

# Morality should guide abortion decisions

harm." (For more information, see our new Web site: [www.lifeandlibertyforwom.en.org/issues](http://www.lifeandlibertyforwom.en.org/issues))

To the editor:

I agree with Richard Grimler's Feb. 28 letter that abortion rights advocates rely too much on euphemisms to describe abortion. Life and Liberty for Women won't. Abortion does indeed take the life of a fetus.

Disagreement among the scientific, medical and religious communities about when life begins runs deep, and conclusions run from before the moment of conception to birth, which is by the way, God's determination of when life begins. We know abortion will exist, legal or not, and it kills women while also destroying fetal life. No discussion about when life begins will change the need for a public policy to correctly and morally balance the right to life and liberty of woman and fetus, which Roe vs. Wade does.

Further, an individual's self-determination of when life begins is only one factor in the consideration of whether ending fetal life is warranted or not. Every child deserves more than just to be born; they deserve a quality of life. Anti-abortion extremists claim fetuses have independent intrinsic value, but pregnant women don't view their fetuses apart from themselves or the world they'd be born into, nor does most of society. Quality of life is a very valid consideration and a reasonable justifiable ground for the taking of human life under the guidelines of Roe. By upholding the morality and correctness of Roe's guidelines for elective abortion, we're also advocating for a female fetus' right to life and liberty.

A man can prevent fetal death from abortion. This reasoning is "absurd" only to men desiring to avoid their own role in reducing the number of abortions occurring in this country. Nothing I said, or didn't say, means I believe women lack intelligence, are unwitting victims, or lack a sense of shared responsibility. Shame on Grimler for trying to change the subject. This discussion isn't about women's independent responsibility in the sex act; or shared responsibility for that matter; it's about men's. Men, continuing to dodge individual responsibility does not a "baby" save.

Regarding Jim Brien's March 1 comments: Engaging in sex, in or out of marriage, is everyone's right, but it's not without responsibility. Dave Snyder is right; (March 7) real men make preventative choices, meaning they can prevent the "abortion of pre-born females," by correctly using a condom. That's seeing and admitting the truth and it's "first doing no

Snyder is dead wrong about the wall of church and state. God commanded a rendering unto Caesar what's his and unto God what's his; otherwise we'd be another Middle East. While moral values may come from religious doctrine, it isn't necessary they do to be good moral values.

Respect  
Herald 3-14-01

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