

## **Appendix I**

### ***Questions Students May Ask***

**NOTE:** *If you don't know the answer to a question, tell the child that you will have to find out the answer and get back with him or her. Feel free to call the Tennessee Right to Life office at 689-1339 for help. Also there may be questions that you feel are inappropriate for the age level of your class. In this case, tell the student that you appreciate the question, but would like to answer some of them after class, one-on-one, since there is so much in-class material to cover.*

*This appendix is an ongoing work that will be evaluated and updated often. If you encounter a question that you think would be helpful to other teachers, please include a note in the front pocket of the teacher's notebook. We appreciate your assistance!*

**When I was a single cell, how did I get inside my mother?** God has a very special plan for how babies are made that I'm sure your parents will tell you about, when you get older. But for our discussion today, we will be talking about His special plan for how we grow inside our mommies and after we are born.

**If the "fruit of the womb is a reward" then why can't some good people have babies? Is God punishing them?** God's plan is perfect, we know that. It may be very hard sometimes for people to see or accept His plan for them. God may want a good Christian couple to adopt a child, or He may have different plans for them than having children of their own. We just don't always know what God has in store for us, but we must continue to trust in HIS plan and HIS wisdom and HIS time.

**What is the difference between miscarriage and abortion?** As we have looked at the *Continuum of Life* banner and the fetal models, we have seen how we started life in the same way and grew as God planned, while we were inside our mothers' wombs. We continued to grow after we were born, and will continue to do so until we die. Some people live until they are old (senior citizens); other people die before they have had a long life. Some babies die from natural reasons or by accident, before they can be born. This is called a miscarriage. These children lived very short lives, but they too had a purpose given to them by God. However, abortion is the intentional taking of a human life, before a child is born (the killing of the child while he/she is still in the womb).

**What happens to the bodies of the aborted babies?** *(As a rule, this information should only be shared with high school students.)* According to Carol Everett, an ex-abortion provider, the body parts of the smaller babies were put in the garbage disposal while the larger fetuses were put in the trash dumpster. (Note: Many of the aborted babies in the video *The Harder Truth* were discovered in a dumpster outside of an abortion clinic.) A late term abortion facility in Wichita, Kansas has its own incinerator where the bodies of the aborted babies are burned. Also, for some abortion clinics there is profit in selling aborted babies or their body parts to pharmaceutical companies for research.

**Shouldn't abortion be legal for cases of rape and incest?** This is a very serious question. Rape and incest are horrible things. A woman or girl who has been assaulted in these ways faces enormous pain, suffering and fear--things that abortion can't fix and may only make worse. Victims must address fear--fear of going out, or of darkness, or of men in general. They may face guilt or self-blame that the assault could have been prevented. They suffer stress, sleep loss, and relationship difficulties. Their lives will never be the same. All of us

have a duty to support a woman who has been victimized so horribly, and to help her put her life back together. We do these women a huge disservice and injustice when, as a society, the only compassion we offer her is to destroy her child. After being a victim of violence herself, should we then ask her to turn to violence and destroy her own child? In cases of pregnancy by rape, the child may be the only positive thing that comes from that situation. Some case studies show that bringing the child into the world was the most healing action the rape victim took. (*See the story in Appendix Q.*) In fact, a study drawn from a survey of nearly 200 women who have experienced rape or incest pregnancies reveals a seldom-heard truth: that most women who become pregnant through sexual assault do not want abortions! 70% of the women in the survey, had their babies, and none regretted their decisions. 78% of those who aborted had regrets and said that abortion was the wrong solution.\* It's also important to note that abortions done for rape or incest account for only 1% of all abortions in America. (*See Appendix G.*) The pro-abortion movement would have us believe that pregnancy due to rape is common. That way they can justify keeping it legal for all nine months for any reason or no reason.

As for incest, abortion is often used to hide the crime, so that the perpetrator can continue the assaults in secret. A visible pregnancy can actually call attention to the crime, so that the victim can get help, and not be further victimized by abortion.

Rape and incest are terrible crimes against women, and abortion only compounds the crimes, but we must also consider what it does to the unborn child. We have to ask, "In what other instance do we punish an innocent child for the crime of his/her father?" With abortion, the child is completely innocent, yet will suffer the death penalty. When you see those pictures of aborted babies, do you know how many of them were conceived? No, you just see that they have been victims of a most horrible attack. The way they were conceived makes them no less a human being.

**What about birth control?** When the egg and the sperm meet in the fallopian tube a new human being is created. By approximately one week of life, the newly formed embryo travels to the uterus where it attaches to the lining of the uterine wall and continues to develop and grow. There are several products that are marketed as contraceptives (a true contraceptive would **prevent** the union of the sperm and the egg) but in reality cause very early abortions by preventing the newly formed human being from attaching to the uterine wall. Included in this category are the intra-uterine device (IUD), Norplant, Depo Provera, Progesterone Only pills, low-dose contraceptive combination pills and the morning-after pills. The "contraceptive pill" can work to prevent ovulation or can thicken the cervical mucous so that it is more difficult for the sperm to travel to the egg. However, it has a "fail safe function" for the incidences when either of these two contraceptive functions fails and the egg is fertilized--it makes the lining of the uterus "hostile" to the newly conceived human being so that it cannot implant, and thus causes a very early abortion. The woman never knows when this happens, and most women are not informed of the possible abortifacient property of the pill.\*\*

\* Victims and Victors: Speaking out about their pregnancies, abortions, and children resulting from sexual assault, Edited by David C. Reardon, Julie Makimaa, and Amy Sobie (Acorn Books, 2000) pp.19-22

**\*\*Special note: God's perfect design of the human body provides an effective method for the spacing of pregnancies, through fertility awareness. Classes are available and many books have been published outlining this providential method (Natural Family Planning).**