

In The  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

—◆—  
JOSEPH M. BECK, M.D., et al.,

*Petitioners,*

v.

LOUIS JERRY EDWARDS, M.D., et al.,

*Respondents.*

—◆—  
**On Petition For Writ Of Certiorari  
To The United States Court Of Appeals  
For The Eighth Circuit**

—◆—  
**BRIEF OF AMICI CURIAE  
3,355 WOMEN INJURED BY ABORTION AND  
AN ABORTION SURVIVOR, DAWN MILBERGER,  
IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS FOR PARTIAL  
AFFIRMANCE AND PARTIAL REVERSAL**

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## INTEREST OF *AMICI CURIAE*

### A. 90 Arkansas Women Hurt By Abortion

### B. 3,265 Other Women Hurt By Abortion

### C. Abortion Survivor, Dawn Milberger

Consent to this Brief was given by both parties, after timely notice of intent to file the Brief. This brief was prepared wholly by Counsel for *Amici*.<sup>1</sup>

A. *Amici Curiae* Arkansas Women Hurt by Abortion are Arkansas women<sup>2</sup> who were injured by their own abortions. One of the Arkansas *Amici*

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<sup>1</sup> The Justice Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit legal foundation that handles cases pro-bono in cases of great public importance. The Foundation is supported by private contributions of donors who have made the preparation and submission of this brief possible. The parties were notified ten days prior to the due date of this brief of the intention to file. No counsel for a party authored this brief in whole or in part, and no counsel or party made a monetary contribution intended to fund the preparation or submission of this brief. No person other than *Amici Curiae* or their counsel made a monetary contribution to its preparation or submission. The parties have consented to the filing of this brief.

<sup>2</sup> Attached as Appendix A is the list of the initials, first names, or full names of the *Amici Curiae* Arkansas residents listed first, then the Other Women Hurt By Abortion. In order to protect their identities, some of the women have requested that we use initials only or first name only. Each of these women's sworn affidavits or declarations under penalty of perjury are on file at The Justice Foundation. Protecting the identity of women who have had abortions or seek abortions has been customary since *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973) and *Doe v. Bolton*, 410 U.S. 179 (1973) with *Roe* and *Doe* both being pseudonyms.



Women Hurt by Abortion, Brooklyn, is an actual injured patient of Dr. Tvedten, one of the Plaintiffs-Respondents in this case and is thus particularly well suited to say he did not in fact protect her or help her; nor should he be allowed to speak for her in court, without her voice and interest being represented by her own attorneys. Some of the *Amici* Women Hurt by Abortion also wish their names listed on behalf of or in memory of their aborted children and have supplied the names they have given to the children they aborted. Many feel it is important for their proper grieving and healing process to recognize the humanity of the child they, and those around them, undervalued and diminished by not treating them as human.

**B. *Amici Curiae*** Other Women Hurt by Abortion also suffered physical and psychological injuries as a result of their abortions. *Amici's* psychological injuries are directly attributable to the true nature of abortion; namely, that abortion will “terminate the life of a whole, separate, unique, living human being,”<sup>3</sup> a member of the species *Homo Sapiens*, with a heartbeat. *Amici* Women Hurt by Abortion know from their personal experience that declaring Act 301 unconstitutional and allowing unlimited access to abortion will mean countless women will suffer

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<sup>3</sup> Definition upheld as a rational and reasonable scientific statement by a legislature based on science, which is not false or misleading in *Planned Parenthood v. Rounds*, 530 F.3d 724 (8th Cir. 2008) (*en banc*).

devastating psychological injuries which may last a lifetime.

*Amici* Women Hurt by Abortion have an interest in informing this Court from the perspective of women who personally have experienced abortion. Since they were injured by the actions of the abortion industry, the abortionists Plaintiffs-Respondents do not adequately represent their interest and should not be allowed to speak for all women, especially them. The abortion industry does not speak for all women. What other industry is allowed to represent in court those it has injured? Listening to their unique and different perspective as women patients hurt by abortion will aid the Court in achieving justice.

A woman's abortion experience is often a deep, dark, and painful secret. The information being offered to this Court by *Amici* is crucial. For years, even decades following their abortion, most women who have experienced an abortion are still not willing to speak about it publicly even when they are tormented by thoughts of suicide, substance abuse, eating disorders, guilt, shame, nightmares, sleeplessness, and depression, etc. Their unique perspective will assist this Court in making a just decision. Clearly, the best information regarding **the effect of actual abortions** is not necessarily from the doctors, but from their patients.

C. Finally, *Amicus* Dawn Milberger is a survivor of abortion. As a child in the womb, her birth mother twice allowed a nurse to inject substances to

terminate Dawn's life. She survived. Her birth father intentionally "played with" her mother's stomach as a "punching bag" to induce a miscarriage. She survived. She was born with physical ailments, but she is glad to be alive. She survived as a human being to raise her voice before this Court for the children in the womb who had a beating heart like hers, but who did not survive.

## **SUMMARY OF ARGUMENT**

### **I.**

**Certiorari Should Be Granted Because Significant Statutory Changes In All Fifty States, Including Arkansas, Remove All Burden Of Unwanted Child Care From Every Woman For Any Reason At No Cost, Thus Meeting Women's Unwanted Child Care Needs Without Injuring Women Or Destroying Human Life. Therefore, Act 301 Is Constitutional Under *Gonzales v. Carhart*, 550 U.S. 124 (2007) And *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, 505 U.S. 833 (1992).**

### **II.**

**Abortion Severely Injures Significant Numbers Of Women, As *Amici* Can Show From Personal Experience And A Large Body Of Scientific Evidence; Therefore, Act 301 Is Constitutional Under *Gonzales*, 550 U.S. 124 (2007) And *Casey*, 505 U.S. 883 (1992).**

### III.

***Roe, Doe And Casey* Have Not Been Accepted Widely By The American People, Causing Deep Political Division. This Case Would Allow A National Political Consensus To Evolve By Allowing Laws Which Shift The Burden Of Unwanted Child Care From Women To Society, If A State So Chooses, While Protecting Human Life And Women From Injury.**

#### REASONS FOR GRANTING CERTIORARI

The Arkansas Heartbeat Bill should be upheld in its entirety under *Gonzales, supra* and even *Casey, supra*, in light of new laws and advances in science.

#### I.

**Significant Statutory Changes In All Fifty States, Including Arkansas, Remove All Burden Of Unwanted Child Care From Every Woman For Any Reason At No Cost, Thus Meeting Women's Unwanted Child Care Needs Without Injuring Women Or Destroying Human Life; Therefore, Act 301 Is Constitutional Under *Gonzales v. Carhart*, 550 U.S. 124 (2007) And *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, 505 U.S. 833 (1992).**

This case presents the Court an opportunity to respond to an amazing social evolution which can remove all burden of unwanted child care from women, without severely injuring them or killing their

child. Since 1999, a new reality with respect to the perceived burdens of unwanted child care and parental responsibility has been growing in America. In 1999, Texas passed the first “Baby Moses” or “Safe Haven” laws which eliminate the need for any pregnant woman to care for a child she does not want. Under Arkansas’ law, a woman can, within 30 days after the child’s birth, leave her child with no questions asked at any police station or hospital emergency room. Arkansas will care for that child for at least 18 years.<sup>4</sup> In a remarkable social evolution, dramatically changing the law of criminal child endangerment or abandonment, every state now has such laws.<sup>5</sup> This

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<sup>4</sup> Ark. Code Ann. §§ 9-34-201, 202, 203 (2013) (allows baby to be left, up to 30 days old, with an employee of any law enforcement agency or hospital emergency room). Voluntary delivery is a defense to child endangerment prosecution. Ark. Code Ann. § 5-27-205(c)(1) (*see also* [www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org](http://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org)).

<sup>5</sup> *See* [www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org](http://www.nationalsafehavenalliance.org), Ala. Code §§ 26-25-1 to -5 (2013); Alaska Stat. §§ 47.10.013, .990 (2013); Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 13-3623.01 (2013); Ark. Code Ann. §§ 9-34-201, -202 (2013); Cal. Health & Safety Code § 1255.7 (West 2013); Cal. Penal Code § 271.5 (West 2013); Colo. Rev. Stat. § 19-3-304.5 (2013); Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 17a-57, -58 (2012); Del. Code Ann. tit. 16, §§ 902, 907-08 (2013); D.C. Code §§ 4-1451.01 to .08 (2013); Fla. Stat. § 383.50 (2013); Ga. Code Ann. §§ 19-10A-2 to -7 (2013); Hawaii Rev. Stat. §§ 587D-1 to -7 (2013); Idaho Code Ann. §§ 39-8201 to -8207 (2013); 325 Ill. Comp. Stat. 2/10, 2/15, 2/20, 2/27 (2013); Ind. Code § 31-34-2.5-1 (2013); Iowa Code §§ 233.1, .2 (2014); Kan. Stat. Ann. § 38-2282 (2012); Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 216B.190, 405.075 (LexisNexis 2013); La. Child. Code Ann. arts. 1149-53 (2013); Me. Rev. Stat. tit. 17-A, § 553, tit. 22 § 4018 (2013); Md. Code Ann. Cts. & Jud. Proc. § 5-641 (LexisNexis 2013); Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 119, § 39 1/2 (2013); Mich. Comp. Laws §§ 712.1, .2, .3, .5, .20 (2013); Minn. Stat.

(Continued on following page)

evolution completely eliminates any legal need in such states, including Arkansas, for an actual abortion to eliminate unwanted child care burdens.

The question of whether Arkansas can ban a small percentage of abortions in the second and third trimester when it is willing to shift all responsibility for the care of the children from the woman to society is an open question this Court has not considered. It is a question of first impression and should be answered in the affirmative by this Court for the protection of “infant life” *see Gonzales*, at 159, and of the specifically unknown (in advance) but significant numbers of women who would otherwise be hurt by

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§§ 145.902, 260C.139, 609.3785 (2013); Miss. Code Ann. §§ 43-15-201, -203, -207, -209 (2013); Mo. Rev. Stat. § 210.950 (2013); Mont. Code Ann. §§ 40-6-402 to -405 (2013); Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-121 (2012); Nev. Rev. Stat. §§ 432B.160, .630 (2013); N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. §§ 132-A:1 to :4 (2013); N.J. Stat. Ann. §§ 30:4C-15.6 to -15.10 (West 2013); N.M. Stat. Ann. §§ 24-22-1.1, -2, -3, -8 (2013); N.Y. Penal Law §§ 260.00, .10 (McKinney 2013); N.Y. Soc. Serv. Law § 372-g (McKinney 2013); N.C. Gen. Stat. § 7B-500 (2012); N.D. Cent. Code §§ 27-20-02, 50-25.1-15 (2013); Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §§ 2151.3515, .3516, .3523 (LexisNexis 2013); Okla. Stat. tit. 10A, § 1-2-109 (2013); Or. Rev. Stat. § 418.017 (2011); 23 Pa. Cons. Stat. §§ 4306, 6502, 6504, 6507 (2013); R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 23-13.1-2, -3 (2012); S.C. Code Ann. § 63-7-40 (2012); S.D. Codified Laws §§ 25-5A-27, -31, -34 (2013); Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 36-1-142, 68-11-255 (2013); Tex. Fam. Code Ann. §§ 262.301, .302 (West 2013); Utah Code Ann. §§ 62A-4a-801, -802 (LexisNexis 2013); Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 13, § 1303 (2013); Va. Code Ann. §§ 8.01-226.5:2, 18.2-371.1, 40.1-103 (2013); Wash. Rev. Code § 13.34.360 (2013); W. Va. Code § 49-6E-1 (2013); Wis. Stat. § 48.195 (2013); Wyo. Stat. Ann. §§ 14-11-101, -102, -103, -108 (2013).

abortion, including among other things by “severe depression” and “loss of esteem,” *Gonzales, ibid.*, as well as suicide, anxiety, depression, substance abuse, eating disorders, etc.<sup>6</sup>

The justification for abortion as a necessity for women involves the difficulties of taking care of an unwanted child. For example, here are the reasons most commonly given by women:

The reasons women give for having an abortion underscore their understanding of the responsibilities of parenthood and family life. Three-fourths of women cite concern for or responsibility to other individuals; three-fourths say they cannot afford a child; three-fourths say that having a baby would interfere with work, school or the ability to care for dependents; and half say they do not want to be a single parent or are having problems with their husband or partner.<sup>7</sup>

In 1992, seven years before the first Baby Moses law ever passed, the Supreme Court accepted these

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<sup>6</sup> See Coleman, P., “*Abortion and Mental Health: Quantitative Synthesis and Analysis of Research Published 1995-2009*,” *The British Journal of Psychiatry* (2011) 199, 180-186. DOI: 10.1192/bjp.bp.110.07723, “Women who had undergone an abortion experienced an 81% increased risk of mental health problems.”

<sup>7</sup> Guttmacher Institute, [www.guttmacher.org/pubs/fb\\_induced\\_abortion.html](http://www.guttmacher.org/pubs/fb_induced_abortion.html), citing Finer, L.B., et al., “*Reasons U.S. women have abortions: quantitative and qualitative perspectives*,” *Perspectives On Sexual And Reproductive Health*, 2005, 37(3):110-118.

reasons for maintaining a right to abortion in *Casey*, even while reducing it from a strict scrutiny fundamental right:

*. . . The ability of women to participate equally in the economic and social life of the nation has been facilitated by their ability to control their reproductive life.*

*Casey*, at 856.

Each of these reasons for abortion is now eliminated by Arkansas' willingness to **totally remove the burden of unwanted child care after the baby is born**. Any woman afraid that a child would interfere with her life in any way, can simply give the child to Arkansas at or within 30 days of birth and she will have no impediment to her future education, lifestyle or career plans.

If money is a problem, the current law in Arkansas shifts the entire economic burden of unwanted child care to the state, if the woman so desires. Total sexual freedom if she chooses; though most will choose to use contraceptives<sup>8</sup> if children are unwanted; total state responsibility by current law if she chooses. *Amici* are not saying this is good or bad law, **it just is** the law in all 50 states, including Arkansas. Equal protection is legally achieved by these new Baby Moses' laws which eliminate any burden on women to

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<sup>8</sup> Contraceptives are widely available, even to low-income women, through Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act.



care for unwanted children. The **entire burden** of care, feeding, education, medicine: every financial and social obligation of parenting can now be borne by the state, not women.

This is quite an evolution for society and women. At the time of *Casey*, 1992, the states imposed by criminal law the responsibility of 18 years of unwanted child care on women. The *Casey* Court was very concerned about this impact on women. But now, all women can have full liberty from maternal responsibility after birth. Those citizens in society who feel abortion is murder will be satisfied with justice and life, and yet will participate in the shared social burden of unwanted child care through taxation. The freedom from career impediments, the lifestyle choices of sexual freedom and liberty are now fully available to any woman without injuring herself or killing the “*infant life she once created and sustained.*” See *Gonzales*, at 159. If a woman’s mind or circumstances change, either during pregnancy, which is her right, or in a few years, she can re-establish maternity through DNA testing of her child in foster care, if not already adopted, with benefits for mother and child. Abortion is irrevocable and reduces women’s options. Safe Haven expands them.

In return for this 18-year **complete release of all parental obligation**, it is not an “undue burden” to ask the mother to carry the child to term and not “*terminate the life of a separate, unique, living*

*human being.*”<sup>9</sup> This can also work as an effective last resort method of birth control as the Supreme Court indicated abortion fulfills this function for some women. *Casey, supra*, at 853, 856.

Of course, there is still the relatively much smaller, but obviously significant burden of pregnancy itself. In return for some **months** of pregnancy, the State will bear **18 years** of unwanted child care. With the balance of unwanted child care heavily weighted toward 18 years of state responsibility, it seems fair, “rational” and “reasonable”; and not an “undue” burden, to carry the child to term which would then help the mother avoid the long term adverse physical and psychological consequences of abortion.

The Supreme Court, even in *Roe*, has consistently held for 42 years that requiring the woman to bear even the hardest part of the normal burden of pregnancy (almost three months) of the last harder parts of pregnancy is not an “undue burden” by allowing bans on abortion **after viability**.<sup>10</sup> Thus, after viability at the traditional, but evolving 24 weeks, even under *Roe* and *Casey* jurisprudence, women are already required by law to bear the last 12 weeks

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<sup>9</sup> See *Planned Parenthood v. Rounds*, 530 F.3d 724 (8th Cir. 2008) (*en banc*) (upholding statutory definition as scientifically “rational,” not false or misleading).

<sup>10</sup> *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 113 (1973): “If the state is interested in protecting fetal life after viability, it may go so far to proscribe abortion during that period, except when it is necessary to preserve the life or health of the mother.” *Id.*, at 163-65.

(three months) burden of pregnancy because of the “profound respect” for the human life of the child in her womb. *See Gonzales*, at 146. Most women would agree the last three months are usually the hardest.

At the first moment that the state can actually remove all her responsibility, without killing the child, i.e., birth, Arkansas and all states now do so. This shifts all the responsibility that can be safely shifted from women to society. Regardless of one’s view of the social utility of such a law; it is the law in all fifty states.

This **new legal reality** transferring care from mother to state should result in a further change in abortion jurisprudence since there is no longer any legal need for an abortion to relieve oneself from unwanted child care obligations. Every child in America is now legally “wanted” and abortion of “unwanted” children is no longer necessary.

As *Amici* can attest, no woman wants an abortion just to experience abortion. The state is not stopping her from participating in something intrinsically valuable; like a job, or school. No one, male or female, liberal or conservative, really wants abortion for its own sake. What women legally seek is relief from obligations; now Arkansas provides that in a more just, compassionate and humane way than allowing her to kill her child and suffer the consequences alone for decades.

Abortion could be remembered in the future as a primitive, crude way of removing the burden of

unwanted child care. The modern view shares the burden of unwanted child care rather than placing it on the parent of an unwanted child alone.

Arkansas is certainly rational to restrict abortions when there is a detectable human heartbeat and abortion hurts women. The Safe Haven laws were recently cited in *MKB Management Corp. v. Stenehjem*, 795 F.3d 768 (8th Cir. July 22, 2015), as an important reason this Court should re-evaluate its abortion decisions, joining the Fifth Circuit, in calling for this Court to re-evaluate its jurisprudence. *McCorvey v. Hill*, 385 F.3d 846 (5th Cir. 2004) (Jones, concurring).

## II.

**Abortion Severely Injures Significant Numbers Of Women, As *Amici* Can Show From Personal Experience And A Large Body Of Scientific Evidence; Therefore, Act 301 Is Constitutional Under *Gonzales*, 550 U.S. 124 (2007) And *Casey*, 505 U.S. 883 (1992).**

Abortion severely injures significant numbers of women, as *Amici* can show from personal experience and a large body of scientific evidence. The abortion experiences of *Amici* Women Hurt by Abortion have been collected by a project of The Justice Foundation, called Operation Outcry, in the form of *over 4,500 sworn* affidavits and declarations under penalty of perjury, the largest body in the world of direct, legally admissible testimony about the effects of abortion.

Testimony about women hurt by abortion was presented to the Arkansas Legislature to support Act 301. Similar *Amici* briefing to this was presented to and cited by the United States Supreme Court in *Gonzales*. Citing the brief of Sandra Cano,<sup>11</sup> the former “Doe” of *Doe v. Bolton*, and 180 Women Hurt by Abortion, the Supreme Court recognized the significance of the women’s own perspective and actual experience:

Respect for human life finds an ultimate expression in the bond of love the mother has for her child. . . . Whether to have an abortion requires a difficult and painful moral decision. *Casey, supra*, at 852-853, 112 S. Ct. 2791, 120 L. Ed.2d 674 (opinion of the Court). **While we find no reliable data to measure the phenomenon, it seems unexceptionable to conclude some women come to regret their choice to abort the infant life they once created and sustained.** See Brief for Sandra Cano et al. [Ed. 180 Women Hurt by Abortion] **as *Amici Curiae* in No. 05-380, pp. 22-24.** [Ed. Women’s

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<sup>11</sup> Represented by The Justice Foundation. Suggestion of Death of Sandra Cano who died on September 30, 2014. Her prolife position against her own case was cited by a unanimous Eighth Circuit decision recently as a reason for re-evaluating the Supreme Court’s abortion jurisprudence. *MKB Management Corp. v. Stenehjem*, 795 F.3d 768, at 775-776 (8th Cir. July 22, 2015). Her dying wish was to see babies protected by law and women in difficult situations helped by society, instead of hurt by abortion.

Testimonies] **Severe depression and loss of esteem can follow. See *ibid.***

*Gonzales v. Carhart*, 550 U.S. 124, at 159 (2007) (emphasis added). The Supreme Court's conclusion was based on extensive testimony from women who had an abortion like the perspective from Arkansas women on the following pages. *See also* Appendix B.

The newest Supreme Court jurisprudence based on 40 years' evolving experience understands that abortion is a "painful and difficult moral decision." *Gonzales* at 852-853. This Court may never fully understand the degree of pain experienced by women which is directly attributable to abortion. For example, Brooklyn, *whose abortion at fourteen weeks was actually performed by Dr. Tvedten, one of the Plaintiff-Respondents*, explains she did not know the "limbs of my baby would be ripped apart and out." She further says: "I live with this regret and guilt every single day of my life. My due date, holidays, special occasions, etc. have all been very hard for me to deal with. My babies [sic] 1 year birthday is coming up soon and I am already dreading that day. When I go to the OBGYN doctor I feel like I am going to have a panic attack because the sight of instruments and the exam table. Everything about going to the dr. [sic] brings back so many flashbacks." Her doctor did this to her, for a profit. Act 301, if allowed to go in effect, would prevent this type of pain for others.

**Micki** (An Arkansas woman who had an abortion at 14 weeks)

*“I was forced to have this abortion by my ex-husband, an Army officer, who felt another child would adversely effect his military career. It not only broke my heart when I killed my unborn child, but it killed my love for my husband and eventually destroyed my marriage.*

*I spent years struggling with grief, remorse and guilt. It took much counseling and finally a divorce before I could allow myself to receive God’s merciful forgiveness for this horrific act.”*

Below are more illustrative examples of the serious and personal consequences of abortion, in the women’s own words. These are all Arkansas women injured by abortion, some after 12 weeks, who represent the women who may have already been injured because Act 301 was declared unconstitutional below.

**Lisa** (14 weeks)

*“I was told it was a mass of tissue. I was NOT told that at the time of my abortion, all arteries are present, including the coronary vessels of the heart and that blood was fully circulating through these vessels to all body parts. I was NOT told that the “mass of tissue” had complete vocal chords and that the brain was fully formed and that the “mass of tissue” had organized muscles, could feel pain, suck its thumb, and had eye lids that protected its delicate optical nerve fibers. I was NOT told that the flutters I*

*felt were actually kicks and movements of the “mass of tissue” . . . of course, I did hear them say in the middle of the abortion “she is farther along than we thought” as I cried for them to stop . . . “It’s too late, honey. You did the right thing. Now, you can go on with your life.” I could hear the water running in the sink nearby. I then heard a big plop . . . “Did you just throw my baby in the trash?” I thought. . . . Then they shuffled me out the back way.*

*They told me I would forget about the “mass of tissue” and be able to go on with my life, but I was having nightmares every night. For many years, a day did not go by that I did not contemplate suicide. Guilt, sorrow, loss of dignity and deep shame are the most felt responses after an abortion. I experienced deep despair and lonely scars of regret.”*

**Linda** (12 weeks)

*“There is seldom a day that goes by I do not think of my son and what he could have accomplished in this world. The loss never goes away.”*

**A.H.** (12 weeks)

*“It has caused depression, anxiety, feelings of guilt and shame, the inability to forgive myself, the trauma of having to hide a painful secret from my family and problems sleeping.”*

**Carol** (13 weeks)

*“I have had bouts of depression and suicidal ideations throughout the years. The guilt never leaves*



*me, . . . I can never forgive myself or excuse myself. I wish I had never made that decision. I wish abortion had never been an option for me. My baby's life was precious and I decided to murder her or him, this I'll never know, whether it was a boy or girl. . . . I have over-dosed on drugs at least 3 times. I have tried to hang myself once. Tried to cut my wrist once. Abused drugs and sex with many partners. I have hated myself."*

**Morgan** (10 weeks)

*"I suffered severe depression. I cried for no reason at all times. I was sleeping for 20 hours a day, unable to cope with others."*

**Dickie** (6 weeks)

*"I have trouble having a relationship with my husband. I don't like to be around babies and I do not want to hold one. . . . The mental effects seem as if they will never go away. I have had 2 abortions."*

**Darlene** (8 weeks)

*"As soon as the abortion began, I began to feel sick to my stomach. As it continued, I knew without a doubt that I was killing a child, that it was not a mere blob of tissue as they had said. At this point, I wanted to stop it, but I believed it was too late and that the damage was done. For years I had to carry the guilt of killing my own child. I later carried four children and with each child, for nine months, I was consumed with guilt over the murder of my first child. Make no*

*mistake, abortion IS murder. Even after 30 years, the pain still lingers.”*

**Maria** (8 weeks)

*“Depression, alcohol abuse, guilt, pain, insecurity, fear, isolation. I felt like I committed murder but it was legal.”*

**Denise**

*“The guilt, pain and periods of depression overwhelm me. I would like to think that I would have acted differently if abortion wasn’t such an easy option. Women are overwhelmed with emotion when they discover an unexpected pregnancy. If we can change our laws and society to embrace women at this critical time, we can change lives.”*

**Adrean** (5 weeks)

*“It has caused major depression and I turned to drugs and drinking to deal with the pain. I became very bitter and unhappy with life. The man was deeply hurt that he didn’t have a say that it was his child. 8 years later I still think of that baby and what he or she might look like.”*

In 1992, the Court stated:

*“ . . . a woman may elect an abortion, only to discover later, **with devastating psychological consequences**, that her decision was not fully informed.”<sup>12</sup>*

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<sup>12</sup> *Casey, supra*, at 882 (emphasis added).

All the *Amici* women relay abortion experiences similar to these Arkansas women with varying consequences. See Appendix B. Instead of abortion, why not transfer responsibility for unwanted children to the State? All nine Justices agree that abortion is “painful and difficult.” *Gonzales, supra* (Ginsburg, dissent at FN 7) joined by three others. The majority opinion says, “painful and difficult moral decision.” *Id.* at 852-853. Perhaps all Justices could agree that Safe Haven laws are better for women and children than the “pain” of abortion.

Act 301 is also supported by the abortion industry’s own admission that later term abortions have greater risks of adverse consequences. The risk is even higher after 12 weeks, as an abortion textbook endorsed by the National Abortion Federation, *MANAGEMENT OF UNINTENDED AND ABNORMAL PREGNANCY*, lists “Advanced Stage of Pregnancy” on a list of “Risk Factors for Negative Emotional Sequelae.”<sup>13</sup> See also “A Clinician’s Guide to Medical and Surgical Abortion,” listing 14 factors for mental health problems after abortion, Ch. 3, pp. 28-29, 1999.<sup>14</sup> Second trimester abortions “pose more serious risks to women’s physical health compared to first trimester abortions. The abortion complication rate is 3% to 6% at 12-13

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<sup>13</sup> Maureen Paul, M.D., M.P.H., et al., *MANAGEMENT OF UNINTENDED AND ABNORMAL PREGNANCY*, Table 5.4, p. 57 (UK 2009).

<sup>14</sup> Maureen Paul, M.D., M.P.H., *A CLINICIAN’S GUIDE TO MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ABORTION*, Ch. 3, p. 28-29 (1999).

weeks gestation and increases to 50% or higher as abortions are performed in the second trimester.” Coleman, P., Coyle, C. and Rue, V., “*Late Term Elective Abortion and Susceptibility to Post-Traumatic Stress Symptoms*,” *Journal of Pregnancy*, Vol. 2010, Art. ID 130519, p.1.

Historically, the secrecy and shame involved in abortion has prevented public disclosure of many of the ill-effects suffered by women in the aftermath of abortion, and – most notably – the psychological effects. Many women are often unable to share the horror of their experience with anyone and are tormented by their thoughts of suicide, guilt, shame, nightmares, sleeplessness, and depression.

The most comprehensive bibliography of studies showing abortion risks is included in <http://abortionrisks.org/index.php?title=Index>. Though some of these studies provide background information, most include statistically significant results linking one or more adverse effects to abortion. There are hundreds of studies worldwide documenting the harm to women of abortion; though some may disagree, there is more than enough science to justify Act 301, and consensus or complete medical certainty is not required. *Gonzales*, at 164.

As more and more women come out of the darkness, science has now documented extensively that abortion has serious adverse psychological consequences. For example, following *Gonzales*, one appellate court, based on an extensive trial record, has

already held that adequate scientific evidence exists, despite non-unanimity, to support the statutorily required disclosure that abortion increases a woman's risk for increased suicide and suicidal ideation. See *Planned Parenthood v. Rounds*, 686 F.3d 889 (8th Cir. 2012) (*en banc*).

In addition, abortion increases the risk of depression, trauma, eating disorders and substance abuse, guilt, repressed grief, divorce and chronic relationship problems, unresolved trauma, repeat abortions, self-punishment, and child abuse of their other children.<sup>15</sup> Regardless of one's position regarding whether or not a child in the womb is a human being worthy of legal protection, clearly, everyone can empathize with the grief and sorrow of a mother, as shown, who comes to believe she has murdered her child.

The fact that a significant number of women are injured supports the Legislature's rational requirement that abortion only be allowed in serious cases after 12 weeks. Even the *Gonzales* decision upholding a *total ban* on a certain type of *pre-viability* abortion is partially based on the grief of women.

It is self-evident that a mother who comes to regret her choice to abort must struggle with grief more anguished and sorrow more profound when she learns, only after the event, what she once did not know: that she allowed

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<sup>15</sup> Elliott Institute: [www.afterabortion.org](http://www.afterabortion.org), "*Psychological Risks: Traumatic After Effects of Abortion*," with many citations.

a doctor to pierce the skull and vacuum the fast-developing brain of her unborn child, a child assuming the human form.

*Gonzales*, 550 U.S. 124, 159-160 (2007). This harm to women was also cited by the Eighth Circuit in its recent unanimous plea to this Court to re-evaluate its abortion jurisprudence. *MKB Management Corp. v. Stenehjem*, 795 F.3d 768 (8th Cir. July 22, 2015).

### III.

***Roe, Doe And Casey Have Not Been Accepted Widely By The American People, Causing Deep Political Division. This Case Would Allow A National Political Consensus To Evolve By Shifting The Burden Of Unwanted Child Care From Women To Society, If A State So Chooses, While Protecting Human Life And Women From Injury.***

*Casey* was intended to end the national debate on abortion. Clearly, it has not done so. The Safe Haven laws provide a consensus building win-win, by removing all unwanted child care after pregnancy.

Clearly abortion is unique. No other “mass of tissue” removed from a woman has a heartbeat. A wart, tonsils, appendix – none have a heartbeat. The U.S. Supreme Court has moved from only describing a “fetus,” in its early cases, to “unborn child,” *Gonzales* at 134, and “infant life” in *Gonzales* at 159. The *Gonzales* Court also cited a nurse’s testimony extensively describing the effect of the late term abortion on the “baby.” *Gonzales*, at 138-139.

Finally, Justice Kennedy has stated:

The political processes of the State are not to be foreclosed from enacting laws to **promote the life of the unborn and to ensure respect for all human life and its potential.** *Id.*, at 871 (plurality opinion). The State's constitutional authority is a vital means for citizens to address these grave and serious issues, as they must if we are to progress in knowledge and understanding and **in the attainment of some degree of consensus.** . . .

Dissenting in *Stenberg v. Carhart*, 530 U.S. 914 (2000). Coupled with the Safe Haven laws which transfer responsibility for unwanted children to society, both sides of the abortion debate can come together.

In *Gonzales*, the Court protected the government's "**legitimate and substantial interest in preserving and promoting fetal life,**" at 145. In other words, to protect life the Court rejected any "per se" rules like the lower Court had adopted. The *Gonzales* Court stated:

**To implement its holding, Casey rejected both Roe's rigid trimester framework and the interpretation of Roe that considered all pre-viability regulations of abortion unwarranted.**

*Id.*, at 146.

The child in the womb is a “person” in reality. Under Arkansas law, a child in the womb is a person from the moment of conception,<sup>16</sup> male or female. *Amicus* Dawn Milberger is a human being today and she was in the womb. She is the offspring of two human beings. She had a heartbeat at 12 weeks in the womb. Both of her parents tried to kill her as they later told her themselves. She has forgiven and been reconciled with them. She is glad to be alive today. We need national reconciliation and “consensus” (per *Stenberg*, Kennedy, dissenting) on the life and death issue of abortion. *Casey* tried to put an end to the political divisions and did not succeed, even 23 years later. This social evolution of transferred responsibility can heal the rifts because Arkansas has removed any “undue” burden from a woman’s right to abortion by eliminating all burden of unwanted child care from the woman if she so voluntarily chooses.

### CONCLUSION

*Amici* urge this Court to protect women from experiencing the emotional trauma which *Amici* Women Hurt by Abortion have been forced to endure because of the nature and consequences of abortion. The Safe Haven laws allow women total freedom from unwanted child care. In addition, as *Amicus* Dawn

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<sup>16</sup> Ark. Code Ann. § 5-1-102(13): Person includes “an unborn child in utero at any stage of development.” In § 5-10-101 – 5-10-105, unborn child means “offspring from human beings from conception until birth.”



Milberger can attest, justice requires protection of vulnerable human life, male and female: not its destruction. It is time for a better way.

**PRAYER**

*Amici* respectfully pray this Court grant certiorari and declare Act 301 is constitutional when so many better alternatives are available.

Respectfully submitted,

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**APPENDIX A**

**ARKANSAS WOMEN HURT BY ABORTION  
(With Their Children's Names)**

Millie Lace, in memory of my child, Jill Allison; Nita Roder in memory of my child, Thomas Aaron Roder; Paulette Bunting in memory of my child, Owen; Kelly R. Moore in memory of my child, Isaac; Amber Ryder in memory of my child, P.J.

**ARKANSAS WOMEN HURT BY ABORTION**

Sue Adams, Maria C. Alosi, Brandi Atwood, B.B., M.B., Brooklyn, Micki, Tammy B. Boone, K.B., Donna Victoria Blain, V.B., J.B., S.M.B., Donna M. Clifton, Tammie L. Cook, Edith Correa, Kandi Cox, M.A.C., S.C., B.E., Jerrel Ann Farmer, L.F., K.G., Carla M. Gregory, Amber Hansen, Teri Hegi, V.H., Jackie Harrell, Paula R. Deckard, J.L., Elizabeth Morton, Marsha D. Johnston, D.K., Jeanne Larivee, Dickie Ann Lashlee, Sandra Mauldin, Wendi Miller, Courtney Mitchell, Jackie Montgomery, H.A.M., Joyce A. Nesbit, M.O., Jeanette Parks, Angela Rambo, Angie Ramsey, Nancy C. Ray, Ann Marie Riley, B.M.S., Patti Spain, F.S., Susan A. Wilcoxson, Julia F. Myers-Williams, Dana Renee Nickles, K.M., Laura Jean Eversoll, Patricia Cowan, Amy Burns, Lisa M. Brashears, Katherine Anderson, Lisa, Cecilia S. Caine, Renee Drennan, Denise, T.C., C.S., Adrean, Melissa Swatloski, Carol Owens Vaughn, Crystal Roden, Shatina Logan, Morgan, Darlene Reavis, Linda Jackson, J.H., Maria Pistole, Kari Hodges, Lisa

Nunley, Susan, A.H., Kristi Hays, Kellie Eaton, L.G.,  
Sandra Marin, Rita, Paula Talley.

**OTHER WOMEN HURT BY ABORTION**  
**(With Their Children's Names)**

Cindy Collins in memory of my children, David Emanuel and siblings, Molly White, in memory of my children, William Conrad (Little Bill) and Josie Gayle; Myra Jean Myers in memory of my child, Joshua; Nona Ellington in memory of my child, Darren Nicholas; Maria M. Banks in memory of my child, Matthew; Luana Stoltenberg in memory of my children Ashley, Ruth, and Jacob; Karen Bodle in memory of my child, Lauren Elizabeth; Tracy Reynolds in memory of my child, Debbie; Joyce Leslie Klosener Zounis in memory of my children, Michael, Glenn, Gregg, Christopher, Charlie, Jennings, and Dimitrios; Kay Painter in memory of my child, Sarah; Julie Thomas in memory of my aborted child; Rebecca Porter in memory of my aborted children; Lorraine Debra Agold-Rich, MSN, RN, CRRN, in memory of my child, Esther Rachel; Linda Huffstetler in memory of my children, Matthew Jay and Mark; Sharra Poteet in memory of my child, Hannah Grace; Julie Holdgate in memory of my child, Cody; Madonna Medina in memory of my child, Pua Lililehua; Betty Underwood in memory of my children, Thomas and Olivia Diane; Lisa Skowron in memory of my child, Jonathan Allen; Julia Davis in memory of my child, Joseph Gale Jones; Cathy Stewart in memory of my child, Nicola Dawn; Lisa Bear in memory of my

child, Matthew Gabriel; Helen B. Dean in memory of children, Michelle and Samuel; Jennifer Sandidge in memory of my children, Stephen and Anna; Ruth McLemore in memory of my children, Elisabeth Rose and Aidan; Linda Honea in memory of my child, Paul Michael; Toni McKinley in memory of my child, Elijah; Charity Idotenyin Wilson, in memory of my child, Dylan; Crystal, in memory of my child, Nathaniel; Deborah Jan (Henderson) Efurd in memory of my child, Aden; Sue Lassiter in memory of my child, Luke; Rolanda Shrader in memory of my child, Abigail Jordan; Mary Quin in memory of my two aborted children; Penne Logan in memory of my children, Elizabeth Marie, Nathaniel, and Jacqueline Ashton; Carol Rowe in memory of my child, Amy; Denise Mixson in memory of my child, Joshua Caleb; Kathy Rickman Rutledge in memory of my child, Nathaniel Isaac; Dianne Kirkwood in memory of my two unnamed children; Andrea Sosebee in memory of my child, Rosemerry; Felicia L. in memory of my child, Christian; Susan Swander in memory of my three children, Luke Michael, Grace Anne and Benjamin Lawrence; Angela Thompson in memory of my child, Hannah Elizabeth; Cheryl E. Carey in memory of my child, Richard; Melinda Chisum in memory of my child, Corey Wayne; Toni Buckler in memory of my child, Francis Mary; Dr. Dianne Heynen in memory of my child, Amanda Marie; Barbara Higgins in memory of my children, Daniel, Anna, Joshua and Lawrence; Amanda Barron in memory of my child, Marilyn Joy; Sonia L. in memory of my children, Angel and Gabriel; Nadine A. Newman in memory of

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my child, Nathaniel Caleb; Stacy Lynn Massey in memory of my children, Dylan Connor and Dory Kalani; K. A. in memory of my child, E.S.; Golda Sharon Ross Campbell Dunn in memory of my child, Cory James; Danelle Marie Hallenbeck in memory of my child, Grace Marie; Kimberley Seward in memory of my children, Ariel and Amanda; Mary Kidney in memory of my child, Theresa Joy; Stacy Branch-Boyd, in memory of my children, Isaiah and Niya; Carla Stream in memory of my child, Aubrey; S.P. in memory of my aborted child; Sherry Neuenschwander in memory of my children, Andrew "Drew" Mitchell and Jakub Dean; Laureen Metcalf in memory of my aborted children; Cecilia Sullivan in memory of my children, Michael Joshua, Jennifer Lynn, Sarah Renee and Matthew David; Carolyn J. Barry in memory of my child, Addison Joy; Cynthia Boothby Marvin in memory of my child, Jenny; Lynda Winkelman in memory of my child, Hope Marie; Michelle Lyn Geraci in memory of my child, Polly Ann; Alena Radtke Gabriel in memory of my children, William, Jairus, Elizabeth, Mary, Jennifer and Jerry; Susan Rowland in memory of my child, Robert Stephen; Sherry Hearon in memory of my child, Robert Joseph; Irma L. Gomez in memory of my child, Nathanael Yosef (if my child was to be born a boy) or Irma L. Gomez in memory of my child, Sarah Leah (if my child was to be born a girl); Amorette Keenan, in memory of my child, Daniel Joseph; Patti Williamson, in memory of my child, Grace Joy; Teresa A. Bolden in memory of my child, Daniel Raphael; Alicia Michelle Haley in memory of my child, Shanna Marie; Loretta

Judy in memory of my child, Ann Theresa, Kaylania in memory of my child, Jamie, Karen Holdren in memory of my aborted child, Katharine Hill in memory of my aborted child, Arlene Lehman in memory of my children, Trevor and Tiarra; Ellen Garrison Philpot in memory of my children, Mathew Thompson, Jacob Clark, and Rebecca Mary; Barbara Chapple in memory of my children, Melissa and Erwin, Melody Ashley in memory of my child, Ericka Rae; Lee Karcher in memory of my child, Samuel; Janet Hurguy in memory of my child, Kenny Lee; Mary Anne Sambo in memory of my child, Lee Anne; and Darlene Ann Durbin in memory of my child, Tina.

### **OTHER WOMEN HURT BY ABORTION**

Katherine Herrmann, Rachel, Vickie Adams, Dalila Aldrich, Debra, Sarah Allen, Tammie, J.A., D.A., L.A., Cindy Arbaugh, Barbara Archer, Kay Archer, Mitzi Atkinson, Linda Austin, B.B., K.B., Jennifer, Patricia Bilbo, Misty Black, L.B., Jorea McNamee Blount, Kandy, Rebecca, Donna, Misty Bridges, Amy, A.B., Loretta, Lisa Chisholm, N.C., Maria, Teresa Carrow, Adrienne, Summer Cash, Rosa, Carol Castro, Karen, Leella Cherry, Andrea Christopher, L.C., Kathryn, Mary Cochran, P.C., Lisa Collett, Mary Collier, S.C., Lynne, Janet Conway, Cheli Cook, Maria Toribia Cooper, F.C., Jackie, Darlene Johnson Davis, Christi Daws, Annette, J.D., A.D., Dayna DeBin, Sandra Decker, Anne, M.D., Marian, P.D., Crystal Derrick, Mary, J.E.D., Betsy DiGiacinto, Julie Dinkins-Borkowski, Danna Dixon, J.D., Kay Doran, R.D.,

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Elizabeth Douglas, Mary Ann Duncan, Beatrice, K.D., Julie Enriquez, S.E., M.E., Lisa Fallis, K.F., Rosalie Farmer, M.F., Rebecca, Amanda Ford, Angela Ford, Barbi Fox, Celinda Frost, Tina, A.G., Esmeralda Garza, Wanda Gebhart, Melissa Getz, T.G., A.G., G.G., Mary Guzman, Kathi Hall, Ketra Hancock, Carla Hansbro, Cari Harris, Crystal Hartmann, Charlotte Hartzell, Jane Hatcher, Stacey, Dorinda Haun, Jeri Hawkins, Marsha Hayes, S.H., K.C.H., Maria Teresa Hernandez, Sandra Hernandez, Cami Hill, M.H., Rochelle, Bonnie Horn, Lynn Hoyt, Jessica Hughes, M.H., D.J., Carrie, Anna Jordan, Christine Kasper, Katherine Keeney, Jessica Kelly, Penny, Angie, Rebecca Kennedy, Thon, X.K., Wendy, Kristin, Maureen, Janet Kunkel, Jill, Paula Lafleur, Stephanie Larson, Ginny Larvin, Lisa Lerner, Kate, Sandra Livingston, Berlinda Llanes, Penne Logan, Lisa, B.L., Teresa, Madrid, Cindy Maggiulli, K.M., Debra Marrinan, Jennifer Martinez, Judy, Linda, Mary Lee Mason, Marga, Michelle Matthews, Jeri, Erica, Laura, M.M., Aimee McGinnis, Marion Lee McGlothlin, Sharon, Beth McKee, M.M., Rhonda Meek, Diana Miller, Debra, L.M., Yvonne Moore, Melanie Morgan, Viola Morgenstern, Donna, Kim Moss, Llana Moss, Diana Nash, Tammy, Anisa Neely, Thelma, Suzanne, Marlene O'Keefe, Kimberly, Shelley, P.O., Patti Parr, Gale Payne, Lelar Phoenix, D.P., L.P., B.P., Debra, T.P., Mary, K.R., Sue Ratterree, Ginger Resta, Kimberly Reynolds, Rhonda Rhodes, Margaret Rice, Arcilla Richards, Laura, Karen, Betty Martinez Rivera, J.R., Kellie Roekner, E.R., Irene, Lynn, Dion Ross, Jennifer Samora, Jill, L.S., Lana Sanders,

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Jennifer, Amy, Linda Seibert, Renee Sharper, Khristina Shaw, P.S., Amy Shipton, Rolanda Shrader, Nicole, Dian, Victoria Smith, Rande Snyder, L.S., Myrna, Christina, R.S., Deanna Suarez, Norma Jean Tanton, Betty Taylor, Joanne, P.T., Stella Taylor, J.T., Keri, R.T., Carrie Toering, Becki, M.T., Meg Valentino, M.V., R.V., T.W., Nikki Waltrowski, J.W., Mary, R.W., Sherre West, Jolean, Alison, P.W., T Antoinette Wilson, M.W., Terra Wood, Januari Works, J.W., L.W., Valerie, Cathy Young, Megan, D.C., MeKel Engel, Cynthia Leonard, L.W., S.A., M.A., LaTasha Anderson, R.A., Stephanie, Pat Becker, E.B., N.B., Linda Lee Caldwell, Stacey Chapman, Ashlyn Clark, Linda, C.C., B.C., S.C., K.D., Lori, Michelle Dominguez, E.E., Renae Erskine, S.F., Jessica, M.F., Wendy, L.H.G., Michelle Haley, H.H., G.H., Emily James, S.J., Janice, Alyson Jones, Linda Lee Jones, C.L.K., Connie, Julie Keenan, V.L., Jennifer, Nancy Marston Gabriel, Natalee McRoberts, Pamela, V.M., Ashley Morris, K.M., L.N., Tracy Nudelman, Robin, Elaine, Andrea Pearson, Marla Peterson, Linda, Margaret, R.R., Marinda Reeves, Sherri, Dawn Riffe, Nancy, Joyce, C.S., Debra Skeens, Tasha Stewart, K.M.T., Melody, A.W., B.W., Janet Wimmer, Stephanie Worley, Amy Young, K.Z., Cassandra, Elena Ancarrow, Leslie, Pricilla Balido, J.B., Nancy, Sandra Darling, Susan Daugherty, Shaina DeGuire, Lisa Diaz, Laura, S.D., Grace English, Tracie Estrada, Amanda, Ashton Fisher, Nina, J.B.F., P.R.G., Rita Gonzalez, Shirley Lynn Gritta, Tana Hawkins, Corie Ann Heban, Maricela Irons, Amy Jackson, Karen Jeffers, Vanessa S. Jones, Alisa Jordheim, Eva Joy, Maureen, Sandra



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Doris, Olivia Jones, Susan Kelley, Tammy Klimek, V.M., Natalie Murphy, Kathy, Heather Payne, Donna T. Perry, Misty, J.R., Faith A. Seawright, Twyla, Chanda Smiley, K.N.S., Katrynka Tilson, D.W., Yonna Williams, L.D.W., Ruth Allenbach, Cathy Burd, A.K.C., E.M., Gina, Helen, Jennifer Bonilla, Bianca, C.C., Barbara Cox, Glenda Day, Tanya, Ethel Gardner, Shelly Goshert, B.J.H., Carrie, Danette Nadine Martin, R.M., Fallon R. Phillips, Harriett Faye Reese, Christy Torres, Hanya Wren Townes, Darlene M. Turner, Mary, Laurie Wright, Racheal Yard, L.Y., Leslie Chambers, Mary Cowan, Susan Ritter, Candace Thompson, Leslie Chambers, Nilza Laureano-Carrion, Deborah, Jeri, Teresa A. Bolden, Colleen Cooper, Hilary Meagan Taylor, Karen Agnew, Zorica, Lisa, Angela Bornstein, Susan Brashner, Chrystal Bridgeman, Linda Bukouy, Susan Burke, Rachel Caruso, Rachel Catalan, Barbara, Maria Correa, K.D., Rhonda, Bianca Devilme, D.L.D., S.E., Bette Etoll, Debra Ferguson, Carol A. Gonterman, Kristen, Karen L. Gushta, Lavana Howard, Suzanne Howard, Vicki Hudson, Suzanne Killion, Susan, Brenda Munnis Lanaris, Audry Lane, K.L., Tamara Megee, Claudia, Jennifer Morales, Sheri More, Linda, Sandra Neal, J.N., Lois Ocampo, Tracy Okus, Maureen Osterhoudt, Elizabeth Phelps, Michelle Phillips, R.A.P., Erin, Sylvette Rivera-Eliza, Kathleen Robinson, J., P.R., Camelita Skeete, Karen Snyder, Sally, Kristen Staehler, Theresa A. Taylor, Jessica, Kathleen Williams, Theresa M. Wyman, Linda Yates, R., Brennan Bradford, Leigh, Deborah Flowers, Betty B. Mallerence, Marie Smith, M., Rebecca Tribble, Louise

Webb, Crystal Wilson, Renee Bowland, Angela Wyatt, Karen Sue Anderson, Marcy K. Holmes, Melanie, Dena, M.H., Barbara, Elizabeth Kane, Marti Lane, Melanie Pettit Rogers, L.W., K.L.W., Deborah Ann Phillips, Lisa, Sandra Mayfield, Amanda Clark, Suellen, Jennifer, Ava Peterman Bertrand, Audrey Lynne Reed, Robin Robinson, Tracy Schmidt, Monica, Lisa, Daniella Martino, Diana Perito, Sherry Stine, Jaqueline E. Coal, Karen Sue Gentile, J.H., Debra W. Johnson, T.M., Lori Pennington, Laura Rodriguez, Karen Waldo, Hannah Murphey, Julie, Elizabeth, Pearl, Connie Eller, Julie Beth Gall, Chris, Janene Perillo, K.R., Karen Vagnoni, Jeannie Marie Weston, Alfreda, Stephanie Allestad, Lisa, T.D.B., Jill K. Cooper, Donna B. Fields, Beverly V. Hall, Debra, Julia N. Finch, Jo, Sue Madden, Tara J. Quinn, Teresa Rice, Cheryl, I.G., E.A., Sarah Delgado, Lescena Minn, C.B., Andrea Gordon, Dau Haaf, Amanda Scilacci, Shirley Smith, Kathleen Cosgrove, Joni D. Dvymich, C.G., E., C.B.M., Lorraine Welch, Denise Brown, J.D., Kristina Davis, Corinne J. Fletcher, LeeAnne Freddo, Lori, J.S., Sharon Blankenship, Eileen Hall, Theresa Baux, E.M.E., Kelly A. Good, M.L.Kane, Jennifer, Diane, Kristin M. Meyer, Connie Gay Ellerson, Taylor, Judy, Mary R. Hall, Stephanie, Teresa Dawn Sybert Tipton, Jennifer, Cindy Cunliffe, E.B., S.B., Jena Crispin, Nancy Louise Debord, Sharon Parada-Fernandez, Dawn Rooney, Amanda Scilacci, Linda Spence, Julie Marae Ferguson, Cindy, Jill, Cheryl Nuesmeyer, Y.M., Linda H., Cassandra Sanders, Jaimie Skalski, Melissa, Amina Rivera, A.S., R.C.S., Lorrie, J.M., J.C., Deann



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Ullrich, T.D., Emily M. French, Yvonna P. Hammock, Patricia Johnstone, Dawn M. Khamvongsa, Maureen Messersmith, Diane K. Musselman, Mary L. Neikam, Mary Ann Novak, Joann L. Otrowski, Cheryl L. Smith, Nancy Catherine Williams Sweitzer, Shavonne M. VonOrmer, Lyde K. Shilling, Deborah J. Gute, Kelly C. Bennett, B.J.B., Mary J. Duncan, Barbara Morton, Sandra Marie Tedesco, Maria O'Connor, Marie C. Alosi, Brandie Michelle Atwood, M.D.B., Tammy Binkley Boone, K.B., V.J.B., Sylvia Rene Branton, J.B., Tina L. Cooke, M.L.F., S.G.H., V.H., M.S.O., Lorene Elaine Woods, Betty Wylie, Rebekah Carter, Vickie E. Clark, Lashonda M. Cody, G.E., Michelle M. Fraley, M.J.H., Diane Harrison, Lisa M. Houston, Karen Keitzman, M.M.K., Deborah Longford, Joylynn Eloise Miller, M.L.M., Sherry Mae Morgan, Leslie D. Musick, Linda S. Newberry, Myra J. Rasmussen, T.L.R., Pamela Sanders, Myra E. Simmons, Gale Allen Smith, D.H.Q., S.L.T., Jill Cohen Walker, Jenifer B. Whitehead, Konnie Sue Woods, E.A.W., Suzanne Young, J.M.H., J.M., S.B., Deborah L. Dowless, Barbara Ann Frey, B.J.H., Robin Jones, Kathy M. Langford, S.M.L., P.S., J.T., Sheila R. Watkinson, S.M.W., Peggy Zucken, Cathy L. Moffat, Donett R. Beckwith, K.B., Sally Gorr, L.M.S., Audra Villarreal, Stephanie Yeazell, Teresa Hunger, Tami T. Rohrbacher, C.A.N., Jamie Renee Carte, Kathryn Sue Rice, Rosa Maria Rosas, G.B., Marie Hendrikson, Jennifer G. Hennes, J.S.K., Patricia A. Meixeisperger, T.M.N., Elizabeth C. Patchet, Tracy Ann Stalsberg, Robin Lynne Willegal, Sandra E. Wright, Elise Anderson, Tasha Jones, Kathy Forentino, Deborah,

Jill Crowe, Debra Johnson, Kristin Foster, Hyon Nolen, Cindy Lilly, Eileen M. Craig, Jennifer Alayo-Aguilar, Jennifer Padilla, Rebekah Ivins, Rhonda Barnes, Tara Gonzales, E.H., Peggy E. Strange, Kathryn Camarillo, Julie Zigler Norman, Helena, Karen Masood, Irma L. Gomez, Crystal, Nicole Peck, Jennifer Perry, Wendy Beutel, Nancy Belzile, Dana, Patricia J. Smith, Melissa Hemphill, Karen Perez, Deborah Tilden, Terri Nordone, Mary Lockwood, Michelle Haley, Deb, Ellen Garrison Philpot, D.G., Louise Graves, Pat Goltz, Vanessa Tedesco, Karin Lynn-Hill, Nancy, Y.J., Karen, C.B., Jeanene Brown, Wendy Shettig, T.A., Renee Harstine, Eunice MacDonald, Kimberly van der Linden, Stacy Glen Davison, Linda Hutchinson, Jennifer Messina, Wendy Collins, Amanda L. Garrett, Patti, and Nina.

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**APPENDIX B**  
**QUOTES OF ARKANSAS WOMEN**  
**HURT BY ABORTION**

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**Nita Roder**

**How has abortion affected you?**

Had the abortion in '72. It overwhelmed me, devastated me . . . In 1993, I had a miscarriage of Thomas Aaron at home . . . I was 12 weeks pregnant, but he died earlier. He is a perfect example of the child I aborted in 1972. Seeing him as I want you to see him, shows me the reality of what my abortion did to my other child. . . . to see his face, his fingers, his ribs, his personality, his perfectly formed features. he is not a blob of tissue or a clump of cells as I was told. . . . My family practice doctor allowed me to keep him rather than bury him or incinerate him. He is 11 weeks, the same age many abortions occur, first trimester.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I want you to see my son, Thomas Aaron, so I am allowing the lawyers to have him to share to the Court. I want my son back at the end of the court case, so that he can continue to be shown to women considering whether to have an abortion. If we know the truth, women will not want to abort.

**Brooklyn**

**How has abortion affected you?**

I live with this regret and guilt every single day of my life. My due date, holidays, special occasions etc. have all been very hard for me to deal with. My [baby's] 1 year [birthday] is coming up soon and I am already dreading that day. When I go to the OBGYN [doctor]. I feel like I am going [to] have a panic attack because the sight of instruments and the exam table everything about going to the [doctor] brings back so many flashbacks.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It is murder just the same as taking a gun and shooting someone [with] it. You are killing a living . . .

**Sue Adams**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I feel as if I will never forgive myself. I miss the child who would be 29 this year and I can never reach out to them. I will never feel like a good mother to any other children. I can no longer have children and I want more badly. I want so much to save other women and babies. It is a hurt that doesn't end.



**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It should not be legal. They have no idea what they are talking about. The emotional and spiritual damage is.

**Marie C. Alosi**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

For many years I was numb . . . After the first I became harder than nails, didn't care went into a self-destructive path of drugs, alcohol and more promiscuity in my early 20's I did slow down and found myself pregnant again during the 2nd procedure I wanted them to stop (they (Drs.)) couldn't I cried out God help me. It took many years to face and acknowledge my crime against child; myself and God. He has helped me at that very moment till now to live, be forgiven, forgive myself.

**Brandie M. Atwood**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Abortion turned a fourteen year old school girl into a suicidal teenager that lived with feelings of guilt, rejection and helplessness. When I got married and became pregnant, I cried constantly over the baby I killed. I was an emotional wreck throughout that pregnancy. Everyday that I was pregnant I kept

thinking of the baby I aborted; how old would it be, was it a boy or girl?

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Abortion destroyed my life when I was 14 years old! Abortion leaves more emotional scars than physical. I felt alone, isolated from my friends and family. When I was pregnant and married, 10 years later, every day I cried over the baby I killed. I cried every day! After my abortion, I started doing drugs, sleeping around, and tried to commit suicide.

**B.B.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It has made me feel cheap, dirty, depressed, helpless, ashamed, suicidal and much more. I've come a long way by repenting and receiving God's forgiveness but the scars and memories as well as relational problems will be with me forever.

**M.B.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Constant grief, sadness, regret, remembering every detail of the abortion, nightmare, every day I think of my baby. Wishing and hoping for forgiveness, wishing I could go back and stop what I did. Hoping that I can

see him or her again wondering him or her looks, feelings, hair, smell of skin, touch, fingers. Nightmares of the silent scream of the pain I inflicted. Severe depression, guilt, . . .

**Tammy B. Boone**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Emotional, depression, difficulty in relationships, guilt, anger, eventually working in CPC helped me work through much of the pain. Working for laws to be changed in ARK. At the time of the abortion I had severe bleeding, after several calls to the clinic, they had no record of my visit, refused to talk to me.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

If they saw their child being ripped apart and sucked through a tube they would know there is nothing redeeming in abortion. Any procedure that is so controversial cannot possibly be any value.

**K.B.**

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Making abortion legal only raises the numbers dramatically and puts millions more women in a situation to deal with the moral dilemma of what she's

done – not to mention killing millions of innocent babies.

**Donna Victoria Blain**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It has saddened and at one time deeply depressed me into the state of obesity. I've been through much therapy and counseling to try and release the guilt and weight I carry around in my heart. I would like to know if there are medical reasons that would explain why I am unable to have more children. If it has anything to do with abortion.

**V.B.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Panges of regret, feelings of guilt and shame. Created barrier between me and my husband – affected our relationship even though he decided with me. Disappointment in myself.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

How can anyone legalize the killing of another human being – an innocent new life growing in its mother's womb. It feels pain – has its own blood type – has a heartbeat at 18 days. People suffer emotional pain and at times physically from abortion. Please

stop the pain. My life would be better now if abortion would not have been legal then.

**J.B.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Daily guilt. Deep, deep scars that I hide some of the time, often times I am in so much sorrow for the life of that child. I thought at the time, I could just do this and go on with my life. That's not so! It is a burden I live with every day and it is a subject of inner sorrow I deal with almost daily! The grief I feel really hasn't subsided for me at all! Sometimes I cry out inside I'm always crying out for the child – my child!

**S.B.M.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It is with me EVERYDAY . . . almost 20 years later! For years I was in denial, but I was bound by shame and guilt. It is the unspeakable deed and harms a woman deep to her core.

**Donna M. Clifton**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It hurt my mother deeply. She loved her grandkids and took great joy in them. She was never able to meet my child. My brothers and sisters lost a niece or nephew. The person it affects most is my husband. I cannot give him children.

**Tammie L. Cook**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

In every area of my life – Especially how I relate with my children and husband. The emotional bondage from all the secrets you keep. Shame and guilt. I had to have a hysterectomy at 30. A lot of medical problems – female related.

**Edith Correa**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It has affected every aspect of my life. There is not one part of my life that has not been touched by my abortions.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Change your mind abortion is murder.

**Kandi Cox**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

For many years I was angry! I lost a marriage due to my depression. I have bad scar tissue and had miscarriages afterwards when I married. Depression, anxiety, hurt, pain, feeling worthless and lost have all played major roles in my life.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It should not. It kills a living soul and wounds another. It is murder. Anything that stops a beating heart is murder no matter how you look at it.

**M.A.C.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Emotionally – Physically. I was 25 when I had my abortion. I'm 42 now and there is not a day that goes by I don't think about how I murdered my baby.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Go have one! If you want a nation of emotionally, physically, disturbed women, go ahead. I'm pleading with you please stop this butchering of women and their baby's. Because of this procedure I cannot have any more children. I thank God I have one son.

**S.C.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It has affected me in many ways. Physically I had a miscarriage, 2 of my children were hi-risk pregnancies and the labor was dangerously fast. Emotionally lots of shame, regret, pain over what I did to these

babies. It was a stronghold I had for years. I became a drug addict for years to hide the pain.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Abortion is murder plain and simple it is not safe. It carries consequences for a lifetime.

**B.E.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It made me feel ashamed and not better than a murderer in prison. I dreamed for a long time about my wrong decision. I would look at other children wondering what my child would have been like. Abortion is not a quick fix. It is a BIG emptiness that no one or thing can ever fill that void. Tremendous anguish. If it wasn't for God's unconditional love and forgiveness to wash away the guilt and pain I would be a vegetable, insane, or dead from killing myself. If only for Jesus I can help expose this wrong to innocent children.

**Jerrel Ann Farmer**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I am 47 years old. I have only been pregnant once since my abortion and I had a miscarriage. How sad I would have been a great mom. I often think of how



old my child would be. I believe my baby was a boy. I wonder what he would have become. I think of how close we could have been. It is a profound loss.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Killing is a crime and we need to get our heads out of the sand. A fetus is an unborn child at any stage. To believe different is to believe a lie. All human life is created in His Image. No court has the authority to say different and not suffer the consequences as a Nation.

**L.F.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Guilt saturated my sole until in Oct 1986 when I asked the Lord to return into my life and cleanse me.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

You cannot morally legalize murder.

**K.G.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It made me “hard”, I was depressed, angry and in self-destruction mode. I felt like I did not deserve to love or live.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

That having an abortion kills more than one person. It kills the baby, the mom, the dad, the family and no telling how many other relationships.

**Carla M. Gregory**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

The first seven – ten years there was anger and bitterness. Once I realized the nature of the abortion procedure and the development of the child there was a lot of guilt and regret for what I had done to my child.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

That the termination of human life is murder; that the fetus is a human life; That abortion terminated that life of the fetus; That abortion is murder and so is not legal.

**Amber Hansen**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Emotionally – I have fear of losing my 2 children (that I have now) and grief and guilt that will never ever subside. Physically – the pain was greater and lasted longer than I expected. I had a miscarriage when I tried to become pregnant after the abortions.

**Terri Hegi**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It took me a long time (12 years) to grieve the loss and finally begin to forgive myself and my parents.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

If our court system endorses the murder of the very young and defenseless, it won't be long before they endorse the murder of the very old and defenseless, then the infirmed, the mentally challenged, the substance abuser . . . When will it be legal to kill you? The parallel to Nazi Germany is undeniable.

**V.H.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It has destroyed every area of my life and the emotional pain is still there and will probably always be there, to some extent.

**Jackie Harrell**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I was hospitalized afterwards and the emotional and physical damage is hard to put into words.

**Paula R. Deckard**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

In several ways – I feel terrible as a mother due to I choose to kill one of my precious babies. I have had a stillborn and you have to wonder if they are connected. Also at that point in my life it made me reach out for more sex and alcohol resulting in a very sinful life that was full of guilt and shame.

**J.L.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Guilt, shame, withdrawal from social situations.

**Elizabeth Morton**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I have lived with the guilt and shame for 19 years. I have experienced anger and low self-esteem as a result. I have condemned myself for years for my decision and what people would think if they only knew.

**Marsha D. Johnson**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I abused drugs; real hard on myself, have problem relating to others and sometimes have long periods of depression.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

We have legalized something that not only kills unborn children but also causes emotional and physical problems in women that society tells them "TO GET OVER IT" is something that women don't speak about, because they feel like monsters. How healthy is that?

**D.K.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Very negatively! I have had depression, guilt, sleeplessness, counseling, etc. Not a day goes by that I don't think about killing my baby.

**Jeanne Larivee**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I was a drunk drug addict before and afterwards I didn't really care if I lived or died. I cried for three months solid. It drove me to the arms of Jesus.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It is murder! It should be called by its rightful name. I knew it was bad (wrong) when I did it. It took three years or so to stop crying every time I thought of it. It's murder.

**Dickie Ann Lashlee**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Pain that no doctor can seem to find the cause of in my lower extremities and numbness on one side from waist down daily. I have periods of depression. I do not want to have relations with my husband as often as he would like. I don't want to be around children. Regret my actions always.

**Sandra Mauldin**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It has shattered my life beyond what I could ever sufficiently put into words. After the abortion, I became an alcoholic and ended up in the psychiatric ward of a mental hospital. I lived a promiscuous lifestyle and did not care if I lived or died.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

“In order for evil to gain acceptance among otherwise well-intentioned people it must gain acceptance as something else – something more palatable – something that can deflect the truth.” Abortion is murder, and we as a civilized society can and should do better than this.

**Wendi Miller**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

For 20 years I had unemptiness inside I could not understand. Even becoming a Messianic Christian (A Jewish person who accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior) didn't take care of this overwhelming emptiness. I couldn't understand how anyone could love me especially God! (After all I had broken the law (abortion was not legal yet) so I must be a terrible person.) As for unconditional love didn't make any sense (like someone trying to talk to me who didn't speak English and me being able to understand.

**Courtney Mitchell**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

There has never been a day since the abortion that I don't think about how I murdered a helpless child.

**Jackie Montgomery**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Right after the abortion I felt numb and then sank into a depression and was suicidal. 4 months after the procedure I sought medical help before I killed myself and left 3 daughters with no mother . . . the agony I would experience over the loss of my child, I would NEVER have had the procedure. Why was I treated like a tooth being pulled.

**H.A.M.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

My abortion has affected me emotionally to the point of extreme depression, suicidal thoughts, night terrors, insomnia; lack of self-worth; anniversary reactions; countless hours of mental health therapy; thousands of dollars for prescription medication to off-set panic attacks; which I still face today – over 18 years later.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I would tell a court that believes abortion should be legal that they are catering to the abortion business. Abortions must be illegal! Women have been lied to for over 30 years. Countless women suffer psychologically – many have committed suicide. Women are being exploited for the sake of money and it must be



stopped. If I had more room, I'd tell them a lot of other reasons why abortion must be stopped.

**Joyce A. Nesbit**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It has affected my everyday life. I was not able to have children. I always wonder was my child a girl a boy. How old would it be today. What would our relationship be. I am a murderer. I willing made a choice to take another life. Oh how I have suffered guilt, drugs, 5 marriages, anger, bitterness. Maybe that child was going to be the love of my life, take care of me when I am old.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I honestly don't believe a court can make that design for a woman to believe that just because the law says it's ok that she can murder a child and never look back. I am sorry that is not going to happen. You reap what you sow and you pay the consequences.

**M.O.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It has affected my relationship with my mother, husband, and children.

**Jeanette Parks**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

The night I returned home I woke up hearing a baby cry, my boyfriend said it was cats. This happened often and I was depressed. I didn't understand because I didn't believe it was a baby yet. On public T.V. I saw an abortion and realized it was alive and I was guilty of murder. I became pregnant later and baby was killed in car accident, I believe because of abortion. The guilt was horrible.

**Angela Rambo**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Many years of sadness, depression and separation from others.

**Angie Ramsey**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I became a drug addict, alcoholic, had eating disorders, guilt, anger, relationship problems, unforgiveness towards myself and my mother, shame, nightmares, depression, a lot of confusion about why I felt the way I did. Also after 2nd abortion, got tubal infection and was at the ER within days after abortion – very painful.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It shouldn't be – abortion isn't the answer, it's the problem. Millions of women are walking around wounded from abortion. If abortion hadn't of been legal, my 2 children may be alive today.

**Nancy C. Ray**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I wonder if it was a boy or a girl – wonder what he or she would be like at 31 years old.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It's very simple – Thou shalt not kill –

**Ann Marie Riley**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It has left me with an empty feeling, like something is missing. It has left me to where I have a hard time trusting people.

**B.M.S.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I was really depressed for a long time after it. When my oldest child was in fetal distress during labor, I felt like God was punishing me for what I had done.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

If I had known how much pain and guilt I would feel because of it, I would never have killed my baby.

**Patti Spain**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

It has caused lots of shame, pain, consumed my life and start a chain of bad decides and mistakes from the pain and depression.

**F.S.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Have felt very guilty for killing a life.

**Susan A. Wilcoxson**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I had a lot of “knowledge” about abortion due to working for a Pro-Life organization, so I walked through it in the beginning pretty numb. Afterward, I

began to experience depression and shame in a way I had never known. Every year for about 10 years – I marked the anniversary . . . but only 1 week ago was I freed of the shame, sorrow, depression and guilt. I will live with the regret every day of my life . . .

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Please do not continue to rule that this horrible act is a good thing for women. Abortion only endorses behavior that we are desperately needing as a nation to do away with. We are destroying the future of our country one at a time.

**Julia F. Myers-Williams**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I have had numerous dreams of carrying babies that kept getting smaller and smaller and I was afraid they were dying or going to die. Other dreams were babies a little older I was taking care of as they were mine, but not the children I have had.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I have written in the past to the president of the U.S.A. about my opinion of abortion, I even sent pictures of the children I have had. It has effected my

raising of my children I did have. Emotionally it has been very hard on me and I can never reverse that, those operations. And I would if I could. And have a healthier life than I have had.

**Dana Renee Nickles**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

In the beginning I thought I was doing the right thing. Only afterwards did I realize the TRUTH! My conscience was seared, my heart broken. I lived in a state of depression looking at drugs as the answer to my problem. And the problem – I had killed my child! See you don't realize what happens to yourself until it's too late, you've already done it and there's no turning back. I can't turn back time – if I could – I WOULDN'T HAVE AN ABORTION!! I was emotionally torn apart I didn't know what happiness was, confusion, my best friend! I built a wall around myself with bricks of denial. Shutting everyone out!! I hated myself. Thinking of suicide MANY MANY times, I could not live with myself.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

If we're talking about legal. Is it legal to murder any human? Being baby, adult, black, white? No! It's illegal and sometimes punishable with life in prison. These unborn babies with heartbeats, nervous system, heart starts beating at 21 Days, is it not

medically correct that if the heart beats, it's alive? So, I would say abortion is taking someone that is alive and killing them. Murder!! We are not by no means the one who decides if this person or child should live or die. They're already alive!

**K.M.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I have always felt like a murderer. I have also been committed to a mental hospital for 3 months in 82. I only have one daughter and have always wanted more. If there was a restriction on this like tobacco or alcohol that would have helped me.

**Millie F. Lace**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

For twelve years I couldn't even say the word. Not only emotionally trying to deal with it, but immediately afterwards I bled extensively from parts left inside of me.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Making abortion legal allows easier access to abortionists; whereas some women would not break the law if it were illegal.

**Laura Jean Eversoll**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I have suffered emotionally wanting to commit suicide because of my choice to have my baby terminated. I have felt shame, guilt, anger, regret, remorse and I have lived most of my adult life with a sense of secrecy.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Abortion is not an attribute or a benefit to an unborn baby or the mother. Abortion prematurely terminates a life and it destroys a woman's confidence in being able to function emotionally in society.

**Patricia Cowan**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I deeply regretted killing my baby.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I would explain the brutality of the procedures; the dismemberment of the child, the burning alive and poison, the "scraping out" method, or the most horrendous – partial birth abortion in which the child is pulled partially out, stabbed in the back of the head



with scissors then a suction tube inserted to suck and flatten the skull. How painful this is to the unborn child and the fact that a person can be charged with murder in the death of an unborn child but if the mother “chooses” to have an abortion it’s not murder. How convenient.

### **Amy Burns**

#### **How has your abortion affected you?**

I became very sick and ran a high fever for several days. Had to be put on medication for infection. I became very depressed for two – three weeks. I still think about it a lot and wonder what sex the baby was and what it would have looked like. I had my tubes tied shortly after the abortion as a means of birth control. I was 21 years old and unmarried at the time. I have since remarried and early in our marriage we would have liked to have a baby but could not afford the reversal surgery.

#### **Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I believe that any woman in an unplanned pregnancy is not in the right frame of mind to make such a major decision. Medical doctors give their post-surgery patients or PR patients a written order not to make any major decisions for a certain amount of time. This is because of impaired judgement. This is the same situation a woman finds herself in when

deciding whether to abort or not. Her best judgement is impaired due to her emotional state of mind.

**Lisa M. Brashears**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

10 years of drug and alcohol abuse 3 failed marriages, extreme guilt, self-hate, adversely affected all my relationships, trouble accepting love – trust issues – self-hate and lack of self-worth.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Even though a baby cannot live outside the womb it is still a human life; even though it may be unwanted or considered a nuisance there are people we all come in contact with that are unwanted or a nuisance but we are not allowed to kill them. Upon conception – that is life not a blob of tissue. We must recognize life at its conception. We've got to also realize that we are often times not just destroying a baby's life but we often destroy the mother's life. Maybe not so dramatically but slowly just the same.

**Katherine Anderson**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I feel like I'm going to go to hell, I feel like nobody cares about how I feel because everyone at the clinic

knew I didn't want to get it, I begged them to just let me go home.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

How can they say it's okay to kill a baby that's in your belly but it's not okay to kill someone? What is the difference? There is no difference. You can't kill a 3 month old baby and get away with it so how come you can kill a baby in the womb?

**Lisa**

**How has abortion affected you?**

Feelings of guilt, shame, depression, unworthiness, regret & remorse.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Be educated about what you consider legal. How does this effect people. Is this in the best interest of women? Of men? Of families?

**Paulette Bunting**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

For 12 years I had depression, nightmares, difficult bonding with my subsequent children, use of

prescription drugs to numb the pain, a mild nervous breakdown, anger issues, low self-esteem, self-hate.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

All life is created equal, born and unborn. That women will suffer much more damage from abortion, physically emotionally and spiritually than from being carrying and delivering a child.

**Cecilia S. Caine**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

30 years of Isolation-Guilt and Shame

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I have given up almost 30 years of quality-loving-trusting relationships- because I felt it was OK to take my Baby's life- never would I encourage any girl – to go thru what I have because of my abortion.

**Renee Drennan**

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It changes the person having the abortion and takes away from society a function, capable and sound minded person to contribute to the world. Not to mention the fact of literally committing murder.

**Denise**

**How has abortion affected you?**

The guilt, pain and periods of depression overwhelm me. I would like to think that I would have acted differently if abortion wasn't such an easy option. Women are overwhelmed with emotion when they discover an unexpected pregnancy. If we can change our laws and society to embrace women at this critical time, we can change lives.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It is simple – the fetus is a life – nobody has the right to choose if he/she lives or dies. Don't let women think that this is acceptable. The laws dictate people's point of views.

**Kelly R. Moore**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Regret + shame began the day I left the clinic. I thought of my child daily; began having nightmares. I just found myself doing anything to hurt myself – because I did not deserve to be happy.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

We know abortion is wrong. We do it in secret. There are facts that need to be reviewed; the growing number of women sharing their heart-ache after deciding to have an abortion. Women have never been FULLY informed about what happens before, during, & after an abortion. The emotional side is never talked about. Abortion not only takes the life of the child, but all too often, it takes the mother's life as well. A mother would have the right to grieve for a child taken by another act; but a mother feels that she has no right to grieve a child she chose to abort.

**T.C.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

Long term guilt, sadness

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It is damaging to lives

**Amber Ryder**

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

The health of the mother is at stake – Emotionally she might not make it through the experience of acknowledging that she took her child’s life – what should be more important, life or choice? Are we really fighting to legalize murder? If abortion would have been illegal in 2002, my son PJ would be with me right now.

**C.S.**

**How has your abortion affected you?**

I turned to drugs to mask my pain and became severely addicted, became involved with violent men

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It has long-term effects on the mothers, of these babies, not only is it killing innocent babies, but

ruining the lives of the mothers forever unless they get counseling, and most do not

**Adrean**

**How has abortion affected you?**

It has caused major depression and I turned to drugs & drinking to deal with the pain. I became very bitter and unhappy with life. The man was deeply hurt that he didn't have a say that it was His child.

**Melissa Swatloski**

**How has abortion affected you?**

I went into a deep depression for probably 5-6 years. I convinced myself I couldn't be a good mother to the children I already have because I chose to destroy my child. I wanted the Dr. to stop but I was so sedated all I could do was cry.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

They're foolish. It's not only murder it causes so much pain & grief. Depression. I almost lost my child after the abortion because of damage to my uterus. I eventually had to have a hysterectomy. Sex was painful (physically). You feel like less of a woman. It's been 8 yrs. and the pain still lays heavy on my heart.



**Carol Owens Vaughn**

**How has abortion affected you?**

I was 18 years old and was in the Army stationed in Bradkrueznach, Germany. I had only been in country one month. I had a one-night stand with a married fellow soldier who I was not at all interested in. He was on his way back to the states in about a month. I wanted to keep my baby, but saw no possible way to do that. I never told the guy. I didn't know his real name. I always wanted many children since I was a child so I tried to take care of my baby while I could by talking to her and telling her I was sorry for having to abort her and that I wished I could keep her (I felt it might be a little girl). I ate right, talked to her and cherished her while I had a chance, knowing what I had planned to do. I saw no other way, since I had only arrived in Germany a month before, and didn't have family to support me. I never told anyone in my family. I am 46 years old now and I deeply regret having killed my first born child. He or she would be about 28 years old now. I have never been able to complete anything I've ever begun (besides a meal) in my entire life to this day. I have had bouts of depression and suicidal ideations throughout the years. The guilt never leaves me, although I know God has forgiven me, I can never forgive myself or excuse myself. I wish I had never made that decision. I wish abortion had never been an option for me. My baby's life was precious and I decided to murder her or him, this I'll never know, whether it was a boy or girl. I have 2 children now. A daughter, and a son who

I love very much. I have been very protective of them both to the point of getting a job in the schools they attended so I could keep them from being harmed and I would kill anyone and everyone who ever tried to harm them, I promise you. That's what killing my child has done to me. I have failed marriage behind me. I've tried to go to college 5 or 6 times over the years and have given up for fear of failure. I have been and am bulimic. I have tried to kill myself with food. I have over-dosed on drugs at least 3 times. I have tried to hang myself once. Tried to cut my wrist once. Abused drugs and sex with many partners. I have hated myself. I have isolated myself from family and friends. I spend most of my time alone. I am disabled. I have no life (social) I have my 2 children who are 20 and 18 years old. They are the loves of my life. They give me the will and want to live. I'm left to wonder what my life would have been like had I not aborted my child. When I ended that life, I ended my own. I had so much potential and it all was wasted when I took my child's life.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Where would you or your children be now if someone had decided to abort you. Someone saw you as valuable or you would not be here. It's the least you can do for unborn children, choose to give them the benefits you were given.

## **Crystal Roden**

### **How has abortion affected you?**

I was a Christian in my heart who'd had a rough upbringing and didn't feel wanted at home, having the baby at home was not an option because my mom was determined to get me out of the house, I knew she didn't want a screaming baby there on top of me there. . . . the boyfriend told me if I didn't have the abortion he'd hit me in the stomach and make me miscarry and if that didn't work he'd abuse the child once it was here. . . . so I gave the baby back to God where it would be wanted and safe. . . . how it affected me? I hated myself, I am a murderer and I used to think I was a good person. . . . it was an innocent baby that had never harmed a person in its life because it didn't have a life. I stayed high for years mentally running from it, I didn't think I deserved children after and I hated listening to people talk about their kids. . . . I was seventeen when I had that abortion. . . . I never would have kids with that man after that. . . . And he wouldn't let me go until I finally put a state line between us nine years later. . . . took me years to finally deal with what I had done. . . . YEARS!

### **Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I would tell them that the truth is, most of the time it isn't the young girl making the choice to have an

abortion. Many times she is marched there by some boyfriend who didn't want to be responsible for a child or some parent who doesn't want to sully the family name. . . . I would tell them that this country guarantees the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness and the right to life begins at conception because stopping the life of the baby in the place that should be the safest place in the world for it is STILL stopping the life of the baby and that's a fact they cannot deny. . . .

### **Shatina Logan**

#### **How has abortion affected you?**

I have not been able to forget it, I have committed so many immoral acts just to gain a feeling of acceptance. I feel that I will never get past this feeling of failure and self-loathing. I have become so numb inside, I don't feel like a real person anymore. I am just alive because I am breathing. I don't have any enjoyment in life. I have a 4 year old, and the majority of the time, I am just going through the motions. I don't have the emotions that a mother should have because all those emotions died when my aborted children died.

#### **Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

It seems to be easy to justify the legality or illegality of an issue because we live in an age of such moral

decay. I think it is important for us as people to realize that abortion is murder. No matter how you look at it, the baby will die. How then can abortion be legal? It is just another word for murder. I feel responsible because I committed murder and have gone without punishment; I know God forgives me, but I have such a hard time forgiving myself. We will never live in a perfect world; but until we stop this killing of unborn children, our nation will always suffer. God only forgives when you come to him humbly and ask. Those who would keep abortion forever legal are not asking for forgiveness but instead openly promoting death, murder, and sin. What must God think? How can we expect to live in peace when our leaders flaunt sin in the face of a holy god. The ways of the liberal courts are not working. Step out on faith and do what is right. Don't allow abortion to be legal; overturn Roe v. Wade.

### **Morgan**

#### **How has abortion affected you?**

I suffered severe depression. I cried for no reason at all times. I was sleeping for 20 hours a day, unable to cope with others.

#### **Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

That they should have lived with me for the two years I was trying to keep it a secret. That they should be

forced to live through severe depression, with no one really understanding what they're going through.

**Darlene Reavis**

**How has abortion affected you?**

As soon as the abortion began, I began to feel sick to my stomach. As it continued, I knew without a doubt that I was killing a child, that it was not a mere blob of tissue as they had said. At this point, I wanted to stop it, but I believed it was too late and that the damage was done. For years I had to carry the guilt of killing my own child. I later carried four children and with each child, for nine months, I was consumed with guilt over the murder of my first child. Make no mistake, abortion IS murder. Even after 30 years, the pain still lingers.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I would tell the court that abortion is murder, and that all you have to do is have one to know that. I would tell the court that murder is murder, and nobody has the right to take the life of an innocent. I would tell the court that just because a woman is carrying a child no more gives her the right to kill it, than she would have if she had already delivered the child. I would tell the court that by allowing women to kill their children, they are not only killing the children, but they are damaging the women/girls, and

society as a whole. The less value life has in the womb equals the less value life has outside the womb.

**Linda Jackson**

**How has abortion affected you?**

There is seldom a day that goes by I do not think of my son and what he could have accomplished in this world. The loss never goes away. As my children are having children there is the ever present realization that there is a generation forever lost.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Would you take your innocent infant child or grandchild and cut it to pieces and throw it away? Abortion is no different!

**J.H.**

**How has abortion affected you?**

For the next 1 1/2 years after the abortion, it completely ruined me emotionally and spiritually. This one friend reached out to me and brought me to a church revival and it was at this time I gave it all over to God and then forgave myself and accepted the forgiveness Jesus gave.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Even if you aren't a Christian, abortion is just wrong. Life truly begins when conception takes place and there isn't any question on this fact. It damages the body, mind, spirit and so much more in a girl . . . there is no question that abortion should be illegal.

**Maria Pistole**

**How has abortion affected you?**

Depression, alcohol abuse, guilt, pain, insecurity, fear, isolation. I felt like I committed murder but it was legal.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Lives are at stake. Women who survive the abortion suffer and repress the suffering for many years. Leading to depression, drug abuse, and parental and marital discord and unhealthy relationships.

**Kari Hodges**

**How has abortion affected you?**

My need for love & attention only intensified after the abortion. With my fairytale ideal of motherhood broken, I spent ten years in promiscuity and short



term relationships. I had pledged to myself I would never do that again, regardless of my circumstances, and so ended up marrying when I became pregnant again at 24. When my son was born, I knew in that instant, what a miracle had just happened. There was no way a messed up, self-centered girl could have ever created something so perfect. Divorced after 3 years, with two children, I began to seek healing. I put my faith and trust in Jesus Christ at 28, and my life was changed forever. However, this still did not force me to address what I had done. It wasn't polite to discuss a past abortion, so it wasn't until I watched the story of a mother who murdered her two tiny children by drowning them in her car, that I realized I had been no different. The shock and horror that the nation expressed toward this mother, should have been directed at me as well. I was screaming inside to tell the world that I was a murderer. I am thankful I have found grace and mercy in Christ. I am forgiven, but I still have a long way to go to be truly healed of the experience. I do not condemn anyone for past decisions, but long for the truth of abortion to be proclaimed, and for healing to begin for all women and men who have been deceived about abortion, and what it really is.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I believe that abortion at any stage is the intentional murder of another human being. I believe you cannot

make the excuse of saving women's lives from back alley abortion hack jobs, to justify legalized murder. Not one person has a higher right to life than another. Women are being deceived. Education about pregnancy, and standing beside women of all ages and socio-economic backgrounds who are pregnant, no matter what the circumstances, should be where we focus our resources.

### **Lisa Nunley**

#### **How has abortion affected you?**

I became pregnant as an older teen. My father begged me NOT to abort. So I went to my mother. She left my dad, me, my sister and brother when I was 6 years old. She took me to the hospital to get an exam. They asked me, after they confirmed that I was pregnant, if I wanted to carry the baby to full term or abort the mass of tissue. Since I had no attachment to a "mass of tissue" I figured this would be no big deal. My mother gave me the money I needed to have the abortion. She dropped me off at the clinic. I was alone and had no idea what I was doing. I did not bring enough money to be put to sleep through the "procedure" . . . so I was awake the whole time. They numbed me. I felt no physical pain . . . but I will never forget the tugging and the pulling . . . the sound of the vacuum. After the abortion, I was shuffled out the back way. I sat alone on the curb outside, waiting for my mother to come pick me up. She was an hour late. They told me I would forget about the

“mass of tissue’ and be able to go on with my life, but I was having nightmares every night. For many years, a day did not go by that I did not contemplate suicide. Guilt, sorrow, loss of dignity and deep shame are the most felt responses after an abortion. I experienced deep despair and lonely scars of regret.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Every child is a wanted child. The option of adoption is a far healthier option and there are endless lists of families waiting and longing to adopt those babies. Abortion is not a choice about women’s value, family, career, how to live their lives, or when or whether to have children. Abortion is a choice between allowing an unborn baby to live or killing it.

**Susan**

**How has abortion affected you?**

I feel very betrayed because my dad did this to me. I was not even aware I was for sure pregnant until 9 years later when as an adult I requested my medical records. I was given no information or choice about anything. I endured extreme physical pain in the waiting room as the “shot” took effect and then the contents were scraped out on an exam table. I can only imagine the pain women have that choose abortion if I have had this much pain when I had no choice.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

They are making something legal that is detrimental to mankind, both the killed babies and the living people left to grieve this awful procedure.

**A.H.**

**How has abortion affected you?**

It has caused depression, anxiety, feelings of guilt and shame, the inability to forgive myself, the trauma of having to hide a painful secret from my family and problems sleeping.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

The practice of abortion is barbaric. The sanctity of life must be respected at all stages. If our country is to be built on human liberty we must choose life for every human being.

**Kristi Hayes**

**How has abortion affected you?**

After my abortion I shut down. I acted in ways that were damaging to my health by drinking, purely dating guys who were mentally and emotionally abusive because I thought that is what I deserved.

For years I fought anger and depression issues not realizing that it was connected to my abortion. Most of all I know that I am a mother to my aborted child and now know that I should have chosen life for her.

**Kellie Eaton**

**How has abortion affected you?**

Many ways. I was not given a choice by my mother & was told to keep it a secret. At the time it made me feel dirty. As I got older and learned more about abortions I was then mentally & emotionally distraught at what I had done. Even though my mother did not give me any other option it was I who had the abortion and I was ashamed and felt like a murderer. I carried all this around with me for many, many years.

**L.G.**

**How has abortion affected you?**

There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think about it and ask God to forgive me. I feel so guilty.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I would tell the court to consider the mental well-being of women, that having an abortion preys on your conscience forever, not just a few days. I would

tell the court to consider the millions of couples patiently waiting for a child to adopt to love as their own.

**Sandra Marin**

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

I don't know I could without breaking. It is a horrible thing to do the women and babies. It has lasting effects for years mentally and physical.

**Rita**

**How has abortion affected you?**

Grew up bitter and angry!! I was 15 years old when I had the abortion. My mother told me that I was not going to make her an unfit mother. I guess she thought that was best thing for me not considering what it done to my spirit.

**Paula Talley**

**How has abortion affected you?**

After my abortion I began to drink and became very promiscuous. My anger was unbelievable. I didn't care about others and much less about myself. My self-esteem had hit rock-bottom. I felt as though I was an empty shell and I put on a facade.

**Based on your own experience, what would you tell a court that believes abortion should be legal?**

Legalizing abortion only made it much easier for me to have an abortion. Had Roe vs. Wade not been in place, I would have thought twice and more than likely choose adoption.

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