

Sanctity of Human Life

3/4/06

By

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I **Sanctity of Life-SBC Position Statement**

- 1 "Procreation is a gift from God, a precious trust reserved for marriage. At the moment of conception, a new being enters the universe, a human being, a being created in God's image. This human being deserves our protection, whatever the circumstances of conception"¹

(1) An equally strong statement is found in our Baptist Faith and Message, which is our statement of faith for the Southern Baptist Convention.

II Biblical passages on the sanctity of human life and that the fetus is a human.

- 1 All human being's lives are sacred
 - (1) "Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed, for in the image of God He made man."(Genesis 9:6)
 - A *Man is humans, mankind.*
 - 2 The preborn are human beings
 - (1) Old Testament
 - A Use same word "Ben" for child in the womb, Jacob and Esau in Rebekah, Genesis 25:21-24, as is used of Ishmael at the age of thirteen Genesis 17:25
 - B "For You formed *my* inward parts; You wove *me* in my mother's womb....for *I* am fearfully and wonderfully made; *My* frame was not hidden from You, When *I* was made in secret...."(Psalm 139:13-15 *(italics added)*)
 - (2) New Testament
 - A "Behold, the virgin shall *be with child* and shall *bear a Son*, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which translated means, "God with us."
"(Matthew 1:23)(italics added)
 - a Quote Isa.
 - b Human in and out of the womb.
 - B Use the same word *Brephos* pre-born Luke 1:44 and born Luke 2:12.
 - C "Mary...was with child."(Luke 2:5)
 - a Speaking of Jesus in the womb of His mother.
 - 3 Shall I speak up for against the slaughter of innocent babies?
 - (1) Things which the Lord hates,
 - A "...a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, "(Proverbs 6:17)
 - (2) "To do righteousness and justice is desired by the LORD more than sacrifice."(Proverbs 21:3)
 - (3) "Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin"(James 4:17)

III Biblical Conclusions

¹ Position Statement on SBC.org under Position Statements, Sanctity of Human Life

- 1 Gen 9:1-6 demonstrate, man kill animal, but if animal kills man, or man murders man, they must be killed.
 - (1) This value, humanness, personhood, image bearer exist prenatally and postnatally (Matthew 1:23) for time and eternity.
 - (2) Therefore, mankind has intrinsic sacred value regardless of size, color, sex, and age and should be treated with the utmost reverence, an end not a means to an end.
- IV Early Christians
 - 1 “From the first, Christians were outspokenly opposed to abortion on the basis of the child's right to life. The [Didache](#), an early second-century document summarizing Christian belief and practice, declares, "Thou shalt not murder a child by abortion/destruction." Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian, Jerome, Basil the Great, Ambrose—all [pronounced](#) against abortion. Tertullian wrote eloquently in his Apology, aimed at non-Christians: "To hinder a birth is merely a speedier man-killing; nor does it matter whether you take away a life that is born, or destroy one that is coming to the birth. That is a man which is going to be one; you have the fruit already in the seed."²
- V Bases & Consequences of Quality of life view—where a person must attain or acquire a certain characteristic to be considered human—size, location, ability, color etc.
 - 1 Preborn is not a person protected by the constitution
 - 2 Preborn is considered a part of the mother, like a kidney, therefore no one else—even the father has any say concerning the life of the preborn.
 - 3 Parents, Grandparents have no jurisdiction over their own underage children.
 - 4 The preborn is not a human person, but becomes one when they are born.
 - (1) Thus personhood is not essential, innate, but merited, given by another—who can determine the quality that provides one with personhood.
 - (2) By this strategy
 - A Is it size-small people less people than tall
 - B Is it dining habits—I.V. less human
 - C Is it dependence-hospital are you less human
 - D Is it location-bed, less human
 - E Does close proximity make you and the thing you are close to identical—fetus like liver?
 - a Do livers and gallbladders ever become persons, exist outside of the womb, and drive a car.
 - F Physical limitations, are handicapped less human?
 - G Wanted-ness, people wanting you determine your humanness
 - H Projected health, does future disability make us less human.
 - a Prayerfully, you can clearly recognize that not only had abortion been legalized, but with that comes the natural flow of what is legalized usually becomes normalized, and moral for many.
 - b In addition, one may not only say that Pandora’s moral box had been opened, but one can truly say that they took the hinges, lock and top off of the box all the while some Polly Anna’s believed that every

² Christianity Today history of Abortion in Research, Morals

other devaluation of life would somehow stay in the box. That abortion, exist in a vacuum.

- 5 Legalized abortion resuscitated the idea that birthed and nurtured slavery, color determines personhood, and American Eugenics of the 1930s which sought to improve the human species by eliminating reproduction of people with “undesirable traits—moral or intellectual deficit, which 30 states had laws for forced sterilization.
 - (1) Slavery ended with the civil war
 - (2) Eugenics in America ended with WWII, and the unveiling of Hitler’s own eugenic operation, which sought to improve the human species by eliminating people with “undesirable traits” like moral, physical, and intellectual deficits, and added to the list was Jewishness.
 - (3) Slavery, eugenics, abortion all vociferously declared like one grand symphony, person hood is not intrinsic, but it is granted, obtained and is potentially maintainable.
 - (4) Roe Vs. Wade rebuilt the foundation of extraneous personhood and America started once again down the slippery slope
 - A Remember all of these ideas are based on biological and social evolution—survival of the fittest and elimination of the weakest.
- 6 Lexicographer Antonio Lano.
 - 1 Now, the aged are being evaluated, to determine their humanness.
 - (1) Using the criteria of abortion, they will not—we will not—fair well
 - A Criteria proposed for non-personhood, Dependence, insufficient mental activity, location--bedridden, and add to that duty, economics, and productivity.
 - 2 Euthanasia, first, aged & terminally ill who wanted to die, then aged who wanted to die, then the aged or terminally ill who want to die, then just the aged or terminally ill because someone wants them to die, they should have the right to die.
 - 3 First it was the withholding of “extraordinary means” heart and lung machines and other state of the art technology, then and now it is simply the withholding of food and water.
 - (1) We have come a long way baby.
 - A Remind you that, as Francis Schaeffer once sad, “what is extraordinary today becomes ordinary tomorrow”.
 - a At one time IV's were extraordinary.
- VII To paraphrase Schaeffer once again, “you can judge a society by how it treats its weakest members”