

1

The Basics

Build a relationship.
Be a good ambassador. Be humble.
Get the conversation started.



Help: Listen to understand, ask questions with an open heart, find common ground when possible.

What do you think...? Should be legal at what times of pregnancy? Should be legal in which circumstances? **Why** are you against those abortions? **I agree...**

2

Circumstances of Woman and Society:

Poverty Liberty
Overpopulation Oppression of women
Choice Women's rights
Crime will rise without abortion, Etc.



Problem: It **assumes** the unborn is not human (if, in fact, any of these circumstances are meant as an argument*)

Help: Trot out the Toddler

Goal: Agree that to justify abortion, legally or morally, one central question we must resolve is "What is the unborn?"

3

The Unborn "Isn't":

Mass of tissue Not an organism
Not human Part of her body
In her body Dependent on her body
It's small It's undeveloped



Problem: It **argues** that the unborn is not an equal human being because it is not a living human organism (in terms of **biology**).

Help: Ten-second pro-life apologist, "if you are an organism," and O'Rahilly and Mueller quote (statement from authority in that field).

Goal: Agree that biologically, the unborn is a living human organism.

4

The Unborn "Can't" and/or Differs from us in Form or Function:

Too small Can't think
Can't feel pain It's undeveloped
Dependent on her body
it's in the womb



Problem: It **argues** that the unborn is not an equal human being because it differs from those who are (in terms of **rights and value**).

Help: Agree, ask why the difference matters, point to a human who also shares that difference *and/or* Equal rights argument

Goal: Agree that all human organisms, including the unborn child, deserve equal treatment (legal protection) because they share a common human nature.

5

Rape:

What if the woman was raped?



[Relational] Help: Silence, sympathy, "five crimes"

[Intellectual] Problem: It assumes the unborn is not an equal human.

[Intellectual] Help: Trot out the toddler

6

The Unborn is Irrelevant to Abortion (Bodily Rights Trump):

Part of her body In her body
Dependent on her body Choice
it's in the womb Liberty
Can do what she wants with her body
She has a right to her body



Problem: It **agrees** that the unborn **is** an equal human being but claims the woman or doctor can kill it anyway based on **bodily rights**.

Help: clarify that it's a bodily rights view and then go back to discussing the unborn's status until there's agreement or discuss bodily rights (the unborn isn't equal but even if it were, abortion is justified)

Goal: Agree that morally and legally, the woman has obligations to the unborn based on her relationship as mother, her relationship as "de facto guardian" (not meant here in the standard legal sense), and possibly other reasons.

