

KNOW YOUR Apologetics

Starting a conversation about abortion can seem intimidating. Don't worry! We want to help you feel more confident to talk about abortion with your peers. Review these basic dialogue tips and come equipped with the helpful talking points included in this apologetics guide to your next conversation!

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- BASIC APOLOGETICS
- CLARIFYING QUESTIONS
- BIOLOGICAL ARGUMENTS
- CIRCUMSTANCE ARGUMENTS
- BODILY AUTONOMY ARGUMENTS



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I AM THE
PRO-LIFE
GENERATION



Basic APOLOGETICS

There are some basic principles that you should use whenever approaching a conversation about abortion. These concepts from Abortion Dialogue Academy (ADA) were adapted from Justice For All's 3 Essential Skills and have been proven to help students start many mind-changing conversations!

3 MAIN STEPS

- ACKNOWLEDGE THE PRO-CHOICE PERSON'S CONCERNS
- BUILD COMMON GROUND WITH THEIR CONCERNS
- CHALLENGE THEIR VIEW ON ABORTION WITH HUMILITY

EXAMPLE 1

Pro-choice objection: I think abortion should be legal if the woman is poor.

Pro-life response: Raising a child in poverty would be difficult. I agree that no mother should be put in that situation. Do you mind if I ask a question to make sure I understand where you are coming from?

Clarifying QUESTIONS

Asking questions is a great way to open up the conversation. Here are some good questions to help keep the conversation moving:

- DO YOU THINK ABORTION SHOULD BE LEGAL IN ALL 9 MONTHS OF PREGNANCY?
- WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
- WHY HAVE YOU COME TO THIS CONCLUSION?
- AT WHAT POINT DO YOU THINK THE FETUS DESERVES LEGAL PROTECTION?
- WHAT HAPPENS AT THIS POINT?



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Biological

ARGUMENTS

When facing biological arguments, the goal is to prove the fetus is a whole, living, distinct organism from fertilization. Use the 10 Second Apologist argument from Justice for All:

- IF THE PREBORN IS GROWING, ISN'T IT ALIVE?
- AND IF IT HAS HUMAN PARENTS, ISN'T IT HUMAN?
- AND IF LIVING HUMANS LIKE YOU AND ME HAVE HUMAN RIGHTS,
- THEN WHY DON'T THEY?

Many students will object that the preborn becomes human during development. Request our “When Do Human Rights Begin” Display through your Regional Coordinator to receive fetal development flyers to help with your conversations!

Circumstance ARGUMENTS

Circumstance arguments are when a pro-choice person wants to use a specific situation to justify abortion. This could be poverty, teen pregnancy, fetal abnormalities, college, career, etc. If you are presented with a circumstantial argument, use Equal Rights Institute's Trot-out-a-Toddler and apply the circumstance to a two-year-old:

EXAMPLE 1 CONT.

Pro-Life response: Hypothetically, a mother just lost her job and is now living in poverty. She has a two-year-old child. Should she be allowed to kill that child because she can no longer financially support her? Now that her circumstances have changed, is her child less deserving of life?



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AUTONOMY ARGUMENTS

Bodily Autonomy Arguments, or “My Body, My Choice” arguments are usually making one of two claims: Sovereign Zone or Right to Refuse.

SOVEREIGN ZONE:

A woman can have an abortion because the preborn is inside her body. The important thing to remember with this is if a woman can do whatever she wants with anything in her body, then there should be no restrictions on abortion at all.

RIGHT TO REFUSE:

A woman can refuse the use of her body. The important thing to remember with this is abortion is not refusing care. Abortion is actively destroying life.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more advanced training on Personhood and Life of the Mother arguments, contact your regional coordinator to set up an Apologetics 101 or 201 training! Request a free training at StudentsforLifeHQ.com/FreeTraining.

SOURCES

StudentsforLife.org/Learn/Responding-to-Bodily-Rights-Arguments/

StudentsforLife.org/Learn/Right-to-Refuse-Arguments/

jfaweb.org/jfa-blog/2015/07/23/can-ten-seconds-change-minds

AbortionDialogueAcademy.org



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Planned Parenthood

FACTS

PLANNED PARENTHOOD IS ALL ABOUT ABORTION...

Planned Parenthood made \$633.4 million from taxpayers according to their 2020-2021 report (Up from \$618.1 million in 2019-2020). 383,460 lives were lost to abortions committed by Planned Parenthood from 2020-2021, their largest annual total ever. In November 2021, the Biden administration repealed the Trump administration's Title X regulations that prohibited funds going toward abortion, which means that Planned Parenthood is eligible for even more funding from the government.

Planned Parenthood gets more funds but serves fewer people...

- PLANNED PARENTHOOD RECEIVED OVER **\$633.4 MILLION** IN TAX-PAYER DOLLARS LAST YEAR.
- **1,050** ABORTIONS ARE COMMITTED BY PLANNED PARENTHOOD EVERY DAY. AND THAT'S KEEPING IN MIND THAT THERE ARE NO ABORTION REPORTING LAWS IN MOST STATES.
- **372,000** BREAST EXAMS AND PAP TESTS, DOWN FROM **542,659** IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S REPORT.
- **416,956** CANCER SCREENINGS AND PREVENTION PROCEDURES, DOWN FROM **598,852**.
- **127,095** WELL-WOMAN EXAMS, DOWN FROM **208,248**.
- **2,193,205** PROVISIONS OF BIRTH CONTROL INFORMATION AND SERVICES, DOWN FROM **2,565,910**.

Why Defund

PLANNED PARENTHOOD?

According to Planned Parenthood's own annual reports, 98% of all women will not step foot inside a Planned Parenthood each year. They are overstating their importance in the healthcare market. If Planned Parenthood is defunded, the money will be reallocated to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), which outnumber Planned Parenthoods 14-to-1. FQHCs served more than 25 million people in 2015 versus Planned Parenthood, who served 2.5 million during the same time.

Alternative women's health options are on average less than five miles away from the nearest Planned Parenthood. To find an FQHC, visit: findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov

Abortions make up 95% of Planned Parenthood's pregnancy resolutions services, and for every adoption referral, Planned Parenthood performed nearly 81 abortions during the 2018-2019 reporting year.

Planned Parenthood

FACTS

PLANNED PARENTHOOD IS POLITICAL...

In 2016, Planned Parenthood had a larger campaign operation than Hillary Clinton and spent more than \$30 million. No other healthcare provider operates on that big of a political scale. Planned Parenthood's revenues dwarf other leading abortion advocacy groups. The latest reports show that NARAL's total revenue was \$15 million and the National Abortion Federation's was \$6.1 million. Planned Parenthood's total revenue in comparison? \$1.4 BILLION.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD IS SCANDAL RIDDEN...

- PLANNED PARENTHOOD SELLS BABY BODY PARTS.
- THEY COVER UP STATUTORY RAPE AND SEX TRAFFICKERS.
- THEY HAVE CHEATED THE MEDICAL SYSTEM.
- AT LEAST 100 OF THEIR FACILITIES WERE FOUND GUILTY OF HEALTH, SAFETY, AND PRIVACY VIOLATIONS IN THE LAST 10 YEARS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Ask your Regional Coordinator for “[Planned Parenthood's Abortion Business](#)” training and to order these topic cards: *We Don't Need Planned Parenthood*, *Inspect Planned Parenthood*, *Planned, Parenthood's 3% Lie*, *The Planned Parenthood Project*, *What Does Planned Parenthood Have Planned For You?*

Visit Students for Life HQ to learn how you can get more involved in stopping the abortion industry.

SOURCES

- [PlannedParenthood.org/Uploads/Filer_public/4a/0f/4a0f3969-cf71-4ec3-8a90-733c01ee8148/190124-annualreport18-p03.Pdf](#)
- [PlannedParenthood.org/Files/2114/5089/0863/2014-2015_ppfa_annual_report_.Pdf](#)
- [PlannedParenthood.org/Files/4912/9620/1413/Ppfa_ar_2012_121812_vf.Pdf](#)
- [PlannedParenthood.org/Files/7413/9620/1089/Ar-fy13_111213_vf_rev3_issuu.Pdf](#)
- [ProChoiceAmerica.org/About/Annual-report/](#)
- [Prochoice.org/about/annual-reports/](#)
- [LiveAction.org/news/thousands-real-health-care-planned-parenthood/](#)
- [HuffPost.com/Entry/Planned-parenthood-2016-Election_n_57377096e4b060aa781a7f21](#)
- <https://www.nationalreview.com/corner/planned-parenthoods-annual-report-abortion-increases-health-service-declines/>
- [lozierinstitute.org/realchoices/](#)
- [CenterForMedicalProgress.org/2017/12/Planned-Parenthood-Baby-Parts-Business-Partners-Admit-Guilt-in-7-8-Million-Settlement/](#)
- [WSJ.com/Articles/Planned-parenthood-settles-in-fraud-case-1376694306](#)
- [CheckMyClinic.org](#)

Abortion Procedure

FACTS

There are five main abortion procedures that are helpful to know for any conversation. Three of these procedures can only be done in the first trimester and two can be done in second and third trimester.

FIRST TRIMESTER ABORTIONS

CHEMICAL

Chemical abortion (also known as RU-486, medical abortion, at-home abortion, self-managed abortion, toilet bowl abortions & pill abortion) is the abortion of a baby typically in the first trimester using powerful drugs called Mifepristone and Misoprostol. This type of abortion makes up more than half of all abortions in the U.S. and has killed 24 women and injured thousands more since its legalization in 2000. The abortion industry is testing single pill Chemical Abortions which are even more dangerous than Chemical Abortions as they are now.

SUCTION

Suction abortions are performed until 14 weeks. The woman is dilated in order to fit a cannula into the woman's uterus. The abortionist turns the machine on and runs the cannula along the surface of the uterus causing the fetus to be extracted into the tube. The fetal remains are sucked into a collection jar, and the remaining parts are scraped out with a curette.

DILATION AND CURETTAGE

Dilation and Curettage abortions are performed until 14 weeks. The abortionist inserts a curette into the woman's uterus. The curette cuts the fetus into small pieces, making it easier to scrape out.

Birth CONTROL

Birth control and the "Morning After Pill" can cause early abortions. However, they are NOT the Chemical Abortions.

BIRTH CONTROL WORKS IN 4 WAYS...

- Suppresses ovulation
- Thickens cervical mucus
- Changes the movement of the fallopian tubes
- Thins uterine lining to prevent pregnancy

If the second defense fails, the sperm fertilizes the egg, forming a zygote and conception occurs (LIFE)! The zygote will make its way from the fallopian tube to the uterus for implantation and the last two defenses of the pill go into effect. If the zygote reaches the uterus, the fourth defense will occur, which will thin the uterine lining. This prevents the zygote from attaching to the uterine lining, and the newly formed life will be lost. This is the abortifacient effect.

Abortion Procedure

FACTS

SECOND TRIMESTER ABORTIONS

DILATION AND EVACUATION

Dilation and Evacuation abortions are performed between 13 and 24 weeks. The abortionist uses forceps to dismember the fetus. The fetus can feel pain during this abortion.

HEART ATTACK OR INDUCTION

Induction abortion is a multi-day procedure. The first day, they begin the dilating process with laminaria. The abortionist uses a long needle to inject Digoxin into the fetus's heart, causing cardiac arrest. The second day, the woman continues to be dilated while carrying the dead fetus. She is administered Misoprostol, and there may be a second injection of Digoxin. On the third or fourth day, the woman delivers a stillborn.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Request a *Chemical Abortion, Green Sex, Apologetics 101 and 201*, and other free trainings at StudentsforLife.org/FreeTraining.

SOURCES

AbortionProcedures.com

StudentsforLife.org/Learn/Abortion-Procedures

ThisIsChemicalAbortion.com



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Standing With You

Almost 3.8 million women will have a child each year and 1 in 5 college students are parents. The purpose of education is to equip and empower students to achieve their dreams and contribute meaningfully to society. The goal of schools should be to assist students, no matter their stage of life. To protect women from sex discrimination in schools and strategically assist female athletes, Title IX was enacted in 1972.

WHAT IS TITLE IX ALL ABOUT?

- ANY EDUCATION PROGRAM RECEIVING FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE) CANNOT EXCLUDE, DENY, OR DISCRIMINATE AGAINST A PERSON BASED ON THEIR SEX.
- IT IS AGAINST THE LAW FOR WOMEN TO BE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST ON CAMPUSES DUE TO PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, OR PARENTING STATUS.

If a student is being bullied by coaches, intimidated by professors, and pressured by friends, this is not the supportive, empowering environment that pregnant and parenting students on campus deserve.

Examples

OF DISCRIMINATION

- BEING ASKED TO LEAVE YOUR DORM ROOM DUE TO PREGNANCY OR CHILDBIRTH
- BEING BANNED FROM PARTICIPATION IN CLUB MEMBERSHIPS, ACADEMIC PROGRAMS, OR INTRAMURAL ACTIVITIES.
- A COACH, PROFESSOR, OR ACADEMIC ADVISOR THREATENING THE LOSS OF SCHOLARSHIPS OR ANY OTHER TYPE OF FINANCIAL AID DUE TO PREGNANCY OR CHILDBIRTH.
- BEING PENALIZED FROM YOUR ATHLETIC TEAM OR IN THE CLASSROOM DUE TO A MEDICALLY NECESSARY ABSENCE.
- A COACH, PROFESSOR, OR ACADEMIC ADVISOR BULLYING SOMEONE INTO AN ABORTION BY THREATENING THE LOSS OF PRESENT OR FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES.



Pregnancy Rights

ON CAMPUS

ATHLETES

- A PREGNANT STUDENT-ATHLETE CAN CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN HER SPORT FOR AS LONG AS SHE AND HER DOCTOR FEEL COMFORTABLE AND SAFE.
- THE NCAA ALSO ALLOWS A SPECIAL RED SHIRT SEASON FOR ATHLETES FOR PREGNANCY. A “RED SHIRT SEASON” IS A SEASON WHEN THE ATHLETE IS STILL ON THE TEAM AND ON THE ROSTER, BUT THEY DO NOT COMPETE FOR MEDICAL REASONS. THE ATHLETE WOULD HAVE TO TALK TO HER COACH AND APPLY FOR THIS STATUS.
- AS LONG AS YOU ARE IN GOOD ACADEMIC STANDING WITH THE UNIVERSITY AND YOU DO NOT VOLUNTARILY WITHDRAW FROM YOUR TEAM, IT IS AGAINST FEDERAL LAW FOR THE NCAA TO WITHDRAW OR REDUCE FINANCIAL AID IN THE EVENT OF PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, CONDITIONS RELATED TO PREGNANCY.
- NCAA BYLAWS ALLOW A FEMALE STUDENT-ATHLETE TO APPLY FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR OF ELIGIBILITY IF HER ATHLETIC CAREER IS INTERRUPTED BY PREGNANCY.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Go to StandingWithYou.org/MyCampus for downloadable files to promote pregnant and parenting rights on campus, and request a free *Standing With You* training at StudentsforLifeHQ.com/FreeTraining.

SOURCES

iwpr.org/publications/parents-college-numbers

cdc.gov/nchs/data/vsrr/report004.pdf



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Speaking With Women

AFTER ABORTION

It is not uncommon that while in a conversation, a woman will mention that she's had an abortion. It's important to understand that every person will react to abortion differently. You should be empathetic and prepared to listen. If someone in your group has had an abortion experience, it may be ideal to bring them into the situation. Simply tell the person, "Thank you for sharing that with me, **[group member]** has gone through something similar. May I introduce you?"

THINGS TO REMEMBER

NOT EVERY PERSON AUTOMATICALLY FEELS REMORSE OR REGRET

"People will experience a variety of emotions and at different levels of intensity. This may be due to a number of factors including age, gender, cultural influences, and level of participation in the abortion."

–Abortion Changes You

AN EMOTIONAL REACTION TO AN ABORTION EXPERIENCE CAN HAPPEN ANYTIME FROM IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ABORTION TO MANY YEARS LATER.

It's still important to be empathetic. Let these people know that it's okay to feel emotions and it's important they do not repress them. Offer post abortion resources and let them know you'll be there for them if they ever need anything.

NOT EVERY PERSON WILL OPEN UP ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE.

However, they will take the information you give. Always have post abortive resources on hand.

IF SOMEONE IS MEAN, ANGRY, OR LASHES OUT, STAY CALM.

This is not about you, and you should not take it personally. Listen to what they have to say and be kind. If you do not feel safe, ask a group member to call campus security.



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Speaking With Women

AFTER ABORTION

Different situations, imagery, or people can trigger an emotional reaction following an abortion. The following are possible reactions that can be caused by an abortion. These are important to remember when engaging with women on campus and beyond.

POSSIBLE REACTIONS

- INCREASED SUBSTANCE USAGE (*ALCOHOL, DRUGS, ETC.*)
- ANGER (*CAN BE GENERALIZED, DIRECTED AT THOSE INVOLVED, OR TOWARDS SOMETHING THAT TRIGGERS THE MEMORY*)
- REPRESSION OF PAINFUL EMOTIONS (*SOME STUDENTS WON'T REACT TO THE TRIGGER; THEY'LL JUST WALK AWAY*)
- ISOLATION
- NIGHTMARES

SOURCES

AbortionChangesYou.com

Philkell, Cynthia, and Suzanne Walsh. *Equipped to Serve: Caring for Women in Crisis Pregnancies*. Fifth Edition. 2012.

After Abortion

TRIGGERS

If a person hasn't found healing or addressed any of the above symptoms, certain dates, people, and situations can cause unhealthy emotional reactions as a person is dealing with an unresolved loss. The following are situational triggers or behaviors of someone who has had an abortion.

SITUATIONAL TRIGGERS

- Anniversary dates (*due date of the aborted child or the date of the abortion*)
- Avoidance of: people related to the abortion, pregnant friends, infants, or even pelvic exams
- Inability to engage in sexual activity or becoming promiscuous
- "Sudden, uncontrollable crying"