The Journey of An Abortion Provider to Life

I was humbled and honored to finish at the top of my osteopathic medical school class here in Des Moines in 1972. I then started my Family Practice residency, Wesley Medical Center in Wichita Kansas, 1972-1975.

January, 1973, in Roe versus Wade, the United States Supreme Court legalized abortion. Both at the medical center and at Planned Parenthood the family practice residents at Wesley Medical Center, were instructed on how to do abortions. I became proficient at the procedure.

The first abortion that I performed was on a 12-year-old that was raped by her 28-year-old uncle. I thought to myself, "Yeah, this abortion is a good thing.”

Then I did several abortions on women of all ages who aborted their babies for birth control. Too many women had multiple abortions. I had some problem justifying those abortions in my own mind, but I thought, "Who am I to judge.”

It took several years after Roe versus Wade, before substantial opposition to abortions developed as people started to understand what was really happening with the procedure. I became an apologist for the abortion industry and argued its merits with people and eventually with God. In fact I had this debate with God over a period of 1 to 2 years.

Finally God impressed upon me that I didn't need to be convinced for or against abortion, He just did not want me to do them. He didn't try to talk me out of my arguments for abortion. There really was no condemnation from the Lord, it was just that he wanted me to stop doing abortions.

Comedian Lily Tomlin, of the ‘Laugh In’ TV Show said,” Why is it that when we speak to God we are said to be praying, but when God speaks to us we are said to be schizophrenic ?” As I have not exhibited other signs of being crazy, I believe the Lord was speaking to me.

It was not until I obeyed God and stopped doing abortions, that I started to understand the other side of the argument, the Pro Life argument, that I had before been so against. In pregnant women there are actually two heartbeats, two lives, two people. Who are we to judge that one of those two lives is more important than the other and choose to kill one life because of the convenience, the choice of the other. Yes, there are many more arguments.

From a political perspective there are two sides to the abortion debate. As a previous abortion provider I understand both sides. I urge you to uphold the inalienable rights of both people in the pregnancy, the baby and the mother, each with their own heart beat, body, soul, and spirit; each created in the image of God

William G. Artherholt, D.O.

Red Oak, Iowa

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