

CHOOSE



gotaheart.org
Colorado Life Initiative
Because Every Child Deserves a Birthday



Call to Action

Thank you for what you are already doing to protect “the least of these” among us, loving our preborn neighbors and mothers as ourselves. It is our responsibility before God to protect the innocent, and stop child sacrifice and idolatry. Here is a call to action.

Christians across the state are unifying in prayer and a scriptural understanding of the value of life and laws that are just, applying the grace of Jesus to those who have participated in taking the life of a child and warning others away from the temptation.

With your help, we are putting forward a constitutional amendment that would close abortion clinics and stop abortion pills from being mailed in the state. We are asking every life-affirming church to pray, inform churchgoers, and mobilize communities to circulate a petition and vote **For Life**. With the faith to **pray** to end abortion, we have the faith to **work** to end abortion.

According to Pew Research Center, 52% of Colorado adults consider themselves to be a Christian. If every churchgoer in the state will vote **For Life**, abortion will end in Colorado.

Please visit our website for videos, handouts, sermons, and educational and scriptural resources.

This is a spiritual battle to be won with spiritual weapons. (2 Cor 10:4-5)

Will you help us end this holocaust?
For God’s glory,
Colorado Life Initiative



For your free toolkit,
visit gotaheart.org

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“I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing. Therefore **choose** life, so that you and your descendants may live.” (Deuteronomy 30:19)

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When Does Life Begin?

It is a biological fact (96.8% of biologists agree) that our lives begin the moment our unique DNA is woven together in our first single cell.

Three thousand years ago, God's poet wrote "you knit me together in my mother's womb." (Psalm 139:13) Only sixty years ago, scientists discovered DNA which they said "looks like knitting".

No one else has our DNA. Within our DNA is whether we are male or female, the color of our eyes and hair, and six feet of complex genetic code. This library of complex genetic code is so sophisticated, scientists don't know how to read it all. Scientists have only recently discovered that at that moment when our unique DNA is knitted from the special half-cells from each of our parents to become one cell, there is a flash of light. Our life is created in light, just as John wrote in John 1 almost two thousand years ago.

Our DNA is not only a blueprint for our body, but this first cell of DNA is our body and will replicate into every cell of our body. Nothing will be added to us except time and the oxygen and nutrition needed to fuel our rapid growth. God equates the worth of a preborn child the same as a grown man. (Exodus 21:22-25)

To be a human being, we must have human DNA. To be living, we must be reproducing. We have human DNA the moment our parents' two gametes combine to form our unique DNA in our first single cell which reproduces within twenty-four hours and will replicate into every cell of our body. By scientific standards, we are fully human, alive, and growing from that first moment when microscopic fireworks of light flash when we are conceived.

If we were to find our first cell on another planet, we would say that we found life and that we found human life.

Complex and organized, our hundreds of cells make our fragile journey to implant approximately five days later. Upon implanting, we communicate with our mother through chemicals to let her body know that we are there.

At twenty-one (21) days—about the time mom suspects she's pregnant—we have a heartbeat that will last the rest of our lifetime. From three weeks (5 weeks LMP), our heartbeat is how a doctor knows if we are still living.

Our spinal cord grows faster than the rest of our body to put in place our nervous system. The folds under our eyes are the beginning of our ears. By 34 days (six weeks LMP), our brain waves can be detected, and by seven weeks we will move away if someone tries to touch our face.

By nine weeks, we have a face, arms and legs, fingers and toes. In fact, we look much like the tiny infant we will be at birth, just 2.5 inches tall. We can suck our thumb, jump, kick, and do somersaults.

After twenty weeks, we startle at loud noises and will nestle in a favorite position before going to sleep. We already show preference to being right-handed or left-handed, which music we like, and what tastes we prefer. We recognize our mother's voice months before our expected birthday.

The color of our skin, our age, our awareness, our abilities, our dependence on others, our level of development, our health, or our size – none of these have anything to do with whether we are a living human being.

Since doctors can attempt to save all lives through monitoring, early delivery, and C-section, intentionally causing the death of a preborn through the violence of an induced abortion is not necessary. And since preborn children are living, they have as much right as anyone else to continue living.



"All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men."

(John 1:3-4)

FULLY human alive

Day 1 conception

Fireworks of light can be seen microscopically the moment gametes carrying precious genetic code from mother (ovum) and father (spermatozoon) knit together to form a new and unique living cell. Physical features including eye and hair color, and gender are written in DNA code. No other human with this same DNA has ever lived before or will ever live again. Scientifically, this is the beginning of a new living human. If found on another planet, we would say that we discovered human life! This living child may continue to grow if allowed to live, needing only time, nourishment, and protection.

Pregnancy is defined as the moment the child's hundreds of organizing cell systems attach within the mother's womb (uterus). At this moment, the tiny offspring communicates with his or her mom by sending chemical messages to announce arrival. Once pregnant, pregnancy is then calculated from the first day of the woman's last menstrual period (LMP), approximately two weeks prior to actual conception. The child is living, human, and a separate body from his or her mother, yet vulnerable and dependent on a mother's care and protection prior to birth, as much as following birth and the years to come prior to maturing into an adult able to provide, protect, and live independently.

Day 5 implantation

Day 21 heartbeat

In this stage of development, the child is growing more quickly and reproducing more cells than in any other time in life to follow! On day 21, cells in the child's newly developing heart can be seen suddenly beginning to beat all at once in unison! The child's heart will never stop beating for the duration of their lifetime. The heartbeat continues to be a way we determine if he or she is still living. This is typically when their mom can take a positive pregnancy test.

Day 34 brain waves

A child's brain waves can be detected by 34 days (6 weeks LMP), about the time most women suspect they may be pregnant.



7 weeks

By seven weeks, a child's face becomes visible. One hundred thousand new brain cells are forming every minute. Baby's heart is beating 140-150 beats per minute. He or she is about one inch in height and weighs 1/4 oz. By seven weeks (9 weeks LMP), a preborn child will move away from touch and is able to feel pain.

8 weeks

At eight weeks (10 weeks LMP), the preborn child in embryonic development now swims and moves gracefully inside protective amniotic fluid. Every organ is present. Baby's stomach produces digestive juices and the liver makes blood cells with the child's own blood type. Kidneys are beginning to function and taste buds are forming. The child is about 1.5 inches tall.

9 weeks

A child moves from embryonic to fetal development when all their organs are fully formed and look the same as a newborn infant. Sometimes referred to as a "fetus" during pregnancy—if translated from Latin, meaning "little one" or "young one" or "offspring"—babies during fetal development play, jump, and suck their thumbs! At 9 weeks (11 weeks LMP), a child develops unique fingerprints and male or female organs become visible. Baby is about 2 inches.

10 weeks

At ten weeks (12 weeks LMP), a child squints, swallows, frowns, and smiles. Children at this age begin practicing breathing and can make movements to cry, but without air, cannot be heard. Bone cells are forming and the preborn is approximately 2.5 inches in height.

20 weeks

A child is large enough for his or her mom to feel their movement. Each side of Baby's brain has a billion nerve cells and appears the same as a newborn's brain. Babies born this early may be able to survive with proper medical care, even at only halfway through pregnancy.

25-27 weeks

At 25 weeks (27 weeks LMP), a preborn child is able to hear and may startle to loud noises. He or she will sleep and wake, and may nestle in a favorite position, and stretch upon waking. By 27 weeks (29 weeks LMP), a child recognizes and remembers their mom's voice and voices closest to her. Babies develop preferences for certain kinds of music and food as memory forms.

37-40 weeks

Baby triggers when he or she is ready to be born. At birth, alveoli in the newborn's lungs open to take in air. As air rushes over the child's vocal cords, their cry can be heard. Mom's body prepares days and weeks ahead of Baby's arrival, and at birth, she produces milk matching the infant's body temperature with flavors familiar to the child and antibodies the child needs. Mom will continue to share antibodies in response to real-time exposure and increase milk production based on the child's frequency in nursing. The child continues to depend on adults for nutrition, time, and protection until adulthood.

**"For when he sees his children around him, the work of My hands, they will honor My name."
(Isaiah 29)**

What Is a Woman Choosing?

Killing children prior to birth is more **dangerous** for mothers than giving birth to living children or a C-section intended to save lives. Women who've had an abortion will often say they felt like they had "no choice" or it was their "only choice". Most mothers do not choose abortion when given honest information, non-violent options, and loving support.

In addition to the emotional trauma and physical pain of an early miscarriage, mothers choosing a **chemical abortion** to terminate pregnancy are at risk for hemorrhage, shock, infection, an incomplete abortion requiring surgical intervention, and possible death.

Mothers choosing **surgical abortion** experience the same physical risks as a chemical abortion with the added risks of a perforated uterus, bowel, or damage to her cervix.

Mothers choosing to terminate a pregnancy face the possibility of **later infertility**, miscarriage, premature labor, incompetent cervix, and difficulty carrying a baby to term. Largely ignored studies show that an interrupted first pregnancy can lead to breast cancer for the mother later in life.

Common **emotional** difficulties following these procedures may include difficulty in relationships, bonding with other children, sexual dysfunction, and being triggered by anything reminding of the procedure such as the sound of a vacuum cleaner, a dentist chair, sounds or smells of a doctor's office, people who did not protect her from the procedure, or anniversary of the procedure or the child's due date. Many women also experience **rage** toward the father, men in general, or others in general, and may develop *Stockholm Syndrome* toward the abortionist who abused and violated her.

More than 24,000 children are killed legally every year in Colorado. Based on worldwide reporting, **57,000 women die** from abortions every year, and more than 5 million women are hospitalized annually from abortion complications. Studies show that women who have experienced an abortion have 138% higher risk of mental health issues than women

who gave birth. Women have higher rates of **anxiety** (34%), depression (37%), and addictions (110% alcohol, 230% marijuana).

Mothers who choose to terminate pregnancies have an increased risk of **suicide** by 155%.

Abortionists in Colorado are not required to report deaths of women and children due to abortion. Abortionists continue to assert that abortion is "safe" (presumably for the mother). Abortion survivors (children who were born alive) may be left to the elements to die of starvation and cold. Very rarely, an abortion survivor will be given warmth and nourishment and placed in a loving home through **adoption**. A living child is considered a "failed abortion" or "failed termination." There are no protections for children born alive.

There are approximately equal numbers of couples wanting to adopt as there have been abortions performed annually. Saving the **lives of children** would address the shortage of babies to adopt and does not reflect foster care, as children can be handed directly from the biological mother to the parents she has chosen for her baby.

Many aborted children would have grown to be contributing adults in the workforce with families of their own to love. For children victimized by abortion, their only experience in the world is pain, abuse, and death. **Abortion is the most cruel, inhumane, and lethal form of child abuse.** The intended outcome of every abortion is the child's death.

It is not necessary to intentionally cause the death of any child, as we may attempt to save the lives of both mothers and children. Most mothers do not know the resources and loving choices available to them, which makes **every abortion unnecessary**. And every woman needs the grace of a Savior, whatever choice she may have made.

"There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death." (Proverbs 14:12)

What Is Abortion?

Advertised as a “right,” a “choice,” “reproductive freedom,” “women’s healthcare,” or simply “healthcare,” what is an abortion? Often confused with miscarriage (aka “spontaneous abortion”) where the child has already died (the child’s heart has stopped beating) or labor cannot be stopped, an elective abortion (sometimes referred to as an “induced abortion,” “termination of pregnancy,” or simply “abortion”) **kills the child** through poison, starvation, scalding, or dismemberment, and the mother is put into preterm labor or her cervix is stretched to remove her child in pieces. While in a natural miscarriage, the child has already died and does not suffer abuse, in an elective abortion, the child is still alive when painfully pulled apart in pieces, poisoned, starved, or scalded so the infant cannot survive being born. The purpose of every abortion is a dead child. Despite a common myth, induced abortion of a living child is **never necessary**, hence the term “choice.”

Every child will be born, living or dead.

Currently in Colorado, children may be killed legally at any time through birth using any means. Abortion puts a mother into preterm labor to force a miscarriage or stretches her cervix to dismember her child through suction, dilation and curettage (D&C), or dilation and evacuation (D&E).

Abortion Pill. “Medical abortion” or “chemical abortion” consists of two pills (mifepristone and misoprostol) taken within 48 hours of each other, forcing the mother to miscarry her child and deliver her dead baby. Fatal to the child, it is also **dangerous for the mother**, particularly if she has an undiagnosed ectopic pregnancy, incompatible blood type, sexually transmitted disease, or is further along in pregnancy than she realizes. If she has taken the first pill and changes her mind, she can get large doses of progesterone with a 60% chance of saving her baby’s life if taken as soon as possible.

**“Was your prostitution not enough?
You slaughtered My children”
(Ezekiel 16:20-21)**

In addition to the emotional trauma and physical pain of an early miscarriage, women choosing this method to terminate pregnancy are at risk for hemorrhage, shock, infection, an incomplete abortion requiring surgical intervention, and possible death. Mothers report feeling intense labor pains with a lot of blood and up to a month or more of bleeding. A mother may be further traumatized by seeing her infant after being told her baby is “only a clump of cells” or “blob of tissue.” Women taking these drugs may not receive proper medical care or follow-up. Abortion can risk future pregnancies.

Surgical Abortion. “Elective abortion” or “induced abortion” terminates pregnancy through suction, D&C, or D&E, requiring that the woman’s cervix is forced open and the **child is dismembered** through a large suction, and/or grasped and pulled apart (dismembered) by surgical clamps. Each of these procedures requires that the child’s head is crushed to fit

through the mother’s cervix. Extremely painful for the child whose body is being torn apart, killing a preborn child is also painful for the mother.

If the child’s heart is no longer beating, these same procedures may be used to facilitate a diagnosed miscarriage. If the child’s heart is beating, the procedure is very painful to the child being torn apart, as we can observe them crying and trying to get away from the instruments taking away their lives and from the safety of their mothers.

Late Term Abortion kills the child through lethal injection and induces childbirth. The child is poisoned by toxic levels of a heart medication, the mother’s cervix is artificially opened, and the mother is put into preterm labor to go through the entire process of childbirth to deliver her dead baby. If the first injection does not stop the baby’s heart within twenty-four hours, another injection will be repeated every 24 hours until the baby dies. It may take up to three days for the baby to die and another three days for the mother to finish labor to give birth to her dead child. It is a week-long process with several months of physical recovery.

A late-term abortion is more dangerous to the mother than giving birth to a living child, as a living baby helps in the birthing process. Because her baby is so large, mothers report feeling their baby thrashing in pain. Without the injection, the baby could survive and be placed in a loving home through adoption.

Partial Birth Abortion kills the baby during the process of being born. The mother is put into labor with the baby in a breech position. While the baby’s feet, legs, and back are delivered, and only their head is still in the birth canal, the baby is stabbed.

Another disputed practice is leaving a child to “die of the elements” by denying a newborn basic nourishment, warmth, comfort, and care. Some children have been rescued from utility closets, given proper medical care, and provided loving families through adoption.

“They shed innocent blood — the blood of their sons and daughters, ... and the land was polluted with blood.” (Psalm 106:38)

What No One Told Us About Abortion

Physically, mothers are put into premature labor or their cervix stretched to dismember, poison, starve, crush, or stab a child prior to or during birth. One in seven women (one in 25 women according to abortionists) need emergency room services following an abortion. One in ten pregnant mothers (11%) who ingest the abortion drug mifepristone experience severe physical complications following. According to the World Health Organization in 2019, 57,000 women die from abortion every year. More than 5 million women are admitted to hospitals annually due to complications from an abortion. Multiple studies link breast cancer to early termination of a first pregnancy. Dangers of abortion (chemical or surgical) include hemorrhage, infection, infertility, and death. Risks of surgical abortion can also cause perforation of the uterus, bowel, damage to the cervix, and other complications. Natural childbirth or C-section intended to save the life of the child are also safer for the mother than abortion procedures intended to kill the child.

Psychologically, 81% of women who electively terminate a pregnancy experience psychological problems following the abortion. Studies show 55% of women seek psychiatric care following an abortion when they never indicated needing it before. Women who abort a child have higher rates of anxiety (34%), depression (37%), addictions (110% alcohol, 230% marijuana), and increased risk of suicide (155%). Women who have experienced an abortion have 138% higher risk of mental health problems than women who have given birth. Difficulty in relationships and bonding with other children, and future miscarriage and infertility are not uncommon following an abortion. More than half of women express feeling coerced or pressured to have an abortion.

The Child can feel pain as early as 7 weeks following conception. Children have been filmed screaming and trying to move away from abortion instruments.

According to a study cited by the New York Times in January 2022, more than 80% of initial fetal diagnostic tests showing an abnormality are wrong.

In the first year of legalized abortion, child abuse of born children increased by 300%.

More than 65 million children have been aborted in the United States since 1973. More than two thousand children are abused and killed by abortion in Colorado every month, more than 24,000 children are tortured to death in Colorado annually.

It is legal to kill a child up to the moment of birth in Colorado using any means, including dismemberment, poison, scalding, cutting, stabbing, gunshot, vehicular homicide, or manslaughter.

More than 99% of abortions are purely elective and have nothing to do with the life of the mother. When the life of the mother is involved, early delivery or C-section to save a child's life are also safer for the mother. Elective abortion is medically unnecessary.

“They sacrificed their sons and daughters.... They devoted themselves to doing evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking Him to anger.” (2 Kings 17:17)



about
So

told us

About Solutions

More than half of women attended a **church** in the month prior to aborting their first child. Every church has an opportunity to warn against the temptation of abortion

“But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out ... ”
(1 Corinthians 10:13)

and minister to young women facing overwhelming challenges while pregnant. The congregation needs to hear that when a woman becomes pregnant, she becomes a mother, and both parents are responsible for the protection and care of their child. They

need to hear that private sins will be addressed privately and children will be celebrated. When at least one man in a woman’s life says he will support her and her pregnancy, she is more likely to carry her child to birth. This can be the father, a grandfather, pastor, deacon, or friend. Personal faith, hope, and love help a pregnant mother choose life for her baby.

Most women (73.8%) who aborted children said they were not informed of other options available to them such as **Pregnancy Care Centers**. More than 2,000 Pregnancy Care Centers across the country provide no-cost services and resources to help pregnant moms be successful mothers. Pregnancy Care Centers help women and men out of crisis so they can make healthy decisions for themselves and their baby. Providing parenting classes, mentorship, referrals to community resources, and baby items up to everything needed to bring Baby home, many pregnancy care centers also offer no-cost ultrasounds under the supervision of a medical doctor. Pregnancy Care Centers offer no-cost services through the generous donations of others, helping parents process their options in a non-judgemental, loving environment and making it possible for every mother to carry her baby to birth. Mothers with accurate information, resources, and someone to walk beside them during pregnancy are more likely to carry their children to birth.

For a mother unable or unwilling to care for her child, there are currently two million couples wanting to adopt in the United States. For every one baby available to adopt in the U.S., there are 36 families wanting to adopt. **Adoption is free** for the biological mother. Through Modern Adoption, a mother may choose loving parents for her child, how involved she’d like to be in her child’s life, and if she would like an adoption ceremony. She can try to parent and then choose to place her baby for adoption at any time. Adoption agencies can help with needs and expenses related to the pregnancy. Some agencies offer free professional counseling.

If choosing to **Parent**, she may choose to co-parent, marry and parent, single parent, parent with help, get temporary help while parenting, include grandparents or extended family in parenting, or share parenting.

Community Resources help mothers with specific needs such as job readiness, school scholarships, health, relationships, housing, childcare, legal, automotive, clothes, food, etc., without robbing her of motherhood or taking away from her the life of her child. Most pregnancies and births are covered in Colorado including prenatal care, delivery, and well-baby checks.

Natural **Childbirth** or cesarean section (C-section) are safer than intentionally killing the child, as a living baby helps the mother in delivery and a C-section is much faster and safer for the mother too. Mothers who deliver report feeling happy with their decision not to abort (100%).

“Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.”
(1 Peter 5:7-8)

utions

What About Exceptions?

Should there be exceptions to who has a right to live? It is **never necessary** to intentionally cause the death of a child. Though not always successful, doctors can attempt to save lives rather than intentionally destroy them.

Doctors used to vow to “first, do no harm”. In cases of sexual assault (rape or incest), the baby is evidence that a crime has been committed, and rapists could be held accountable. By current Colorado law, if a rape is reported within 48 hours, the rapist is required to pay child support without having access to the child.

“The Lord commanded, Children must not be put to death for their fathers.”
(2 Chronicles 25:4)

A child is the only good that can come from a **rape**. There is no physical or emotional difference between children conceived in rape and children who were not. Many women report that having their child helped them overcome the rape. Many women also report that experiencing an abortion following a rape was more difficult to overcome than the rape itself.

99% of all abortions have nothing to do with the **life of the mother**. In the rare instance where the life of the mother is in imminent danger, a doctor can attempt to save both lives, even delivering the child early and giving comfort and medical care for the best chance of survival rather than dismembering the child and intentionally causing death. Some women, even when encouraged to abort by a doctor, have chosen to give their child life.

Children with a **poor prognosis** and expected to die shortly following birth can be welcomed into the world and spend precious moments with a family who loves them before passing peacefully without being violently taken from the protection of their mother. There are hospice programs specifically to help parents.

Many children expected to be severely **handicapped** are born healthy and live normal lives. There are also adoptive parents who offer to care for handicapped or terminally ill children and financial help available. Just because a child is suspected to be handicapped does not justify killing them. We do not kill handicapped people. (Exodus 4:11)

In an **ectopic** pregnancy, the child has attached outside the uterus. When this happens, the pregnancy can be monitored to see if the child will reattach in an area where they can get enough nutrients (and will typically be born early), or doctors can attempt to relocate the child. Many doctors do not know about this procedure which was successful in the 1980’s. Careful monitoring or relocating the child does not involve intentionally mutilating or killing the child.

While abortion is legal, women assume it is safe. Even morally right. Though nothing could be further from the truth. Providing “exceptions” denies legal protections and recognition of preborn children as living human beings. Treating both mother and children as patients encourages doctors to save all lives.

When a woman becomes pregnant, two people become parents. It may be expected that parents care for their children prior to birth just as we expect following birth. When women feel pressured to abort a child, or taught that immediate needs are more important than the lives of children, we rob women of motherhood and the opportunity to mature into loving adults.

As the pain and regret of abortion compound over time, and the unnecessary suffering abortion causes children cannot be undone, we cannot know all of the unintended consequences and what we are missing by aborting children who would contribute within their career field and nurture their **own families**.

There is no difference between the preborn child you and I used to be and the children in the womb today holding onto their one and only chance to live. We rob ourselves when we are not willing to open our hearts to welcome these children into the world with love.

Those with a moral compass need to protect the innocent and vulnerable among us from those more powerful and ruthless who would crush them. Because every child deserves a birthday!

“It is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.”
(Matthew 18:14)



Abortion IS NOT Healthcare

First, do no harm. Abortion is not healthcare. Abortion intentionally tortures a child to death. Abortion violates a mother's body to rip away her child by unnaturally stretching her cervix and painfully dismembering, poisoning, starving, or scalding her child, or putting her into preterm labor so that she delivers a dead baby. There is nothing healthy or caring about that. Abortion is the opposite of healthcare in that it intentionally causes death and unnecessary pain and suffering.

There is no reason to intentionally take away the life of a child. Natural childbirth or cesarean section intended to save the child's life are safer for the mother, too. It is more dangerous for a mother to deliver a dead baby than a living one, as the living child helps position him/herself to be born. A C-section typically takes less than an hour, making it much faster and safer than an abortion that can take three to six days of injecting an overdose of drugs into the child's beating heart and putting the mother into labor. In an ectopic pregnancy, the doctor can monitor the pregnancy or attempt to relocate the child into the uterus.

A child will move away from touch as early as seven weeks from conception. This is a tiny infant who has a face, arms, and legs no different than any other child, just tinier. A preborn child's skin is more sensitive to touch than it will be once the child is born. Developmentally, a child cannot block the pain. A preborn child feels stressed when their mother is stressed. An infant is born loving the one who gives them birth.

We can watch children on ultrasound as they are being surgically removed from their mothers. When a tube or clamp moves toward them, their little heart starts beating more rapidly and their arms and legs try to get away. These children want to live. When the sharp instrument grabs them, their faces scream in pain. These sweet babes are pulled into pieces. Then their little arms and legs and tummies are counted. In no other procedure does a

doctor intentionally kill a patient. Nowhere else does "healthcare" cause so much pain and suffering.

Ending a preborn child's life chemically or surgically puts an otherwise **healthy mother** at risk for physical and psychological complications. While pregnancy is healthy for women, causing women to abort their babies is not healthy for a mother, and is of course, deadly to her child. Abortion is the leading cause of death to children and harms the physical, spiritual, and emotional well-being of young adults.

"... even the compassion of the wicked is cruel." (Proverbs 12:10)

In one year, **57,000 mothers have died** and more than 5 million women were hospitalized from an abortion worldwide. Choosing to lose a child, 81% of women experience psychological issues following an abortion, including rage, anxiety, depression, and increased suicidal tendencies with 158% increase in drug or alcohol addiction. Difficulty in relationships and bonding with other children, and future miscarriage and infertility are not uncommon following the choice to take a child's life.

Healthcare should be about helping people find health. Reproductive healthcare should preserve a woman's ability to have children. Pregnancy is healthy. Abortion is not healthy. There is nothing healthy about an abortion for the mother, or her child. A child will be born, living or dead. Every child should be treated as a **wanted child** where doctors attempt to save all lives and not intentionally take lives. Each of us has only one life to live; we can let children live.

Actual healthcare involves informed consent, explaining the risks, benefits, indications, and alternatives to an invasive medical procedure. Abortionists do not have to provide informed consent to the women trafficked through human butcher

shops. Abortion facilities do not provide the same healthcare standards or abide by the same health regulations as legitimate medical facilities. Abortion businesses are not set up to handle emergencies, and when they have emergencies must transport the mother to a hospital. Abortionists violate the first rule of medical practice **by intentionally killing a patient.**

There are **no health or medical benefits** to the pregnant mother, or indications, for a medical doctor to cause a pregnant mother to abort her child. And there are many alternatives for her that are non-violent, non-invasive, and healthier for the mother while allowing her child to continue living. Abortionists depend on the public's misplaced and misinformed compassion for the woman to divert attention away from the child they are intentionally and **unnecessarily killing.** This makes a profit for abortionists, increases profit for fertility clinics, creates a market for surrogate mothers and sperm donors, and provides cover for perpetrators of sex trafficking, prostitution, rape, and incest. Abortionists provide cell lines from aborted children to use in vaccines and the commercial market. Although still illegal, abortionists are expanding into selling organs taken from children while they are still alive.

Real healthcare saves lives; it doesn't destroy them.

Too many women are destroyed by abortion. And too many children are tragically missing who had their own personalities and contributions to make in the world. Abortion is violence. Whether it is a gun, scalpel, or drug, it is not the instrument causing the death; it is the hand using the instrument. Those causing death in the multi-billion dollar abortion industry—if they care anything about women—should stop tearing children and mothers apart and learn how to save lives and promote health, instead. Motherhood is worth protecting. And every child is worth saving.

nothing healthy
about abortion

Why the Church?

Once we understand the humanity of preborn children, it becomes clear that killing these precious infants was wrong. We were wrong for fifty years allowing the intentional killing of innocent human beings. Many of us participated personally, or watched as girlfriends, family members, or members of our church made decisions to end the lives of children. Many of us were complicit in that decision either directly or through our silence.

God says, “When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide My eyes from you; ... Your hands are covered with blood. Wash and cleanse yourselves. ... Stop doing evil! Learn to do right; seek justice and correct the oppressor. Defend the fatherless and plead the case of the widow.” (Isaiah 1:15-17)

Admitting we were wrong is difficult until we understand grace. “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” and “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 3:23, 6:23) “And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as He has commanded us.” (1 John 3:23) “... teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you” is Jesus’ last instruction before His feet left this earth. (Matthew 28:20)

God is asking His people to model and lead in repentance for our apathy, and for the innocent bloodshed of child sacrifice to the idolatry of abortion, self, wealth, health, and reputation. God is asking us to be bold people of faith who take Him and His Word seriously. He is asking us to be obedient and faithful to Him and leave the results up to Him. It is always wise to be obedient to God.

The enemy pulls us little by little away from the truth, but that is not how our Lord works. God’s purposes are not accomplished by following the devil’s playbook or the cleverness of humans. We are to follow God’s instruction manual laid out for us in Scripture. God’s solution is that we repent, turn from the direction we’re headed, and go in a new direction, following His leadership.

God empowers Christ followers to defeat evil. Christians have the promise that “the gates of hell shall not prevail.” We are called to stand on uncompromising obedience to Christ in everything we do. This obedience is the foundation that helps us stand against a culture of idolatry and child sacrifice. (Matthew 7:24) Under the headship of Christ, we can have unity with others who are also following Christ. (Ephesians 4:13)

We are to **rescue those being led to slaughter**. (Proverbs 24:11) In this holocaust, where the enemy targets women and silences men to take our children, we must speak the truth in love to women and encourage men to be the protectors God created them to be. In a culture that tells the church we are irrelevant to lead our communities, we must speak the Word of God so that people can find the truth. We can rescue “the least of these.”

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it in all its fullness.” - Jesus (John 10:10)

Now is the time to pray and work in faith. There are many congregations in every community. As each of us takes care to teach, lead, and mobilize those in front of us, we mobilize the state.

This is our opportunity to **change the narrative**. We must be intentional not to repeat the lies of the abortion industry but be proactive in speaking the truth in love that these children and their mothers can be rescued from this current holocaust. There is hope and help for them.

Resisting the temptation to be carried by the current of culture further and further downstream, we have the opportunity to rise to the challenge to take a stand on what is true and right and noble and God-honoring. **We can speak life**. We can choose to let God replace despair with praise. (Isaiah 61)

Churches and pregnancy care centers commonly catch people at the bottom of the cliff after poor decisions are already made. We have an opportunity to also stand at the top of the cliff and put up a barricade before people fall off or follow others in jumping off!

Do we care about what God cares about? Do we put into action what we say we believe? Do these children actually deserve to be protected, or is that just something we say and throw money at and then walk away? What does it mean to value their lives as much as we value their lives after they are born? These are the same children. With the same personalities. The same innocence. The same heartbeats carrying them through a lifetime. The same dreams and potential and blessing God wants to bring into the world. The same feelings of joy and physical pain. The same eyes, listening ears, and reaching hands they will have throughout their lives.

We cannot compromise with evil and expect a Godly result. We cannot fight a spiritual battle with worldly weapons.

We cannot delegate our responsibility to others.

This is not a political or prudential issue like school choice or raising taxes; this is a moral and spiritual issue. This is a holocaust that needs an abrupt stop. We will each stand before God and give an account of what we did or did not do “for the least of these.” (Matthew 25) We cannot blame anyone else—a politician, leader, or church—for our part in allowing the holocaust to continue.

When we turn our focus off the problem and onto Christ, we become a part of the solution. God says if we have just a little bit of faith, we can move a mountain. There is a God in heaven for whom nothing is impossible. He is still the King of kings and He is still on the throne. And He is calling His body to be His hands and feet to stop the slaughter of these innocent children and the exploitation of their mothers, which will also stop when these abortion death businesses are closed!

What is impossible with man is possible with God. Jesus said, He is the vine, and we are the branches, apart from Him we can do

“Teaching them to obey everything I have commanded” (Matt 28:20)

nothing. He encourages us to come to Him, confess our sin and our need of a Savior.

Abortion is the result of idolatry, putting someone or something as more important than God's command, "thou shalt not murder." (Ex 20:13) God's people are called to put an end to the demonic practice of sacrificing children. We are called to repent. And to call others to repentance.

"Do not call to mind the former things; pay no attention to the things of old. Behold, I am about to do something new; even now it is coming. Do you not see it? Indeed, I will make a way.... The people I formed for Myself will declare My praise." (Isaiah 43:18-21)

Why a Law?

"Woe to those who enact unjust statutes and issue oppressive decrees, to deprive the poor of fair treatment and withhold justice from the oppressed of My people, to make widows their prey and orphans their plunder." (Isaiah 1:1)

Prior to Roe v Wade, abortion was unthinkable. It was common to say that a woman was "with child" because everyone knew that with pregnancy, there is a child.

Back in the 1960's, the era of drugs and "free love" (translate "free sex"), they did not want the consequences of their actions. So instead of better actions, they created drugs for the sexually transmitted diseases and disposed of the bodies (literally). The idol of sexual expression and experimentation go hand-in-hand with the idolatry of child sacrifice.

Colorado ashamedly led the way. In 1967, Colorado was the first state to decriminalize taking the lives of innocent children from their mothers, as long as the mothers, doctors, and husbands approved. In 1973, when Roe (Norma McCorvey) was exploited for the purposes of a court case, justices did not apply the US Constitution to protect living preborn children.

Forty-nine years later, the number of years of Jubilee and the day God literally aligned the planets in the sky, Roe was overturned in the Dobbs decision. For all those years, we were groomed for abortion to be "thinkable"

because after all, it was legal. If it is legal, doesn't that mean it is also "safe" and morally acceptable?

Scripture says law is a tutor. **Law teaches us** right from wrong. Until our hearts are changed and our minds renewed, law provides an external standard by which we expect society to operate. And because we live in a fallen world of humans with sinful natures, law makes it possible to have a civilized society. Without laws, chaos and violence would destroy our civilization.

"We realize that law is not enacted for the righteous, but for the lawless and rebellious." (1 Timothy 1:3-10)

Law is a moral code by which we expect our citizens to live. It is a standard of expected behavior. It teaches right from wrong and **deters** unwanted behavior by presenting the possibility of unwanted consequences. For those who will not be taught or deterred from breaking the law, law provides justice for the victims. When we love our neighbor as ourselves, we put in place laws to protect our neighbors. Our neighbors include children in the womb and their mothers who can be legally exploited if we don't close down the abortion death industry.

It is important we pass a fair and good law that will protect all children from mutilation and death and their mothers from being deceived by an industry we can shut down. We are responsible for the laws that govern us. Our laws are the standard by which we

If they don't hear the truth from us, where will they hear it?

Will you be a voice for the preborn child? Will you be a leader who steps in front of the crowd in defense of these children to make a difference in our laws to protect them? Will you stand on the right side of history? Will you value preborn children like we value them after they are born?

If we do not stand for life today, then when?

prevent harm to one another. Our laws say that we cannot slander someone, lie in court, steal from our neighbor, kill another human being. The problem is that we have excluded our most vulnerable and innocent children from those same protections, and we need to correct that **injustice** for our tiniest citizens.

These tiny children are a part of the same human race. When Jesus entered the world, he entered in human form at conception and went through all the stages we go through from embryonic and fetal development to infancy and toddlerhood, adolescence and adulthood. We are the same soul that we were when our mother first learned she was pregnant with us. These are just stages in a human's life. So while we educate, while we speak out, while we share the gospel, we also put legal protections in place to teach right from wrong. **Law is a tool that leads toward a culture of life.**

While we are here on this earth with fallen people and sin natures, we can protect "the least of these" among us.

The most significant step to making abortion "unthinkable" is to make abortion illegal. While we are allowing time for God to work in people's hearts and minds, we are the hands and feet of Christ protecting the actual lives of real children who will die if we don't.

**"You shall not murder."
(Exodus 20:13)**

*We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our **Posterity**, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America. -- Preamble to the United States Constitution*

I'm Pregnant

by Christine Curl

There was a time, for 38 years to be exact, that I couldn't speak about the day I found out I was pregnant. It should have been the happiest day of my life. After all, I couldn't wait to be a Mom, and I wanted seven children, just like Maria in *The Sound of Music*.

Instead, I found myself facing the biggest mountain of my life. I sobbed. I was not married, 22 years old, just graduated from college with a budding career ahead, and I was Catholic. My life flashed before my eyes as I foresaw the shame of telling my parents, my friends, my pastor. Kelly, the Planned Parenthood employee, tried to console me and immediately offered the abortion option as the solution to my dilemma. "You could get on with your life," she said. I sobbed, and I told her that was not an option for me. I couldn't kill my baby.

You see, in my church youth group in high school, they had shown a slide presentation about a new law allowing women to kill their babies in the womb. The slide showed the entire arm with the tiny hand of an aborted child, all next to an adult index finger. That image was forever burned in my brain.

I left that facility and chose life. My daughter is now 38 and has blessed me with three amazing grandchildren. Little did I know at that time, I wouldn't be able to have any more children, so by the grace of God, I had the one, and my joy is complete!

The day I held my first grandchild is when the truth of the gravity of abortion struck me yet again. Not only would I have been robbed of my child, but the next generation, and those to follow, are robbed, as well.

Women deserve better than abortion, but it's made out to be the "easy" solution when you are at that agonizing moment, facing an unknown future. Easy for but a moment, and then the consequences stay with you for a lifetime, and into the next generation and beyond.



Christine with her husband, daughter and daughter's husband, and grandchildren

Each of our histories are holy, allowed by God to draw us closer to Him, that we learn His ways are not our ways. So now I share my history with you in hopes that if you, or someone you know, is facing that difficult time of an unplanned pregnancy, they may persevere in the ways of God – that a child is a gift from Him, and He will see you through.

Silent Tears

by Maggie May

I feel a child crying...tears that are never heard

Helpless.... waiting.... in anticipation

Baby showers, dirty diapers, first smile, first steps...

Innocently he waits, comforted only by his mother's muffled words.... Darkness surrounds him

Waiting.... the pain and anguish of his situation weighs heavily on my soul.

I can hear my child in heaven crying out, "Why?"

Only one life to live...I didn't even have that.

I will never know: the beauty of a sunrise, the smell of the morning dew, the sound of ocean waves,

The warm comfort of the sun shining on my thirsty skin, The tears of pride in my parent's eyes as I score the winning touchdown or play in my first recital.

God gave me my life.... You took it away.

Pain.... Confusion...."Why mommy?".... You didn't even give me a chance."

I feel my child crying... Tears that only I can hear....

Stop...Listen...Can you feel it too?

One in three women believe the lie. That no one will know. You can have this done to get rid of "the problem" and your life will go back to the way it was before. It is just a "clump of cells".

I made the appointment, quietly. The shame and guilt are there, so deep in my soul, but I stuffed it down, thinking only of my situation. I was unwed, living with my boyfriend. I couldn't bear to face this new reality. The look on my dad's face when I told him that I was moving in with my boyfriend was bad enough. He already knew what I was going to say. "You're gonna do it, aren't you?" His disappointment in me cut me deep. Pride, but I didn't recognize it at the time. I just knew I couldn't tell my family that I was now pregnant. Besides, I didn't have health insurance and we were living in a one-bedroom apartment, living paycheck to paycheck. I just looked at my current situation and couldn't see past it. I don't remember praying. If I did, it was a selfish prayer, not thinking that there was actually a life inside me.

I don't even remember how I got there, if I drove myself or if he took me. I remember sitting in the waiting room, but I felt alone. The next memory I have is being in my bed after the appointment-the pain and bleeding. I curled up in a ball and wondered if this was normal. I wondered if I would be able to have any more babies. I didn't think about the baby I had just killed. Was he a boy, or was she a girl? I couldn't. I had done the unthinkable.

A year later I was pregnant again. This time I knew consciously that what I had done was unconscionable. I couldn't and wouldn't do that again. This time, I had a

**"Children are indeed a heritage from the LORD,
and the fruit of the womb is His reward."**

(Psalm 127:3-5)

miscarriage. Now, the guilt overwhelmed me, and I knew that God would never allow me to have another child, since I had killed my first baby. I was heartbroken and guilty. Full of shame.

My boyfriend and I ended up getting married. In the next nine years, we were blessed to have three children after the two that were taken (one by me). I stuffed my pain and guilt and shame down deep in my soul and didn't tell anyone. But one day, I went to a Women of Faith Conference and they spoke about abortion and it all came up from inside me like a pot of boiling water. I cried and cried and confessed my sin to my adult daughter, who had come with me.

Through the years after that, I read a book about how to heal from abortion. And I even confessed my sin to a priest. I gave it to God over and over again. One day, He spoke to my soul that he remembers it no more. As horrible as it was, Jesus died for that sin, too. I am forgiven.

“God made us free from the power of darkness. And He brought us into the kingdom of His dear Son. The Son paid the price to make us free. In Him we have forgiveness of our sins.”
(Colossians 1:13-14)

But it was harder to forgive myself. I know that I am forgiven, but God doesn't take away the consequences. My child, who would now be 40. His children and their children will not be here because of my “choice”. A whole family line, my family line that will never be.

One truth the other side doesn't tell you is that once you are pregnant, you are a mother. It's what you choose to do TO your baby that will affect the rest of your life and theirs. Did you choose to keep her, to give him up for adoption, or to kill?

“Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed.”
(James 5:16)

It took me 41 years to tell my dad. I started helping with the Colorado Life Initiative. I would tell my dad about the work we were doing, and every time we talked about it, I felt like a hypocrite. Trying to end abortion, when I had one myself... I told him on the phone. It was so hard to do, but he just listened and when I was done telling him, I asked him to forgive me, because that was his grandson or granddaughter. He forgave me right away.

All those years of hiding it in the dark. When we expose our sins to the light, the power that the enemy has over us is broken. The more I share my story, the freer I feel. And the

more I share my story, the more other women come forward and share their story. Some women I talk with have never shared their secret with anyone. The more we talk about it, the more we can expose the lies of the enemy and educate people as to what an abortion really is and how it affects our society and us, women.

Why is it Legal? If it wasn't legal, I know I wouldn't have done it. It is such a horrible procedure that I was uneducated about. Vacuuming a baby out of a mother's womb one limb at a time. Tearing a baby apart. The torture and pain. A sweet, innocent child should be protected by his own mother.

This is NOT healthcare, and it shouldn't be a choice. The humanity of a child should not be determined by the will of the mother.

“Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. If you say, “But we knew nothing about this,” does not He who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not He who guards your life know it? Will He not repay everyone according to what they have done?”
(Proverbs 24:11-12)

We are political, even though we say we aren't. We use our own opinions to either support or oppose ending abortion. We think “protecting” the mother from the consequences of her choice to have her baby killed will be the right thing to do. We think a law banning abortion will hurt the mother. We don't want to judge her or make her feel judged. After all, we are Christians and Jesus says to love. But keeping it legal allows it to continue. We are telling our children that this is an option, that it is okay.

God is the giver and taker of life. We know the truth and the truth will set our society free, but we keep the truth hidden. Murder is murder. It is never okay to intentionally kill an innocent human being.

Each day, 66 babies are killed in Colorado. These are actual children who will never be born, because we are allowing them to be killed by staying silent.

Please pray and ask God what you can do to help educate others and stand for the preborn children who don't have a voice. Then do it.

I feel my child crying.... Tears that only I can hear....

Stop...Listen.... Can you feel it too?

“Life and death are in the power of the tongue”
(Prov 18:21)

I Am Not a Mistake

On June 24th, 2022 the Supreme Court did something I never thought, but had prayed and cried out to God that they would do—they overturned Roe v. Wade. I know it doesn't magically change everything, but as I listened to the back and forth of the news for just a moment, I found myself taken back to the fall of 1976 when I was six and in first grade. So many of my memories stem from this moment. It's where I learned what an abortion really was—the murder of an innocent human—and where I learned that not everyone was kind in their understanding of this difficult topic. It's the moment where 6-year-old me, who knew nothing of my story yet, when I used my strong voice to advocate for these innocent babies and had it so fiercely smacked back down in humiliation by a first-grade teacher that screamed at me for talking about how sad killing unborn babies was on the school playground. That moment silenced my voice for the next twelve years in any public setting. Understanding the tragedy of innocent life being killed taught me to weep and mourn in silence because my voice was not welcome and was demanded to be hidden in public and shamed into silence in my home.

Hearing the verdict of the Supreme Court, all I could think of was how much of my life has been lived and how many never got the chance. I actually felt deep sorrow versus joy at the verdict and have been questioning myself with “what is wrong with you that you cannot even express joy in this decision?” Here is what I could wrestle out from within

the confines of my mind. I first thought of how much I have learned about my own beginnings as a child of a violent rape against my mother and how this knowledge has shaken my footing and brought such tremendous grief. As I heard the president on the day of the Roe v Wade decision give remarks and pausing for effect as he shared why should a woman be forced to carry and have a baby from rape, all I heard were the whispers “See, I told you that you have no value and should hide.” But those are lies. And then my heart suddenly felt so sad and full of compassion for the women who felt they were not strong enough to have a baby like me. In that moment, my heart and grief broke open as the thought came to me of how many babies conceived in the most horrendous of experiences, innocents to pain and evil of this world—that so many of these little ones never got to see what they could have done with their life if just given the chance.

I do not hold any ill feelings or anger toward the women in these most traumatic moments of their lives as they wrestle through the trauma of a rape while learning they are now expecting a child conceived in their nightmare. I cannot even imagine what it must be like to hear others surrounding them offering suggestions and options while these women are either silently or openly trying to heal. It reminds me that we have a long way to go to showing women support, love, compassion and being their strength while they re-find their own. It is in this balance of support that I see over and over we have forgotten that other side of this same coin is an innocent baby being knit together in their mother's womb. A baby like myself. An innocent baby who was given life because my aunt was my mom's strength when she

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed.” (Proverbs 31:8-9)

needed it most and assured my mom she would walk with her through her pregnancy and beyond. While there is much more to my story than I can put into words at this moment, I can say that I am so thankful to have been seen for my own value, my own worth, that I was innocent to the evil put upon my own mom. The actions and violence taken upon my mom were never acceptable—evil is always wrong—but the consequences of a new and innocent life are not evil. It is not easy. I do understand that road as a child whose mom struggled to know how to feel about her, but I have lived a life that has made a difference. It still is making a difference, just because I was allowed to take those first few breaths of life over five decades ago.

As a child of a rapist, many would say I should not be here, but as a human being who has been given the gift of life, I would say I am ever so grateful that my value and my worth has been given the opportunity to be lived out as God intended. I speak for the children who are rarely spoken of and instead seen as a problem to be eliminated. We can do better by the women who are in the most horrendous of circumstances, and we must do better to help be their strength, beside them, loving them, healing beside them. The stakes are too high for those who are yet to be born, not able to fight. Many like myself are thankful beyond measure to be here today to say, “PLEASE don't forget us.” I cannot forget that EVERY life has value, purpose, and a plan.
Every. Single. Life.

Editor's Note: The author of “I Am Not a Mistake” earned a Master's Degree, married, and has adult children who are successful serving our country and in the business world.

“We demolish arguments and every presumption set up against the knowledge of God; and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”
(2 Corinthians 10:5)



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Visit our website

<https://www.gotaheart.org/help-available-for-women-men>



About the Author

Faye Barnhart, Co-Founder of the Colorado Life Initiative, is a Life-Affirming Specialist and Women's Advocate of nineteen years. She served in a federal think tank on the co-occurrence of adult and child violence and four pregnancy care centers in two states, including CEO of the largest pregnancy care center geographically in Colorado and the US. She was a prelaw student, aide at the Colorado State Capitol, interned in media, and finished her degree as a single parent. She pursued a Master's in Organizational Leadership, a career in communications and management in international ministry, and served as a Director on several Boards. A follower of Jesus Christ since a small child, she is the wife of a farmer in rural Colorado. She is the mother of three grown biological children, an adopted special-needs son, and biological grandmother to several miracle babies, including a grandson who needed life-saving surgery at birth.



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