



Tackling the Toughest Case

It's a question that has been yelled at me from an angry woman at Texas A & M. It's a concern that's been whispered to me by a hurting woman at the University of Kansas. It is voiced by frustrated crowds and by thoughtful philosophers. Pro-choice folks? They view it as an open and shut case due to the pain suffered by the Mother. Pro-life advocates? They see the moral dilemma quickly solved by the humanness of the fetus. Still, everyone agrees this one question deserves the utmost care:

[This question is a common concern from individuals on campuses that we visit.](#)

What about abortion in the case of rape?

This question is the most common question in the abortion controversy. It's also the most difficult. It actually entails at least four questions... Won't abortion help the Mother remember the rape less often? Won't the baby have a horrible life anyway? Why should a woman be forced to have a child she didn't consent to create? Is the unborn embryo conceived through rape still a valuable human being?



[This moral question often draws a crowd](#)



There are three destructive ways that pro-lifers typically respond to this question. Some people stay silent and refuse to engage the important moral dilemma. Others simply give up the pro-life position by saying that abortion is justified due to the circumstance of rape. Still others make the pro-life point in a hard-hearted way.

As loving and effective pro-life ambassadors, we must move away from these bankrupt practices and towards three essential tasks...

1. Care for the victims of rape. Whether someone tells you first hand she was raped or brings the tragedy up in theory, it is extremely important for us to show care for the victim. If it is a personal story, ask "how are you doing?" We must build common ground about the evil nature of rape and about how the rapist should be heavily punished for more than just rape because a raped woman who conceives is forced into a tough pregnancy and forced to decide whether to abort or not. We must overflow with compassion.

2. Challenge listeners with tough questions and moral logic (*express these viewpoints once you've shown genuine concern and have earned the right to be heard!*)

- Why should the child pay with its life for the crimes of the Father?
- When in our society do we allow one victimized person to victimize someone else?

It will take an eternity for the unborn to defend themselves

- **2. continued...** Why should how we are conceived make us more or less valuable?
- If rape is the invasive victimization of the woman then how could abortion, an invasive procedure, help her cope with being victimized? Doesn't she need medical care and loving support rather than abortion?
- Imagine there was a 3 year old who was conceived in rape and her Mom decided to go through with the pregnancy. Three years later this mother is reminded about the rape as she spends time with her child. Is this mother justified in taking her child's life? After all the child was conceived through rape and the mother can't bear to be around the child anymore. This clearly isn't fair but why is abortion any different? Doesn't it still take innocent life?

3. Conclude that we must do our very best to respect the value of all human beings. We must affirm options that care for both or all human beings involved. How is abortion in the case of rape caring for all human beings involved as much as possible?

October Praise Report / Prayer Update

- Pray for the entire Justice For All team as we work in this busy season of outreach.
- We trained almost 200 people in the three trainings held prior to our CSU event!
- Pray for me as I continue to take on more responsibilities in our training program.
- Pray for me as I look towards working full time for JFA at the start of next year.

I am planning on joining the Justice For All staff full-time next year!

- I have an intense desire to make an impact in the abortion controversy.
- I have grown in my ability to further the work of Justice For All.
- God has given me the grace to deal with the tough work/travel schedule.
- I have grown in my speaking ability due to challenges and encouragement from JFA's Director and from my brother Stephen Wagner.
- My two-year internship commitment is over in early February but I'm staying in Wichita!

Over the next few months I plan on calling each of you discuss this new development.

Thank for your consistent support throughout the summer months!



I want to continue working to change hearts and minds. Early next year I'll start full time with JFA!

Defending Human Value together,

Jonathan Wagner
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