

**THE RIGHT TO LIFE**  
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Once, there was a girl named Norma. She was a troubled girl, and young, with two children she had placed for adoption and a third on the way; another child she did not want. She battled between two choices: go through the pains of pregnancy and make yet another adoption plan or terminate that pregnancy. She chose the latter. However, she ran into a problem. The state she lived in did not allow abortions and no doctor was willing to risk providing her one. So, she met with two lawyers and brought her case to court, known today as Roe v. Wade, the case that legalized abortion in 1973. Americans are extremely familiar with this case, citing the name in almost every political argument regarding abortion. However, what they will not speak about in these arguments is that the face of the abortion movement, Norma McCorvey, also known as Jane Roe, ended up having the baby this case was about and, after surrendering her life to Jesus Christ, became a pro-life advocate until the day she died.

For Norma and I, faith is what motivated us to stand for life. However, you do not have to be of Christian faith to do so. Evidence of when life begins is all throughout science. According to medical records, the genes and sex of the baby are set at the very instant of fertilization. If NASA found a cell on Mars that had either of these, we would rave about how they discovered life on Mars. So why is that bunch of cells found in a mother's womb that has genes and gender, forms, moves, grows, and processes nutrition not called life? It would not be ethical or

legal to permanently take any human's life away from them. So why is it considered a right if the human is young enough? Is killing a fetus any different from killing a baby, or killing a baby any different from killing a toddler, a toddler from a teenager, a teenager from an adult? At what point does age stop determining the value of a human life?

Once the object of life has been decided, it is obvious that no age can make the brutality of abortion bearable. The most common form is called a Suction Abortion, administered in the first trimester. This is where the abortionist uses a small suction tube that sucks each body part out of the womb. A second and third trimester abortion is much the same, yet this time the abortionist uses forceps, hinged and handheld tools used for grasping the baby's body parts. Some use pills, some use saline solution that burns the baby inside and out, and some are partial birth abortions. This is where the baby is delivered feet-first, leaving only the head in the womb. The abortionist opens the edge of the baby's skull with surgical scissors and a catheter tube removes the brain so that the baby can be delivered dead. I know this is hard to hear and I know it is horrifying. It should be. It is none short of murder, a holocaust we have become desensitized to. We have heard the term 'abortion' and simply called it an issue and put it on a shelf for later, numb to the fact that this is life being ripped apart. What happened to the rights of the peaceful child with soft skin and tiny hands, curled up in the womb of his/her

mother? They have a right, a right that is violated before they can fight for it, a right that has become little more than an object for political debates. This right is the right to life.

It is a common idea that the right to life is void if the baby could be born disabled. I have had the privilege this school year, to help in the special needs classroom and it has proved this argument invalid. The first day, I did not know what to expect and I was nervous that they wouldn't want me there. They proved me very wrong. They quickly learned my name and the very next day, I walked in to a bunch of hugs. Every day I am excited to see Hunter always happy about the

smallest things, Cassidy playing her word game, and Billy who thinks every girl is his girlfriend. You see, every single person in there has a distinct personality that leaves a gaping hole when one of them is missing. When I think of all the children who are aborted because they might have a disability, I pity the people who will miss out on that child. They are cared for by God, but we are the ones who lose.

Due to all of this, many say women only want abortions for the rarest of cases. I believed this statement until I recently discovered that abortion is the leading cause of death in the United States of America with approximately 900,000 dead babies every year. Heart disease causes an approximate 600,000 deaths, making abortion more common by hundreds of thousands of deaths. If abortion was only reserved for the rarest cases, why would they be more common in our

country than heart disease? These numbers are human lives that were killed in the name of convenience and women's rights.

I am not calling all women who value their rights, evil. I am one and I believe quite the contrary. Women, you have every right to empowerment. You were created to protect your children and stand strong against the evil that has targeted you. If you have had an abortion or been involved in one, I want you to know that God is caring for those children. They have always been His and His arms are open to welcome you too. Men, men, you were created to stand by women and children in their most vulnerable moments, protect them, and lead with love.

Ladies and gentlemen, you have a choice to stand for life or to stand for death. For all these unborn children and those who have been broken and misled, will you join me? Will you fight for life like you are on your warhorse in the greatest battle of all time? Because you are! Now is the time!