



Educating

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## But What About Rape?

by Kelley Wilson



I've long held the belief that life begins at conception regardless of the circumstances of that conception. However, when around others who are more tentatively prolife, I have often been nervous to speak up. That all changed after a weekend youth retreat.

I was involved with a girls' urban youth ministry at my church for second to sixth graders. Once a year we went on an overnight retreat. While on a retreat, we decided to talk with the sixth-grade girls about dating and sex. As you might imagine, it was a conversation filled with questions, concerns, and "what ifs".

Soon the conversation turned to pregnancy and abortion. My co-leader and I shared how waiting until marriage was the best way to prevent an unplanned pregnancy and how abortion destroys an unborn baby. It was then that this sweet, sixth-grade girl looked at us and asked, "But what about rape?"

I paused, wondering what my co-leader might say. I knew she thought abortion was not a good choice, but I also knew she was not as passionately prolife as I was. Before I could speak, she looked deep into the girl's eyes and said, "Even in the case of rape, that baby is precious

and made in the image of God."

The young girl's eyes teared up, and she shared that her mom had been raped, and she was the result. For years, she had been questioning her value, worth, and ability to be loved.

We assured her that there was a purpose and a plan for her life. She was not a mistake, but a child deeply loved by her Creator. We cried and shared truths for the next 45 minutes.

It was a powerful moment for my co-leader, myself, and the 15 other girls in the room. It made me realize ... what if we had given another answer? What if we had said that abortion was fine in cases of rape?

In that moment we had the opportunity to show a young girl how loved and valued she was.

So, whenever someone brings up the rape exception for abortion, I often share this story. How could you look at someone, anyone, and tell them that they should not be here?

Since that moment I have never shied away from speaking the truth. I am very clear -- all life, regardless of how it came to be, is valuable and precious!





are a black American, the most unsafe place for you is in your mother's womb." How sad is that?

You cannot deny what is in front of your face, so ultrasounds should be a requirement for any woman considering getting an abortion. It destroys the lie with such magnitude.

I always say that women who have had abortions can be the most important advocates for the truth. Women who have had abortions should not feel like they have to become a voice for the left's evil. They can be an anti-abortion advocate, and their voice would have more weight because they went through it. I have received tons of e-mails from girls who wrote, "I cried the whole time I was getting this abortion. I cried after it. I still have doubts about it."

These young women need to hear that they don't have to be an advocate for something that hurt them. It's one of the great lies of our society that you're not allowed to evolve and you're not allowed to change your mind. That is why I think linking arms with advocates who have had abortions and having them talk about that horror and their regret can be very helpful in combating these radical arguments in favor of abortion.

I used to be pro-choice. It wasn't because I was evil. It wasn't because I wanted to murder babies. It was because I was an impressionable child who was taught the wrong thing. I went to public school and learned that it was a clump of cells, and that could not be further from the truth.

The pro-choice movement has become so radicalized that even people who are pro-choice don't identify with it. When we were having this debate even five years ago, we weren't talking about being able to abort a child at nine months in the

womb. That's unfathomable.

We went from "up to twelve weeks that should be allowed" to "if it's a botched abortion and the baby is still breathing, it should be murdered." We're talking about infanticide, and that is human sacrifice, the likes of which haven't been seen since the Aztec Empire. And that's scary.

The media narrative tells black Americans that they are unsafe on the streets, in the presence of a police officer, or in the presence of white people. I say, "Actually, if you

### Prolife Inspiration

"We cannot diminish the value of one category of human life -- the unborn -- without diminishing the value of all human life."

*President Ronald Reagan*



### Black Abortions in Michigan

In 2022, Michigan reported 30,120 total induced abortions.

14,787 (54%) were performed on black mothers.

13,587 (92%) were not married.

3,934 (26.6%) had at least one previous abortion.

14,460 (98%) paid for the procedure themselves (did not use insurance).

1,046 (7%) were under 20 years old.

3,825 (26%) were 20 - 24 years old.

4,568 (31%) were 25 - 29 years old.

3,711 (25%) were 30 - 34 years old.

1,568 (10.6%) were 35 or older.



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