

“I THINK I’M STILL PRO-CHOICE BUT ...”

Tammy Cook’s Justice For All Monthly Update

May 2016



Dear Friend,

Dani identified as a pro-choice.\* She believed that women should have the right to choose abortion if they don’t have the resources to provide for a child. I asked questions to better understand her view and I could tell right away that she was open to dialogue.

**Tammy:** I agree that a woman in an unplanned pregnancy who can’t afford a child is in a tough position. I think we should help her. Have you heard of the Pregnancy Care Center (PCC) here in Lawrence?



Dani and Tammy (Another student, Cass, joined us for part of the conversation.)

**Dani:** No.

**Tammy:** It is one of 2,500 pregnancy centers across the U.S. It provides resources to aid women in unplanned pregnancies who are considering abortion. [I explained more about the center’s services and gave her a PCC brochure.]

**Dani:** I didn’t know those places existed. If that’s true, I think that could really be helpful to women. It seems like that could be a good solution for women in need.

**Tammy:** I agree. I care about the needs of women. I am opposed to taking rights away from women or going back to a time when women were considered second-class citizens. I treasure the right to vote and I join women in their fight to receive things like equal pay.



Dani came back the next day to talk to me again.

**Dani:** I agree with you. So do you think women should be allowed to have an abortion when they need it?

**Tammy:** I think women’s rights are very important but I do not consider abortion a “right.” I believe the unborn child is a valuable human being just like his or her mother and they both deserve an equal right to life. I think we should find ways to help both of them. What do you think?

**Dani:** [She paused for a minute.] I think you’re right. I don’t think women want to choose abortion. I think they just feel trapped. Thanks so much for this conversation. It’s been really enlightening and enjoyable. I think I’m still pro-choice ... but I think I’m mostly pro-life.

In Christ,

*Tammy*

\*This was a conversation that I had with a KU (University of Kansas) student in April 2016. Her name has been changed to protect her privacy.

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