

Christian Ethics

Abortion and related issues

Abortion

- Self inflicted termination of a pregnancy
- It has been legal in the United States since the Supreme Court ruled in *Roe v. Wade* that the right to privacy as outlined in the 14th Amendment extended to abortion
- As a practice, it is very old: The Assyrian Code of Assura (1075 BC) made it a capital offense

- It was practiced in Greek and Roman culture. At one point in history, the Athenians viewed it as a crime against the father.
- In the United States, advances in medical knowledge (the process of fetal development that would lead to a human being) gave rise to anti-abortion laws—championed by the medical community
- The late 1960s saw many of these laws relaxed or ignored, which set the stage for *Roe*.

Why Christians should oppose abortion

- Life and Death belong to God, and humans may only take a life when God commands it. Genesis 9.6
- God specifically protects the unborn. Exodus 21.22-25
- Human beings are marvels of God's creativity, from the womb. Psalm 139.13-18

- 139.13: God is the created/owner of my “reigns:” my organs and emotions
- 139.13-14: The protection of the womb is where we develop
- 139.15-16: Development in the womb is like the mystery of the grave.
- 139.16: The totality of our lives preceded our birth

Christians must view abortion as more
than a societal evil

- There is no such thing as a secular society.
Romans 1.20-25
- Abortion is one more manifestation of one
human being, being offered in religious
sacrifice
- And then, in the name of “science,” we
sometimes sell the parts of the aborted
infants.

- Since the U.S. government is the largest promoter of the false religion of human idolatry, it helps pay for this
- Since it is a religious issue, it can never be successfully combated with political solutions.