

Activity 7: JFA’s “Invitation” Brochure (& “What Are the Facts?”)

Start dialogue with JFA’s “Invitation” Brochure and “What Are the Facts?” document.

ANALYZE

1. Even if you’re unsure how to explain your beliefs about abortion, you can help someone else think through his or her views by giving a short explanation of JFA’s “Invitation to Dialogue about Unintended Pregnancy and Abortion” Brochure. It takes less than two minutes!
2. You can give a “tour” of the “Invitation” Brochure anywhere. It’s something you’ve learned about that you can share with another person and ask her to share her opinion.
3. Even though there is graphic content in the brochure, you will warn the person before showing it to him or her and give him or her a chance to avoid looking at it (Pages 4-5 have a prominent warning, and the reader must lift Page 5 to see the graphic content).
4. The brochure includes questions to focus your conversation. During your explanation, just ask, “What do you think?” to move from explanation to dialogue.
5. After the tour/explanation (or after further conversation), ask the person to fill out the response card. Sometimes people share something on the response card that can help you create more significant conversation with them!



IMITATE: 2 MINUTES

Objective: While role-playing as a tour guide for the “Invitation to Dialogue” Brochure and “What Are the Facts?” page, students will show an ability to explain each two-page spread and ask a person for his/her opinion.

1. As I open the Brochure, it begins with this statement [Pages 2-3]: “Unintended pregnancy is not simple, and it’s not easy.” I’m going to read just a few of the circumstances listed: [Pointing to the list on Page 2] A baby would dramatically change my life. I am not ready for a child. I can’t afford a child.
2. Can we agree that each of these circumstances can be very difficult for the woman who’s pregnant? Can we agree these circumstances are not simple, and they are not easy? And can we find common ground that we need to work together to find practical solutions for these women?
3. On pages 4 and 5, the Brochure shows pictures of human development and asks, “Is she/he/it a human being with equal rights?”
4. [Before lifting Page 5 to Reveal Pages 6 and 7] “The next two pages show the results of abortion. They are extremely graphic. Are you willing to view them?”
5. Pages 6 and 7 ask, “Is elective abortion simply a choice?” and “Is it a medical procedure or does it kill a human being?”
6. The dimes are there in the pictures for size reference. Note that the “sources & facts” link takes you to JFA’s “What Are the Facts?” page [see printed copy]. There you can find out how many abortions take place in America each year [Question 1]. If we are killing that many human beings each year by law, shouldn’t we do something to help?
7. That brings us to Pages 8 and 9: “What can you and I do to help?” These pages give some suggestions, but they’re mainly meant to spark ideas and get all of us thinking together about solutions. In fact, the webpage that’s linked asks for your input on the best practical solutions to offer. Can we work together towards true solutions that protect and dignify every human being?

IMITATE: 5 MINUTES

Objective: While role-playing as a tour guide for the “Invitation to Dialogue” Brochure and “What Are the Facts?” page, students will show an ability to explain each two-page spread and ask a person for his/her opinion.

Break the Ice: Everyday Life

1. “I’m concerned that there are so few respectful, productive conversations about unintended pregnancy and abortion. I recently learned about Justice For All’s “Invitation to Dialogue” Brochure. I’m thinking through what I think about the Brochure and what I think are the best solutions to unintended pregnancy and abortion. May I give you a quick explanation of the Brochure and get your opinion about it? It will take less than five minutes and then we can talk about it for as long as you’d like.” [For ideas about starting the conversation in a natural way, see #4 at www.jfaweb.org/learn-at-home and the posts at www.jfaweb.org/start-the-conversation.]

Pages 2-3

2. As I open the Brochure, it begins with this statement: “Unintended pregnancy is not simple, and it’s not easy.” I’m going to read just a few of the circumstances listed: [Pointing to list on Page 2] A baby would dramatically change my life. I am not ready for a child. I can’t afford a child.
3. “Can we agree that each of these circumstances can be very difficult for the woman who’s pregnant? Can we agree these circumstances are not simple, and they are not easy? And can we find common ground that we need to work together to find practical solutions for these women?”
4. The “explore facts” box on Page 2 points the reader to JFA’s “What Are the Facts?” page, where you can see the percentages of women who cite each of these reasons when they get an abortion.
5. On Page 3, the Brochure lists some of the most heartbreaking circumstances that lead to abortion: rape, incest, and concerns about the health of the mother and the unborn. Rape and incest are tragic and evil. When pregnancy results, all of us can agree that the situation the woman is in is very difficult, and that we need to give her the best care possible.
6. [Optional] Unanticipated pregnancy complications related to the health of the mother or the health of the unborn are also heartbreaking and difficult. One reason is that in many of these cases, the woman either intended to get pregnant or wanted to be a mother or both. So, while these reasons for abortion are a little different than these others in which the pregnancy is unintended, they also are not simple or easy.
7. [Optional] Another important question we can consider is about legality. In which of these circumstances on Page 2 and Page 3 do you think abortion should be legal?

Pages 4-5

8. On the next two pages [Pages 4-5], the Brochure shows pictures of human development and asks, “Is she/he/it a human being with equal rights?”
9. Note that the ages of the embryos and fetuses are dated from fertilization. Since pregnancy is usually dated from last menstrual period (LMP) and not post-fertilization age, in order to correlate these pictures to pregnancy, add two weeks to the post-fertilization age. For example, a woman who has a 4-week embryo in her uterus would be 6 weeks pregnant (LMP).
10. If you think about it, you and I were once the size of a tiny grain of sand, like the embryo in the first week after fertilization. You and I were also once the size of a kidney bean, like the 7-week embryo.
11. The “more info” box on Page 5 takes you to a web page that includes opinions of embryologists and pro-choice philosophers related to our key question, “Is the unborn a human being?” It also summarizes recent research and gives links to do your own research. The page includes links to

amazing video footage of the unborn in the womb at different stages. To see that footage, just click the links to the Endowment for Human Development website and EHD's "See Baby Pregnancy Guide" app.

12. [Before lifting Page 5 to Reveal Pages 6 and 7] "The next two pages show the results of abortion. They are extremely graphic. Are you willing to view them?"

Pages 6-7

13. These pages ask, "Is elective abortion simply a choice?" and "Is it a medical procedure or does it kill a human being?"
14. Note the image of the seven-week embryo after abortion, and compare it to the picture of the 7 week embryo on Page 4. This embryo was likely aborted with a procedure called suction curettage. You can learn more about that procedure and other abortion procedures using the links at the bottom of Pages 6 and 7. The dimes are there in the pictures for size reference.
15. Please note also the "healing after abortion" link. If you or someone you know has had experience with abortion, there is free and low-cost counseling to help you process that experience. Also, JFA is committed to helping you find resources for healing without judgment.
16. What do you think: Is abortion merely a medical procedure or does it kill a human being? And, if it kills a human being, should it be legal?
17. Note that the "sources & facts" link takes you to JFA's "What Are the Facts?" page. There you can find out how many abortions take place in America each year [Question 1]. If we are killing that many human beings each year by law, shouldn't we do something to help?

Pages 8-9

18. That brings us to Pages 8 and 9: "What can you and I do to help?"
19. These pages give some suggestions, but they're mainly meant to spark ideas and get all of us thinking together about solutions. In fact, the webpage that's linked asks for your input on the best practical solutions to offer.
20. Can we work together towards true solutions that protect and dignify every human being?
21. Read this comment on a JFA Free Speech Board. Do you agree we should give people who disagree with us the benefit of the doubt? Do you agree that both pro-life and pro-choice people care about human beings? Do you agree with this writer that we disagree not on "Should we love human beings?" but about the question, "Who is a human being?"

Move into a Conversation Naturally

22. [Option One] I'm curious: What do you think?
23. [Option Two] Let's go back to pages 2 and 3. Which of these circumstances concern you most? Do you think abortion should be legal in any of these circumstances?
24. [Option Three] Let's go back to pages 4 and 5. How would you answer this question? At what point would you say a whole human organism exists? At what point would you say a human being with equal rights exists?
25. [Option Four] For those who already viewed abortion images] Let's go back to pages 6 and 7, the pages with images of abortion. Do you think these abortions pictured should be legal?
26. [Option Five] Let's talk about solutions. To which of these are you most drawn: *Start the Conversation*, *Civilize the Conversation*, *Stop the Violence*, or *Kindle Affection for the Forgotten*?
27. [Option Six] Would you be willing to fill out this response card and tell us what you think?