

SPEECH OUTLINE

Specific Goal: To persuade the audience to be pro-abortion.

Intro: I will start by telling the audience to imagine that they are a woman who was raped, or who was carrying a child that you knew wouldn't live to see his first birthday. Or perhaps the contraceptive you were using didn't work. In any case, you know that you are not prepared or willing to support a child. Now imagine that there are laws that aren't protecting you, but do protect your fertilized egg. Being pro-choice supports the rights of women and to let her make a decision about abortion, instead of having someone make the decision for her.

Thesis: To look at the benefits of giving every woman the right to choose whether or not to have an abortion.

Body:

I. Being pro-choice allows a pregnant woman options under extenuating circumstances.

- a. If a woman, or a teenage girl is raped, she will have the right to terminate a pregnancy that was forced upon her.
- b. If a doctor can determine that the unborn child will die soon after birth, or will be severely disabled and will live its life in a limited state, the mother can spare her unborn child.
- c. If the mother is terminally ill (AIDS) or if delivering a child means the death of the mother, then the mother has the right to save her own life.

(By supporting pro-choice, you are helping to insure that, under extreme circumstances, the decision will be made by the woman herself, and not by lawmakers)

II. Another reason to let the woman decide whether or not to abort is to save the child from extreme cases of psychological or physical abuse.

- a. If a woman accidentally becomes pregnant (unprotected sex, condom broke, etc), and she doesn't want the child, it isn't fair to have a child in an environment where he is not wanted.
- i. Children are more likely to be abused in cases where the pregnancy is either unplanned or born to young mothers.
- b. A child born into a poverty stricken family who can not take care of another person is putting the child in danger of being subjected to abuse.
- i. Poverty stricken parents are four times more likely to abuse their children (both emotionally and physically) due to circumstances surrounding their poverty (stress of supporting family, depression brought on by poverty, etc)
- c. Many children who are given up by their parents (because they are unwanted) end up in abusive foster homes, orphanages or on the streets.

(Only the woman carrying an unborn child should be able to determine if bringing a child into the world is better or worse than having an abortion.)

III. Another reason why being pro-choice is good is because, contrary to popular belief, it stresses the value of life.

- a. Many pro-life activists say that, no matter how horrible the environment may be for a child growing up, every child should come full term.
- b. They don't take into consideration the quality of life of a child. If a child is unwanted or going to be severely handicapped or ill, the value and quality of life for that child will be dramatically subpar, then, by aborting, the mother is really saving the child.
- c. Many are hung up on either religious beliefs or laws saying that it is wrong to take a life. But by definition, life only begins when a being is functioning self-sufficiently, so technically a fetus is not a full-fledged life.

Conclusion: Abortion is a very controversial issue that has people heatedly debating if anyone has the right to abort an unborn baby. Being either being pro-life or pro-choice has been a dilemma not only between people, but states are in disagreement when it comes to abortion laws. I hope that you see how supporting pro-choice not only benefits women, but their unborn children as well.

Sources:

Show the Truth. O'Neill, Terry. April 2001. pp 26-32

Published by Report News

Victories for Abortion-Rights Supporters. Rovner, Julie. October 1998. pp 1366

Published by Lancet