

Cecil, Planned Parenthood, and Abortion

Yes, I readily admit that the title of this article sounds a bit strange, but it is not as strange as the convoluted situation to which it refers.

“**Cecil**,” as you are probably aware, was a lion which “happened to be a part of a 13-year Oxford university study and a beloved figure at the Hwange National Park” in Africa. Walter Palmer, a dentist in Minnesota, paid the fees and obtained the necessary permits to hunt lions in Africa. I do not know all the circumstances, but it seems that Cecil, the lion, was inadvertently killed by Dr. Palmer. Now there is a tremendous amount of outrage against Dr. Palmer.

Planned Parenthood has been around for a long time. A 1964 Planned Parenthood pamphlet correctly stated that “abortion kills the life of a baby once it has begun.” Now, Planned Parenthood is our nation’s biggest abortion provider! I don’t have the latest figures before me, but in 2010 Planned Parenthood performed around 330,000 abortions! Through our tax dollars, every tax-paying American helps to subsidize Planned Parenthood. Admittedly, they also provide adoption referrals, but abortion reportedly accounts for 94 percent of their business. Worded differently “for every adoption referred they perform 149 abortions.” The American public, for decades, has generally known that Planned Parenthood is in the business of killing unborn babies, but where is the moral outrage among people in general — especially those associated with PETA (people for the ethical treatment of animals)? With them, a **lion** in Africa, is more valued than a **baby** in its mother’s womb!

Finally, Planned Parenthood has become the center of much moral outrage. The American public has been informed that Planned Parenthood is very much involved in harvesting and selling fetal body parts! At last, for now before the shock wears off, there is moral outrage. How could anyone be so calloused, so insensitive, so cruel, so diabolical, so money-hungry? But why should we be surprised? If the baby in the womb is nothing more than a “fetus,” if it is simply “a blob of tissue,” then where is the real harm in harvesting and selling its organs? On the other hand, if it has “organs” — organs which can be transplanted into humans, then it must also be a human and not simply a blob of tissue! Logically speaking, they can’t have it both ways!

Abortion! January 22, 2015 marked the 42nd anniversary of the infamous Roe vs. Wade decision of the U.S. Supreme Court. Since that decision, as of Jan. 21, 2015 an estimated 57,762,169 abortions have been legally performed in the United States! In this country, the number of deaths due to abortion far exceeds the number of deaths resulting from any other single cause, including heart disease, cancer, etc.

The Unborn as Viewed In the Bible:

It is viewed as a child, a human being! Rebekah, the wife of Isaac “*conceived*,” and “*the children struggled together within her*,” Gen. 25:21-22. Hagar, Sarah’s

maidservant conceived, and “*the angel of the Lord said to her: Behold, you are with child,*” Gen. 16:11. Mary greeted Elizabeth, the wife of Zecharias, and when she heard the greeting “*the babe leaped in her womb,*” Luke 1:41. “*Babe,*” from *brephos* (Greek), which was used to describe John the Baptist **before** he was born, is the same word used to describe Jesus Christ after He was born, Luke 2:12.

The Unborn As Viewed By Medical Science:

If the medical personnel are honest, they view the unborn as live human beings. Please note the medical record.

18 days after conception the heart beats on its own. At six weeks it quickly moves in the womb. Brain waves are present at 8 weeks. At 12 weeks it cries, sucks its thumbs, sleeps and wakes. All organ systems function, including the brain; it can definitely feel pain. From this point on, nothing new develops; from this point it is growing and maturing.

Now we have sonograms, often called “a window to the womb,” from which one can discern its ears, eyes, nose, mouth, fingers, etc.

At conception, the embryo is genetically distinct from the mother. The developing embryo consists of 46 chromosomes, 23 from the “father” and 23 from the “mother.” The embryo is genetically different from the sperm and the egg which created it. The medical profession, if it is honest, *has* to regard the unborn as human. And, prior to the infamous Supreme Court decision, it is my understanding that the unborn have always been regarded as human.

Why Abortion is Wrong:

1. It is murder. It involves the deliberate taking of human life. Taking the life of the unborn was regarded as murder in Exodus 21:22-23. And murder has always been sinful! Gen. 9:6; I Cor. 6:9-10; Rev. 21:8, etc.

2. It involves the shedding of innocent blood, a grievous crime! King Manasseh was described as having “*filled Jerusalem with **innocent** blood, which the Lord would not pardon,*” 2 Kings 24:4. Among the things which the “*the Lord hates*” are “*hands that shed **innocent** blood,*” Prov. 6:16-19. No creature, including “Cecil,” is more innocent than an unborn “child!”

3. It creates a “culture of death.” The Bible stresses the sanctity of life, Gen. 1:26-27; 9:6; Heb. 12:9. But abortion cheapens people’s respect for life throughout society. Thanks to the legalization of abortion, many are ready to legalize euthanasia, especially as it relates to the elderly who are ill. More and more the value of life is measured by what it can contribute to society. Hence, when it ceases to be able to make a positive contribution to society, many think it is now time to end that life!

4. It De-Civilizes society. Solomon said: “*righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people,*” Prov. 14:34. The de-civilizing of society is seen in the various

procedures that are used to abort an unborn child — procedures so cruel as to make a person sick to his stomach just by thinking about such. Statistically, child abuse has increased over 1,000 percent since the Supreme Court decision in 1973. Before God, what is the real difference between murdering a child resting comfortably in its mother's womb and murdering a baby sleeping in the crib?

5. It violates the Golden Rule. Jesus said *“Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the prophets,”* Matt. 7:12. Many have observed that “everyone who is in favor of abortion has already been born.” I don't remember an abortion advocate say “I wish my mother had aborted me!”

Conclusion: Multitudes are “up in arms” about the apparently inadvertent killing of “Cecil,” a lion. Prior to the discovery that Planned Parenthood is harvesting and selling fetal body parts, most people had little or nothing negative to say about that organization, while knowing full well that it is our nation's largest abortion provider. It makes one wonder “just how hypocritical can people act!” While I am saddened by the death of “Cecil,” and while I am indignant at the very idea of harvesting and selling fetal body parts, I am glad that it has been made public. Perhaps now many people will re-think the whole issue, will be able to see how evil abortion is, and how hypocritical people act when they display moral outrage at the inadvertent killing of a popular lion, while condoning mass murder under the guise of abortion!

**** -by Bobby Witherington