

# DID YOU KNOW?

...SIX states have only ONE abortion clinic.

...87% of all U.S. counties have no abortion provider.

...over 80% of clinics that provide abortions have experienced violence, threats, harassment.

...EIGHT abortion providers and staff have been KILLED.

...Reproductive rights are in a state of emergency.

**Forced motherhood  
is female enslavement.**

**Fetuses are NOT babies  
Abortion is NOT murder.  
Women are NOT incubators.**

**ABORTION ON DEMAND  
& WITHOUT APOLOGY!**

## 5 THINGS YOU CAN DO:

**SPEAK UP:** Speak positively about abortion. Challenge sexist and anti-LGBT bigotry and traditions everywhere.

**SUPPORT ABORTION PROVIDERS:** Show your appreciation, escort at a clinic and defend providers from attacks. Abortion Providers are Heroes.

**SPREAD THIS:** Get these handouts and this information all over social media, in classrooms, laundromats, churches and beyond.

**GET CONNECTED:** Join with this movement that is fighting to defeat the entire war on women. StopPatriarchy.org, facebook/StopPatriarchy, @StopPatriarchy, StopPatriarchy.tumblr.com StopPatriarchy@gmail.com

**DONATE** to StopPatriarchy.org



Photo Credit: Steve Rhodes

“ **Women are not objects. Women are not things to be used for the sexual pleasure of men NOR are they breeders of children. WOMEN ARE HUMAN BEINGS CAPABLE OF FULL EQUALITY IN EVERY REALM!...**

**Our mission is to challenge the new generation in particular to reject this culture of rape and pornography, to resist the shaming of women who have sex and/or abortions, to wage fierce cultural and political resistance to wake others up, and to celebrate, fight for, and win the full equality and liberation of women.**”

from *Stop Patriarchy's Call to Action -- End Pornography and Patriarchy: The Enslavement & Degradation of Women*



**A**

Is it true that a fetus is a form of life? Of course it is. It is made up of live cells, it is growing and processing energy, it has the capacity to mature and reproduce, it has a genetic system and so on.

**FETUS IS NOT**

**A**

Will an abortion destroy this form of life? Yes, absolutely. Well then, isn't an abortion killing another human being? No, absolutely not.

**BABY**

# A FETUS IS *NOT* A BABY!

**1.** A fetus is not yet a human being. It is nothing but a clump of cells with the potential to become a human being. It is “alive,” but that is also true of all the other cells in a woman’s body. It has no life of its own yet. It is not yet a separate life from the life of the woman in whose uterus it is.

**2.** The anti-abortionists carry big signs showing fetuses floating around in a woman’s uterus, as if they are totally separate from women. But contrary to how they portray things, an embryo or fetus can’t survive on its own. It gets oxygen from woman’s blood, excretes waste through the woman ... And this is true until the fetus is born and becomes a baby. It is no more an independent human being than any other organ or part of a woman’s body.

**3.** 90% of abortions take place in the first trimester. (first three months). Three weeks into the pregnancy, the whole embryo is still only about 2 mm (2 millimeters) long, or about the size of the letter “o”.

Several day embryo clump of cells



**4.** By the third month of pregnancy the embryo, now called a fetus, starts to look a little more “human” as it grows arms, legs, sex organs, fingers, and toes. It is undergoing a lot of changes, but inside, its internal organs, muscles, skeleton, and nervous system are still very undeveloped. The whole thing is still only about 60mm long, that is about 2-1/2 inches.



Five week embryo

**5.** Even at the end of the second trimester a fetus cannot survive outside the woman’s uterus without special medical measures. Its brain is still very unformed. Its lungs are not ready to take in air. It is still very much a part of the woman’s body and completely dependent on her bodily processes. It is not a human being until it is born, and takes its first breath.



Ten week fetus

**6.** Pregnancy is not some mysterious event guided by outside forces either. It is part of the normal processes of the woman’s body. And, the choice of whether or not to carry an embryo or fetus to term, or to have an abortion, belongs to the woman. A woman has no moral obligation to carry a fetus to term simply because she gets pregnant. A woman who chooses at whatever point and for whatever reason to terminate a pregnancy, should feel fine about doing so and should be able to.

**When it comes to abortion, there really is only one moral question: Will women be free to determine their own lives, including whether and when they will bear children, or will women be subjugated to patriarchal male authority, whether it comes down at the hand of another person or the church or the government, and forced to breed against their will?**

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