

### From the Heart of the Director

*One heart at a time...one life at a time*

We are delighted to share a powerful guest essay written by Elizabeth Binion, a 17-year-old junior at Immanuel Schools in Reedley. Elizabeth and her family live in Hanford and attend Calvary Hanford. Her essay, *Abortion: A Moral Dilemma*, was written as an assignment for her English class—and she earned a perfect score of 100%. Her thoughtful engagement with this issue reflects both maturity and conviction, and we are deeply encouraged by her willingness to speak truth with grace. Congratulations, Elizabeth! May the Lord bless you for your courage, clarity, and passion in addressing such an important topic. We are grateful for young people like you who boldly stand for life and shine as a beacon of light in your generation. *To God be all the glory!*

Kathryn Enloe  
Director

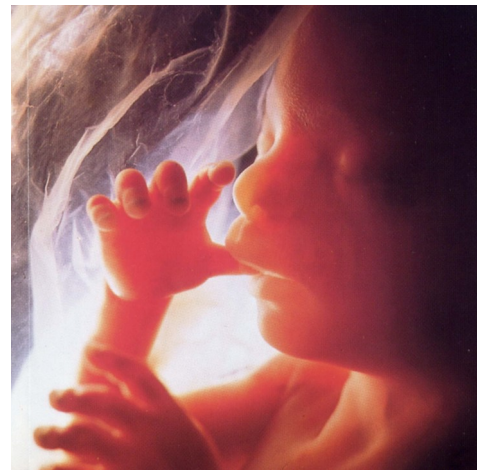
### *Abortion: A Moral Dilemma*

By Elizabeth Binion

It is human nature to protect those who are helpless. However, hundreds of thousands of babies are aborted worldwide every year. Just because something may be legal does not make it right. Abortion is never ethical, in any sense of the word.

The word “ethical” directly means “relating to moral principles or the branch of knowledge dealing with these,” (“Oxford Languages”). Killing anyone, whether defenseless or not, is universally considered morally wrong on multiple levels, in almost every culture around the world. Every year, the deaths of 55,900,000 unborn babies are overlooked, and even encouraged in some cases, (“Crossroads Pregnancy Center Literature”). This is the exact opposite of “ethical,” the complete abandonment of moral principles. Murderers are placed in jail for killing others, making it extremely illogical to justify ending the life of an unborn baby. As far as legality goes, 64% of abortions involve coercion to abort, which is illegal, (“Crossroads Pregnancy Center Literature”). This means that 35,776,000 babies are aborted illegally each year. So not only are abortions not morally ethical, but oftentimes they are also illegal, further tarnishing any pretense of the morality of abortion. According to multiple resources from Crossroads Pregnancy Center, it is not just the unborn baby harmed in the process. Physical pain is endured by both the mother and unborn child, who have pain receptors at a very early developmental stage. A significant mental health decline, as well as suicide rates for both the child’s mother and father have also shown a significant increase in couples who have had an abortion. This demonstrates the opposite of what anyone would consider ethical. Not only is a child’s life lost, but the lives of many others are *...For you formed my inward parts;* also negatively affected.

Now, I may not be someone who has personally experienced an abortion, but this topic does affect my life in an impactful way. I was born out of wedlock, and my biological mother chose a difficult life revolving in an endless cycle of men and drugs. During her pregnancy with me, she went to an abortion center, seeking to end her pregnancy. For some reason, she chose to spare the life of her unborn baby. She chose to spare me. I can’t help but wonder on occasion, what the world would look like if she had gone through with the abortion. I am not a huge world figure, I am not famous, not even that popular within my high school. However, I have impacted many others, even in small ways. If my mother had gone through with the abortion, there would be one less chair at Immanuel graduation next year, one less player on girls JV tennis. My little brother, Harper, would have no one to call “sis.” One less person to laugh and smile, one less person to cry, one less person to feel anything at all. But she didn’t go through with it. I am here, and able to speak for those whose words have been taken away from them before they even had a chance to speak. I think of the hundreds of thousands of babies not given the same opportunity I have been given—living life outside of the womb. They might have even invented something, made a groundbreaking discovery, been the next Amelia Earhart or Thomas Edison. They might have been the school bully who eventually figures it out later in life, or maybe they would have just been a quiet friend, a shoulder to lean on, the lead in the next school play. Nobody extraordinary, but still someone. But we will never know, because that choice has already been made for thousands of babies.



*you knitted me together in my mother's womb*

Many pro-choice supporters argue, “my body, my choice,” or in other words, because the unborn baby is dependent on the mother, or a part of the mother, it is then up to the mother to decide whether the unborn baby lives or not. However, this argument is flawed in many ways. From conception, the unborn baby is biologically and scientifically a separate person from the mother. During conception, chromosomes from the mother and father cells combine to form a completely new person. The intricate DNA formed in that moment codes for their hair color, eye color, height, and more. The newly formed baby is not just a member of the mother, but a new person dependent upon the mother. The argument that “because an unborn baby is dependent on the mother, the mother can decide whether the baby lives or dies” doesn’t hold any water. This is due to the fact that a baby out of the mother’s womb is still equally as dependent upon the mother as a baby still in the womb. By that logic, you could justify murdering even a 3 year old, which would be extremely illegal and considered murder. Deciding that one flawed, human person gets to single handedly decide that another human being dies is foolish. In court cases, when someone is tried, whether guilty of the charge or not, their fate and guilt is not just decided by one judge. It is decided by an entire jury. Even the fate of guilty criminals is determined by multiple people. It also goes against almost everyone’s ethics. To mother is to “bring up a child with care and affection,” and to “look after someone kindly and protectively, sometimes excessively so,” (“Oxford Dictionary”). Deciding to end the life of an unborn baby goes against the very definition of what it means to be a mother. Someone who is, by definition, meant to care for and protect their child, should not be allowed the decision to end that life. It ought to be out of the question for them.

Although abortion is legal under some circumstances, it is never ethical. It does not bring any good to anyone involved, as both parents and the aborted child all suffer long-term consequences from said abortion. The deaths of so many thousands of innocent lives must not be brushed aside.



P.O. Box 135  
Hanford CA 93232

Return Service Requested

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact us either by phone or email.



### Crossroads Staff

Kathryn Enloe, Executive Director  
Nicole Gilles, Assistant to the Director  
Anna Brookshier, Admin. Assistant  
Melissa Nydam, Client Services Manager

### Board of Directors

Gene Pensiero, President  
Rick Koelewyn, Vice President  
Norm Perkins, Secretary  
Patrick Mundy, Treasurer  
Frank Caudell

### Accountants

M. Green & Company

## LifeNet

is a monthly publication of  
Crossroads Pregnancy Center  
a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization

Correspondence, inquiries, and  
tax-deductible gifts may be mailed to:  
Crossroads Pregnancy Center  
P.O. Box 135, Hanford, CA 93232

Phone: (559) 583-1900

General E-mail: [contact@crossroadscpc.com](mailto:contact@crossroadscpc.com)  
[kathryne@crossroadscpc.com](mailto:kathryne@crossroadscpc.com)  
[melissan@crossroadscpc.com](mailto:melissan@crossroadscpc.com)  
[nicole@crossroadscpc.com](mailto:nicole@crossroadscpc.com)

Website: [crossroadscpc.com](http://crossroadscpc.com)

## Center Donations: *And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us... (Eph 5:2)*

A special thank you to **Connor Barnes, Catholic Daughters, Andrice Dean, Liz Fernandes, Koinonia Church, Cheryl Landeros, Andrea Leon, Janet Long, Valeria Redmill, Refuge Armona, ReNewed Thrift and Anna Romero** for your generous donations of baby equipment, breast pump, crocheted blankets/caps, clothing, shoes, toiletries, toys, diapers and baby wipes. Your donations bless our clients through the *Earn While You Learn* parenting program.

**Donations accepted: Mon, Wed & Thurs: 9:30 am - 4:00 pm; Tues: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm**

## Thank you Catholic Daughters!



**Catholic Daughters** recently hosted a baby shower for the Center and blessed us with an abundance of adorable gifts, such as clothing, toiletries, diapers and wipes. Not only will these items bless our clients who participate in our parenting program, but our clients will know how much they are cared for, supported, and most importantly loved in their parenting journey.

Thank you for your generous support and for loving our clients through this life-giving ministry.

## Changing Babies Fundraising Campaign

**Your Change Can Change Lives! Launches Mother's Day, May 10**

The Center will be promoting our upcoming spring fundraiser, **Changing Babies**, that will run Mother's Day to Father's Day. This is a fun and easy way to support the center. Churches, businesses and in-

dividuals are invited to participate. If you would like more information, please call us at 583-1900, scan the code or visit:

[www.partner.crossroadscpc.com/fundraisers/changing-babies](http://www.partner.crossroadscpc.com/fundraisers/changing-babies)



Donations can be made in the form of cash, check, or online at: [www.partner.crossroadscpc.com/donate](http://www.partner.crossroadscpc.com/donate)

