of prejudice, physical deformities, and unfulfilled dreams, there truly is hope as long as life exists. There is a chance for happiness.

We all have this chance. However, this chance is denied to over one million unborn babies annually. Collectively labeled as unworthy of the life guaranteed all other human beings, theirs is the ultimate in discrimination. Why does this discrimination continue?

First of all, a developing baby has several strikes against him. Because he is so tiny, he is easily disregarded and almost as easily discarded. It is difficult for us to identify with a person at this stage of development. But what biologist can deny that our uniqueness was programmed into each of our cells before birth? We were all at the embryonic stage once; so tiny as to be imperceptible to our mothers, but needing only food and time to grow into recognizable human beings.

Unable to remember this time, we can desensitize ourselves to the real danger the unborn child is in. In our society, it is easy to find support groups that deny something important is lost when a woman chooses abortion. Abortionists label pro-lifers as too emotionally involved in the issues, because they have desensitized themselves to the pain involved in the loss of the unborn child.

It has been eight destructive years for the tiniest brothers and sisters of all mankind, since the Supreme Court ruling. Since then, the abortion issue has tragically touched millions of mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters and friends. Perhaps the deaths of these unborn infants will point up the significance of the Supreme Court's mistake. We can only work for a Human Life Amendment . . . and hope.

Dorothy Dobesh  
Graduate, Secondary Education

others who recognize this as human life from the moment of conception. And once you recognize this as human life, then the unborn must have all the rights that you and I have. It is for these reasons that a woman's so called, "right to privacy," must be superseded by the child's "right to life."

I find it hard to believe that anyone, who is informed, could call an unborn child anything but human life. It has been medically proven that within ten days, the fetus, by secreting powerful hormones, completely controls the woman's body throughout the pregnancy. The fetus is a separate being within the womb possibly having a blood type completely different from that of his mother.

By three weeks the heartbeat can be recorded. And at six weeks, brain waves can be recorded. It has been medically proven that the unborn child can feel pain, that it can taste and that they can learn. This is all pretty remarkable for just a mass of tissue.

Since most women don't even know that they are pregnant until they are four to six weeks along, the child already has developed most of these attributes.

These are all medically proven facts. Every day our medical advances are saving more and more premature babies. Today we can have some as early as eighteen weeks, and tomorrow, even younger.

Steve Lang

Member of UNL Students for L.I.F.E

**Pregnant woman has rights**

Is it not true that every person has the inalienable right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness? Anything that would threaten this right must then be eliminated. In the case of the Pro-Life movement, I'm afraid that as its supporters are trying to protect the rights of an unborn fetus, they are infringing upon the rights of other people to decide what is best for them.

If a woman were forced to have a child because abortion had been declared illegal, both she and the baby could live miserable lives as a result. The resentment toward the unwanted child could manifest itself as physical as well as mental abuse. Is this baby, who is possibly being beaten and in other ways abused, better off for being born? Another consideration that must be made, deals with a baby that would be born disabled. These both are high prices for a child to pay. Just as one should have the right to be born, shouldn't we consider the right to be born loved, wanted and healthy?

The right to hold the Pro-Life opinion should be respected just as the right to oppose this opinion should be respected. Obviously, abortion is not for everyone, but there are those who feel that it can be an acceptable solution to a very prevalent social concern. Shouldn't abortion be available to those who hold this opinion?

When facing this monumental question, we cannot rely totally upon emotion. We must be able to look at the problem of unwanted pregnancy just as that—a problem to be dealt with. Abortion need not be the only solution. Rather it could be considered one of many alternatives. I am not advocating a cold, calculating society. I am, however, advocating a society with compassion for the pregnant woman. Her life will be seriously altered by the birth of a child. If the alteration has adverse effects on her life, shouldn't she be able to choose not to have the child, thus protecting her right to the pursuit of happiness?

The issue has acceptable arguments on both sides. In the end, however, we must face the fact that we are dealing with people. When dealing with individuals, we cannot have a law that is acceptable and compatible with a few. We must have a law that will be acceptable to those affected by that law. This law would be one that gives the individual the chance to choose.

Alice Schuda  
Sophomore, English

**'Innocent lives' remembered**

To some people January 22 is just another day on the calendar. Yet eight years ago, seven men blackened the date with the stroke of a pen. For it was January 22, 1973 that the Supreme Court legalized abortion on demand. Since that time some eight million innocent children have been slaughtered. That is more than have been killed in all of the wars that the U.S. has been in since its origin.

It is for these innocent lives that we dedicate this week from January 18-14. For you see, whereas some people claim that the unborn is only a mass of cells, a part of the woman's body to treat as she wishes, there are

**Sordid facts . . . .**

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There you are. A mere three weeks ago, the President's Commission for a National Agenda for the Eighties said we shouldn't try to solve the problems of the Northeastern cities. We should empty them.

They want the invisible hand of migration (I think that's Adam Smith's Migration) to take its course. All the wretched refuse of our teeming cities would make their way to the Southwest.

At the time I thought this was a ludicrous idea, but at the time I wasn't quite so wretched.

Now, as a patriotic gesture, I am going to volunteer for temporary refugee status. I think we should all apply for a federal grant, an experiment in returning to those wonderful yesteryears of migratory living.

While they consider my proposal, I think I will turn my electric blanket into a jumpsuit.

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