

UNDERSTANDING THE CULTURE OF LIFE

A GLOSSARY OF TERMS



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF NORTH CAROLINA PRO-LIFE MINISTRY



Introduction

This publication has been prepared for all who are called to be pro-life. As a Catholic community, we have been gifted with the beauty and truth of God's Word in its purest form. Jesus Himself has called us to love and respect all human life from the moment of conception until natural death. He is the Author and Finisher of our lives and has created each of us in His image and likeness.

Please take advantage of the numerous websites listed to gain further information. As we educate ourselves in pro-life issues, we can more reasonably proclaim why it is truly loving and compassionate to insist on the rights endowed by our Creator, starting with the Right to Life. We pray that our Lord will give each of us the courage to proclaim the sanctity of all human life and to demand that society give its protection.

May Jesus bless you and your family always,

The Respect Life Ministry of St. Matthew Catholic Church
October 2005

**“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations, I appointed you.”
Jeremiah 1: 5-6**



Prayer to the Spirit of Truth

Holy Spirit, You are the promised Spirit of Truth, constantly revealing the splendor of truth to Your people, and leading us deeper into the Mysteries of our Faith.

Come to us today, and deepen in our minds and hearts the truth about life: its greatness, its dignity, its reflection of the eternal God. Make us appreciate ever more the truth that life is always a good, and that every life is of equal dignity, despite all the different characteristics people have, or the different circumstances under which they come to be.

Come, Spirit of Truth. Free all Your people from the falsehoods that lead to the evil of abortion. Free them from the false and harmful ideas which make a god out of their own choices, or which fail to recognize the right to life of children in the womb.

Come, O Holy Spirit, and as You immerse us in Your truth, so make us effective witnesses of that truth within our families, among our friends, and to all the world.

Amen.



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Abortifacient: A drug or device that can be used to kill a preborn baby boy or girl (e.g., methotrexate).

Abortion: An intentional interruption of the developmental process, at anytime from conception to birth. Murder; embryocide; feticide; homicide; killing (ending the life of) a preborn child.

Abortion Mill (also abortion facility, abortuary): A place where the act of abortion occurs.

Abortion Statistic: Approximate number of babies killed by surgical abortion in the USA since January 22, 1973 is **45, 514, 465** (about **4000 babies/day**) (Priests for Life)

Adoption: A loving and unselfish choice of biological parent(s) who are unable to support or nurture their child's health and well being.

Artificial fertilization: can be homologous (using the gametes of the couple requesting it), heterologous (one or both gametes are donated by biological parents other than the social ones), in vivo (the fusion of the gametes takes place in the woman's body, for example, GIFT) and in vitro (the fusion of the gametes takes place in a test tube, for example, IVF/ET heterologous artificial insemination and the resulting embryo is subsequently transferred).

Assisted Living Facility: Facility that is used by people who are unable to live on their own, but do not need the level of care that a nursing home offers.

Assisted Suicide: Suicide accomplished with the aid of another person, especially a physician.

Bioethics: A sub-field of ethics, bioethics stands alongside many other theories of ethics, e.g., egoism, situation ethics and relativism. Bioethics is defined as a normative ethical theory; i.e., it takes a stand of what is right or wrong.

Born-Alive Infants Protection Law: A law to protect infants who are born alive. The law [Public Law 107-207] established that in all federal laws and regulations, the words "person," "human being," "child," and "individual" include "every infant member of the species homo sapiens who is born alive at any stage of development." The law also defines "born alive" as meaning "the complete expulsion or extraction from his or her mother of that member, at any stage of development, who after such expulsion or extraction breathes or has a beating heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, regardless of whether the umbilical cord has been cut, and regardless of whether the expulsion or extraction occurs as a result of natural or

induced labor, cesarean section, or induced abortion." Signed by President George W. Bush on April 5, 2002. (nrlc.org.)

Charlotte Pregnancy Center, Inc.- this confidential Christ-centered ministry gives help to those facing pregnancy related challenges. It provides support and guidance to mothers at any stage of pregnancy. **24-hour hotline (704-372-5981)**

Chastity: The condition or quality of being pure or chaste. The condition of being chaste: [decency](#), [innocence](#), [modesty](#), [purity](#), [virginity](#), [virtue](#), [virtuousness](#). Morality with respect to sexual relations (Answers.com/main.)

Chemical abortion: An act of abortion that involves the use of certain drugs to end the life of a preborn child.

Child Custody Protection Act (S.403): Under this act, it would be a federal offense to transport a minor across state lines for an abortion without fulfilling the requirement of a parental notification law in effect in the home state. (**one of top 10 legislative priorities for 2005**) (NRLC.org)

Cloning: A form of genetic engineering where transfer of a nucleus from a somatic cell to an enucleated ovum takes place. (all.org/abac/cloning.htm)

Conception: A synonym for "fertilization."

Contraception (also birth control): A drug or device designed to be used before, during or after sexual relations to deliberately prevent pregnancy. The most popular forms of so-called contraception are actually abortifacient (e.g., the pill, IUD, Norplant, Depo-Provera, emergency contraception). www.morningafterpill.org/whendoes.htm - see "Myth 9".

Dilation and extraction (also D&E, partial-birth abortion): The gradual dilation of the mother's cervix, followed by the delivery of the entire baby except for her head, which remains in the birth canal until the baby's skull is punctured with scissors and the baby's brains are suctioned out, thus collapsing the skull. The remainder of the baby's body is then delivered.

Early Induction of Labor: (see late term abortion) lifeissues.org

Embryo: Human embryology teaches that the embryonic period of human development begins on the first day of the third week, after the two-week zygotic period ends. Technically, the human being progresses from human zygote (weeks 1 and 2) to human embryo (weeks 3 through 8) to human fetus (week 9 to birth). From his or her conception, the human being is a person. www.morningafterpill.org/whendoes.htm - see "III. When does a human person begin."

Embryo rescue: refers to saving the life of an embryo by offering it the possibility of gestating at least until it reaches viability and can live outside the womb. "Embryo

adoption" refers to the same process but adds the intention to care for and raise the child, in effect making the child one's own.

Embryonic Stem Cell Research: These stem cells are obtained by taking a 5-day-old living human embryo, cutting him or her open, and extracting embryonic stem cells from the inside, thus killing a living human embryo. (lifeissues.org)

Emergency Contraception: (see Morning After Pill)

Ethical stem cell research: The use of umbilical cord blood or of tissue from born human beings to develop cures for disease and ailments. The removal of this tissue does not result in the death of the donor, as occurs when stem cells are removed from embryonic human beings.

Eugenics: The purported science of improvement of the human race through better breeding and purification. Eugenic medicine is practiced today by killing preborn babies as early as a "defect" is identified.

Euthanasia: The act of imposing death on another; also known as assisted suicide, mercy killing; includes the withholding of artificially-provided nutrition and/or hydration from those deemed unfit to continue living.

Federal Funding of Embryo –Killing Research Bill (HR 810): a bill to mandate federal funding of stem cell research that requires killing human embryos. Already has passed in the House of Representatives on May 24, 2005. Companion bill (S.471) will be voted upon before the end of 2005. **Legislative alert for 2005.** (NRTL.org)

Fertilization: The process that starts when a sperm contacts an ovum. It ends with the intermingling of chromosomes from both the sperm and ovum to produce a full set of chromosomes (46 in most humans). The result is a zygote, often popularly referred to a "fertilized ovum". If it has two X-chromosomes, then the zygote is a female; if it has a Y & X, it is a male.

Fetus: From the Latin "foetus" meaning "young one".

Hospice: program of humane and supportive care for the terminally ill and their families; the term also applies to a professional facility that provides care to dying patients who can no longer be cared for at home. Hospice is an alternative to hospitalization that emphasizes home care for as long as possible; relief from pain; an attractive, non-institutional environment if the patient can no longer be cared for at home; and personal and family counseling. (Hospicecare.com.)

Human cloning: Human cloning is accomplished by introducing the nucleus from a human somatic (body) cell into an egg cell whose nucleus has been removed, hence the term somatic cell nuclear transfer. This process produces a human embryo who is, genetically, virtually identical to an existing or previously existing human being. Human cloning is immoral and unethical.

Human embryonic stem cell research: Unethical research that uses tissues harvested from preborn children who die as a result of the harvesting process (see *ethical stem cell research*).

Hysterotomy: involves surgical entry into the uterus, as in a cesarean section, that removes the fetus that is too small to survive even with extraordinary life support measures. It is usually performed only if other abortion procedures fail.

Human Life Amendment: An amendment to the Constitution of the United States that would require that individuals and society provide protection for the right to life of each human being in existence at fertilization. It would require that State laws conform to the Constitution and provide the same protection. (marchforlife.org)

Infanticide: deliberately causing the death of an infant, a newborn with a handicap, either directly or indirectly by refusing to give the baby food, water, and necessary medical care; is being increasingly publicized in this country and is a serious problem in medical ethics.

Intra-uterine instillation: This procedure involves either withdrawing a portion of amniotic fluid from the uterine cavity by a needle inserted through the abdominal wall and replacing this fluid with a concentrated salt solution. (known as saline abortion) or injecting prostaglandin--a substance with hormone-like activity-- into the uterine cavity through a needle inserted through the abdominal wall . The saline solution process induces labor, which results in the expulsion of the usually dead fetus approximately 24-48 hours later.

In-Vitro Fertilization: "In vitro" literally means "in glass." In vitro fertilization is a process whereby human life is generated in a laboratory environment like a glass petri dish. In vitro fertilization begins when fertility technicians administer hormone treatments to a woman. The hormones hyper-stimulate the woman's ovaries to produce a number of eggs at one time. The eggs are collected from the woman's body and then combined with sperm. The resulting embryos are nourished in laboratory cultures and inserted into the woman's body with the hope that one embryo will successfully implant in the lining of the womb and develop. The process is very controlled and involves numerous trips to the in vitro fertilization center. (See www.all.org/ivf.htm).

Laci and Connor's Law: This federal legislation enables prosecutors to make assailants accountable for two crimes if the unborn baby also dies or is injured. (See Unborn Victims of Violence Law).

Late Term Abortion: An abortion committed so late that the baby is often born alive. Healthcare personnel do nothing to assist these babies as they struggle for life. (See lifeissues.org/connector/display.asp?page=04oct.htm).

Life Chain: a positive and practical way that we can stand up for the sanctity of life and speak up for the right to life of pre-born babies. The Life Chain is a prayerful family event for young and old, held annually on the 1st Sunday of October. People stand on a designated local sidewalk & pray for 1 hour while holding an approved pro-life sign message.

Live Birth Abortion: (see **Late Term Abortion**) (see lifeissues.org)

Living Will: If you or a loved one has entered a health care facility in the last few years, chances are you've been asked to sign some sort of "Living Will." This document, which supposedly enhances a person's power to refuse unwanted medical intervention at the end of life, is not the "safe and simple" legal solution its proponents make it out to be. The Living Will was suggested at a meeting of the Euthanasia Society of America (now called Choice in Dying) in the late 1960s. By the mid-1970s, the Society's educational arm had distributed three quarters of a million copies. Euthanasia advocates publicly admit that the Living Will was instrumental in promoting societal acceptance of euthanasia. (all.org/issues.) See "History of Euthanasia in U.S.: Concept for Our Time," Euthanasia News, Vol. 1(4), November 1975 (publication of the Euthanasia Educational Council [educational arm of the Euthanasia Society of America]), pg. 3.

Loving Will: is a document that tells your doctor and other health care personnel how to take care of you should you become so sick that you are unable to communicate your wishes. In short, it instructs health care personnel to do nothing intentionally, by act or omission, to cause your death. (all.org/issues/index.htm)

March for Life: The MARCH FOR LIFE is the collective effort of grassroots pro-life Americans to assure that our laws protect the right to life of each human being. The March For Life takes place in Washington, DC every year on January 22, the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision of Roe v Wade, which, along with the companion case of Doe v Bolton (decided the same day), made abortion on demand, for any reason or no reason, the law of the land.

Medical Abortion: This nonsurgical procedure involves the administration of a medication or medications to induce an abortion. Medications (e.g. methotrexate, mifepristone, etc.) are used most frequently early in

the first trimester of pregnancy. However, some medications (e.g. prostaglandin suppositories) may also be used during the second trimester of pregnancy to induce abortion.

Morning After Pill: A high dosage of birth control pill. It is recommended to be used after sexual intercourse, over a period of 72 hours, to achieve the goal of preventing (or ending) pregnancy. There are three different ways birth control pills are currently being promoted for this use: progesterone alone, estrogen alone, or both of these artificial steroids together. There are at least two formulations of the birth control pill that are being marketed as "emergency contraceptives." Also, double doses (or more) of existing birth control pills are also prescribed (or self-administered) as "emergency contraception." Though no testing has been done to confirm the safety of these large doses of birth control pills for women (and very limited testing has been done on the specifically marketed "morning-after" pills), the Food and Drug Administration has approved this use. The emergency contraceptive/morning-after pill has three possible ways in which it can work (as does the regular birth control pill): 1. Ovulation is inhibited, meaning the egg will not be released; 2. The normal menstrual cycle is altered, delaying ovulation; 3. It can irritate the lining of the uterus so that if the first and second actions fail, and the woman does become pregnant, the human being created will die before he or she can actually attach to the lining of the uterus. In other words, if the third action occurs, her body rejects the living human embryo, and the child will die. This result is a chemical abortion. (Abortion is an act of direct killing that takes the life of a living preborn human being—a life that begins at fertilization.)

(See morningafterpill.org/map2.htm)

Parental Notification: Public opinion polls consistently show people support the right of parents to be involved in their minor children's decisions to undergo abortions. Passage of laws in this area is primarily a matter for state legislatures; but in recent years, Congress has considered the issue in relation to federal policies, especially in regard to minor children receiving Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved birth control drugs or devices – which also have abortifacient effects – at family planning clinics funded under Title X of the Public Health Service Act. (<http://www.nchla.org/issues.asp?ID=24>)

Partial Birth Abortion: This procedure is used from the fifth month of pregnancy on; it involves pulling a living baby feet-first out of the womb, except for the head, puncturing the skull and suctioning out the brain. The skull is then collapsed and the delivery of a dead baby is completed. (See www.lifeissues.org/pba.html)

Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act: Signed by President George W. Bush on November 5, 2003. In the last 2 years, several Courts of Appeals have ruled that this ban was in conflict with the 5-4 ruling of the Supreme Court's decision that "Roe v. Wade allows an abortionist to perform an abortion any time he sees a 'health' benefit, even if the woman and her unborn baby are healthy." The NRL feels that these rulings underscore the fact that the successor to Justice O'Connor will cast the deciding vote on whether this brutal procedure remains legal.

Planned Parenthood: Legally classified as a non-profit organization, PPFA reported a profit of \$35.2 million for 2003. In addition, PPFA also had a record-high amount of money received in taxpayer funds. In 2003, PPFA received \$265.2 million of taxpayer money. This giant in the abortion industry is doing more abortions in fewer abortion mills. (See lifeissues.org/pp/index.html)

Population Control: Programs based on the theory that eliminating poor people's progeny is preferable to providing them with training to enhance their ability to care for their children.

Post-Abortion Syndrome: Emotional, relational, spiritual and sometimes physical problems. These symptoms parallel those of grief and mourning, yet many women and men may not see the connection with the termination of a pregnancy. (See www.silentnomoreawareness.org)

Pro-choice: A deceptive term that disguises a preference for destroying preborn babies by acts of abortion.

Pro-life: A respect for all innocent human beings from conception to natural death, without compromise, exception or apology.

Rachel's Hope: After Abortion Healing and Reconciliation for Catholic Women
(Or Catholic friendly women).(rachelshope.org)

Rachel's Vineyard: Rachel's Vineyard is a safe place to renew, rebuild and redeem hearts broken by abortion. Weekend retreats offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can express, release and reconcile painful post-abortive emotions to begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing. Toll-free national hotline **877 HOPE 4 ME** (877 467 3463) (rachelsvineyard.org) (www.silentnomoreawareness.org)

Reproductive health: A category of purported health care, some aspects of which are intended to render men and women sterile and/or preborn children dead.

Reproductive human cloning: The process of bringing a cloned human being through the embryonic and fetal stages to live birth.

Respite Care: Refers to short term, temporary care provided to people with disabilities in order that their families can take a break from the daily routine of caregiving. Respite services may sometimes involve overnight care for an extended period of time. (Thearc.org/faqs/respice.html.)

Roe v Wade: A decision of the US Supreme Court on January 22, 1973 which, along with companion case Doe v Bolton on the same day, effectively legalized abortion for the entire 9 months of pregnancy for any reason or for no reason. (<http://www.priestsforlife.org/pressreleases/05-07-25roe.htm>.) (Operationoutcry.org.)

Room at the Inn: A Catholic maternity and after-care program for pregnant women located in Charlotte, NC. 704-525-HOPE. www.rati.org

RU-486 (also mifeprex, mifepristone): A chemical regimen that kills human babies in the womb through the ninth week of life; it also is often dangerous to the mother as well. (See www.silentnomoreawareness.org and www.lovematters.com).

Selective Abortion (also known as Selective Reduction): Choosing to abort a baby for reasons such as: 1) unborn child has a birth defect or impairment; 2) sex of baby is not preferred by individual; 3) multi-baby pregnancy, such as with pregnancies resulting from use of fertility drugs.

Stem Cell: A type of cell found in all human beings (including the umbilical cord of newborn infants). They can reproduce themselves over a long period of time without changing and they have the capability to produce other types of specialized cells, such as brain, muscle and lung cells.

Therapeutic Cloning (human research cloning) Vs Reproductive Cloning: The only difference is the stated purpose for which the cloned embryo is created. The only difference in the procedure is whether the cloned embryo is implanted or destroyed. The cloned embryo, regardless of the purpose for which it was created, is fully capable of developing into a cloned baby.

Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act (S.51): This bill would require every abortionist to provide, whenever a woman seeks an abortion past 20 weeks, specified information about the capacity of her unborn child to experience pain during an abortion. After that, the woman must either accept or refuse (by signing a form) the administration of pain reducing drugs directly into the child. The bill would apply to all abortions past 20 weeks, regardless of the method used. **Legislative alert for 2005.** (NRLC.org)

Unborn Victims of Violence Law: (fetal homicide) a law that recognizes unborn children as victims when they are injured or killed during the commission of a federal or military crime of violence against a pregnant woman. Signed by President George W. Bush on April 6, 2004. (NRTL.org)

Will to Live: According to the National Right to Life, this will protects your own life and the lives of your family members when you cannot speak for yourself. It names someone you trust to safeguard your life when you cannot speak for yourself as your 'health care agent'; names backup agents; describes treatment you do and do not want to guide your health care agent and physicians. (nrlc.org.)

Zygote: When a human spermatozoon fertilizes a human ovum, a human zygote is formed which marks the beginning of a new human life. (See www.all.org/abac/jch007.htm)

References

American Life League: all.org
Heritage House '76: abortionfacts.com
March for Life: marchforlife.org
National Committee for a Human Life Amendment: nchla.org
National Right to Life: nrlc.org
Operation Outcry: operationoutcry.org
Partial Birth Abortion: http://www.abortionfacts.com/partial_birth/partial_birth.asp
Post Abortion Healing: silentnomoreawareness.org
Priests for Life: priestsforlife.org. See also: priestsforlife.org/plgroups/prolifegroups.html
Rachel's Hope: rachelshope.org
Room at the Inn: rati.org

Toll Free or Local Helplines

America's Crisis Pregnancy Helpline	1-800-67-BABY-6
Bethany Christian Services.....	1-800-238-4269
Birthright	1-800-550-4900
Carenet.....	1-800-395-HELP
Charlotte Pregnancy Care Center	704-295-0885, 704-716-3643
Good Counsel Homes	1-800-723-8331 (business hours)
Pregnancy Hotline	1-800-848-LOVE
Room at the Inn	704-525-HOPE
Several Sources Foundation	1-800-NO-ABORT
The Nurturing Network	1-800-TNN-4MOM
If you suffer from a past abortion	1-800-5-WE-CARE
Toll-free national hotline	877-HOPE-4-ME (877-467-3463)

Websites

North Carolina Pregnancy Care Centers:

<http://www.ramahinternational.org/north-carolina.html>

www.all.org/abac/jch007.htm

www.answers.com

www.christianaction.org

www.lifeissues.org

www.marchforlife.org

www.morningafterpill.org/map2.htm

www.morningafterpill.org/whendoes.htm

www.nrlc.org/Federal/Born_Alive_Infants/Baipatext.pdf

www.nrlc.org/Federal/Born_Alive_Infants/StatementonDHHS042205.html

www.operationoutcry.org

www.priestsforlife.org/pressreleases/05-07-25roe.htm

www.rachelsvineyard.org

www.rati.org

www.silentnomoreawareness.org

www.thearc.org/faqs/respite.html

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS IN CONGRESS

1. For Senators: website is www.senate.gov
 - Click on senators
 - Choose a state
2. For Representatives: website is www.house.gov
 - To find your representative, enter your zip code
3. May also call the Capitol switchboard operator at (202) 224-3121
 - Know your voter district in your state