



Abortion in America

Abortion's Impact

In 1973 the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision legalized abortion for any reason. Now, after more than thirty-five years, over 50 million unborn babies have been aborted. The combined population of the seventeen states shown in red on the map below is equivalent to the more than 50 million legal abortions that have been performed since *Roe v. Wade*.



The loss to the community is more than just numbers or population. Abortion means the loss of athletes, artists, engineers, political leaders, scientists, teachers, religious leaders, family members, and friends.

Post Abortion Syndrome



Abortion can have many negative effects on a woman's life and health. There is growing evidence from research studies that an abortion can set off a complex reaction, including physical and psychological aftereffects, which can have a powerful, negative impact on a woman's entire life. More than 100 physical and psychological complications have been associated with abortion including infection, abdominal pain, damages to internal organs, depression, increased drug and alcohol abuse, the inability to have more children, and increased rates of breast cancer.

Population data: 2000 U.S. Census

Abortion data: Jones RK, Darroch JE and Henshaw SK, Patterns in the socioeconomic characteristics of women obtaining abortions in 2000-2001, Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health, 2002, 34(5):226-235. – From the Guttmacher Institute

Fetal Development – The Real Facts of Life



8 Week Old Baby

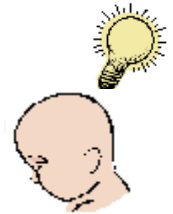
When does life begin? While birth is certainly a milestone families celebrate with joy, it is actually the culmination of an amazing process that began months earlier.

Conception: Life Begins! →



← 18 Days: Heart Begins Beating

6 Weeks: Brain Waves Begin →



← 10-11 Weeks: All Organ Systems in Place

14 Weeks: Small Details Forming →



← 16 Weeks: Mother Can Feel Baby Move



23 Weeks (or earlier): Viability →



Alternatives to Abortion

If you or someone you know is facing an unplanned pregnancy, you can find people who care and practical solutions at:

Option Line	1-800-395-HELP	optionline.org
National Life Center	1-800-848-LOVE	nationallifecenter.com
Nurturing Network	1-800-TNN-4MOM	nurturingnetwork.org
Birthright	1-800-550-4900	birthright.org

On AOL Instant Messenger:	Option Line	AnswersatOL1
	Nurturing Network	AskTnn



National Right to Life - Outreach
 512 Tenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20004
 202-626-8811 www.nrlc.org/outreach