

Abortion: Child or Women's Rights Interview

By signing below, I hereby agree that all the above are true and accurate.  
Interviewer's Signature:

Abortion, termination of a human pregnancy, is a controversial topic in this day and age. It has religious aspects, especially when it comes to the topic of when does life begin? However, the conversation can be boiled down to two arguments, Pro-life or Pro-choice. Both sides have made advancements in support shown in policies made by the government, new laws, restrictions, abortion clinics and groups. Each side, pro-life or pro-choice, has come to a heated argument of who is in the right and who is in the wrong. But it boils down to one thing, should the woman have a future or should the fetus? In a perfect world it would be both, but we don't live in a perfect world. So, the question we are all asking is, should abortion be based off a woman's rights or the child's rights?

During the interview my interviewee, let's name her Jessica, clarified that she sides with women's rights or the pro-choice standpoint. Her concern is about the woman not the fetus. She believes life begins at birth or when you don't need someone else to sustain your life. She was raised in a very conservative, republican, traditional Baptist household. In this household she was verbally abused and would sometimes get physically hit but she does not define her home life as abusive. Something that influenced Jessica's stance on abortion was her family's Baptist church. The church she attended throughout her youth was a male dominated authoritative church who told young girls what they could and could not do which influenced her decision to be pro-choice. She believes that women should be allowed to decide what happens to their bodies. Jessica believes that a woman's choice overrules the fetus because it has not been born yet therefore it is not alive and does not have rights. Jessica is pro-choice even-though the rest of her family's pro-life. What is unique about Jessica is that not only was she adopted into this family, but she did not carry on her adoptive family's faith. She is secretly an agnostic, a person who claims neither faith nor disbelief in God. Jessica does not have the best relationship with her

mother but is closer to her father and brother. Jessica, though adopted, does not believe her adoption influenced her being pro-choice. She views her adoption almost in a negative way. She believes that a child should not have to go through what she went through, and that aborting the child would be a service to the child. Jessica worries that if abortion became illegal, women would still have abortions but might go to extreme measures that could prove to be dangerous. After hearing over and over that women don't deserve a choice from her Baptist church, she became pro-life. Her focus is on the rights of women when it comes to abortion.

Jessica's did not choose to follow her family's religious beliefs whereas I continue to follow my faith's teachings. Jessica argued that its women's rights that people should be concerned with where I argue for the child's rights. I disagree with her statement about when life begins. She believes life begins when you don't depend on someone else to sustain your life. I believe that life begins the moment you are conceived, I view the fetus as a living being and find it morally wrong to kill a human being. My thoughts have not changed since the interview, I appreciate her understanding my stance and I understand her stance. A woman should have the right to her own opinion, but I believe that a woman's choice on her body is overruled when a woman is pregnant because it is just not her body anymore its shared with the baby. A child has an equal right to life as well as the mother. Something that Jessica did bring up that made me reflect on my beliefs was that there are two people involved in these situations. One of them in her words will be "screwed over". It made me take a step back and really think about the mother's perspective and it made me feel sympathy, but it did not change my belief. I do not see myself changing my opinion unless you change my opinion on when life begins.

Overall, I believe this interview went well. Jessica was open and listened and understood my questions. Her answers were not influenced when a pro-life advocate asked her questions

about why she was pro-choice. She didn't argue or get mad when I asked her to go deeper into a topic. I went into deep controversial topics that many people don't talk about due to conflicting ideas. It made me feel closer to Jessica in a way because I got to understand not only her background but what made her, her. I also got to dive into her mind for a little bit and see her thought process. Just because it mainly went well doesn't mean there wasn't uncomfortable parts of the interview. At some points she seemed offended that I would ask such questions and was a little short tempered with me when it came to questions about her background. She only expanded on those topics when I pressed her to elaborate. It was awkward after the interview because the questions were so personal, but I am glad to say that the awkwardness phase has almost come to a close.

All in all, the question that is asked when it comes to sides in abortion is who is in the right and who is in the wrong? Pro-choice believe they are in the right and that the mother deserves a choice about her body and her future. Pro-life believes they are the advocates for the babies who do not have a say in this matter. They also believe that they are in the right and that the babies deserve a choice at life and having a future. All in all, it depends on the person and their experiences. For example, Jessica comes from her own background and I come from a different and unique background as well and we have completely different views on abortion. However somehow, we both agreed that abortion is a lose/lose situation.

### Works Cited

Abortion. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/abortion>.

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1. What are your views on abortion?
2. Are you pro-choice because of women's rights?
3. How has being adopted affected your views?
4. Would you want a child to go through what you went through rather than being aborted?
5. Why do people choose abortion?
6. How do the people who choose abortion get pregnant?
7. What are your worries about abortion?
8. How has your religious belief affected your views?
9. When in your opinion does life begin?

Background:

- conservative republican
- church but now not
- adopted

every woman has a choice  
↳ I get it

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Adopted not affected?

↳ wouldn't want to see birth-mom

Verbally abused, physically hit

no kids deserves to be terminated

chose = no other option  
can't afford → more adoption

majority is <sup>teen</sup> pregnancy

unsafe abortion

STN baptist = pro-choice

religion didn't affect

When your born life begins. when don't need someone  
else sustain

DON'T DESERVE  
CHOICE

↳ a child  
2 people  
↳ a woman + child  
↓  
all the options  
What is her.