

# Jaime

17 Years Old



## Choose Life

In the world today over a million abortions are performed every year. An abortion is the ending of a pregnancy through the expulsion of a baby. Some believe abortion is wrong because it kills a baby while others believe that it is not because it gets rid of unwanted pregnancies and allows women to have the freedom they would like without having a child. While some may agree with abortion, it is not right. Abortion should be illegal in order to save innocent lives because it is murder, there is a better option than death, and it is painful to the child.

To begin, abortion is truly murder. Abortions in the United States are legal up until 24 weeks: at 24 weeks in utero, a baby has a sixty to seventy percent chance of survival if they are born alive (The Atlantic Journal-Constitution). This means that a growing baby, a child, can be six months along during pregnancy and still be cast out like garbage. If that baby were taken out he or she has a large chance of survival; that baby is big enough that he or she could be held in his or her mother's arms, but still, people think that they can kill this child just because it hasn't touched the outside world yet. The true insanity of this all is that people do this to unborn children, but if you had a sixty to seventy percent chance of living wouldn't you want someone to do everything in their power to save you? People are only thinking of themselves and could be acting selfishly. People are putting the values in their lives over the life of their unborn child. This is happening every single day and it needs to stop. Everyone needs to see that these unborn children are people too, and just because they are not outside of their mother's womb doesn't mean they are only a group of cells. Children are not just a group of cells, these children are living people who have immeasurable value, and haven't done anything to be deserving of death. At the time a baby is conceived the cells start dividing (the number of cells doubles every other day); at twenty-two days after conception, a baby's heart starts beating, and at 24 weeks if the baby is taken out the baby can live (Cleveland Clinic)! People choose to take away a life

when it is perfectly viable, and even if the baby wouldn't survive naturally it is unethical to intentionally end a life. These children are alive which means by aborting them they are being murdered because they could survive, but people who are having abortions don't seem to care about the innocent lives they are removing from this earth unless it affects their future.

To follow, abortion shouldn't be legal because there is a better option than death. Every year there is an estimated amount of about 1-2 million people wanting to adopt a child (Adoption Network), and every year there are over 1 million abortions. There is such a large number of people wanting to adopt a child because they can't have one since they have health issues or they don't want a biological child. The number of those who want to adopt is relatively close to the number of those who have abortions each and every year. If those who are having abortions decided to carry the baby to full term and give them up think of how many lives would be saved and how many people would be happy to adopt a child of their own. This is a win-win situation because the child's biological parent(s) wouldn't have to worry about a child changing their life like many fear, and all those who are actively looking to adopt a child will get that bundle of joy that they had been waiting for. This seems like a very reasonable and almost perfect solution, but people won't do it because they have the option not to. People decide that since abortion is an option they think it is the easy way out and they can avoid the risk of growing attached to the baby inside of them or enduring the long pregnancy. Though some of the situations mothers may find themselves in can be quite complicated it is still wrong and unethical for someone to take away a life. Also, some people think it is another form of birth control even though it's not and they are oblivious to how developed the baby truly is. This is where people put many fluff terms on abortions to make it seem like what they are doing isn't really that bad. One may say it is just a medical procedure to get rid of some cells while in reality the child that is growing inside them is alive and could grow up to live happily with adoptive parents who want a child so badly. It is the best option to allow these babies to be adopted rather than aborted because there are people who want them. So abortion should be illegal and should help to support the parents

during the difficult situations that are making them consider abortion in order to stop killing these children before they even have the chance to flourish.

On the other hand, some people say that these children are “just a group of cells” that don’t feel anything when being aborted and that it is their right to choose whether or not to have an abortion. At about 20 weeks, possibly even as early as 12 weeks, a fetus can feel pain (Charlotte Lozier Institute). This means that those who decide to have an abortion can be causing physical pain to their unborn child. When a baby in the womb can feel pain doesn’t that make them human? This shows that they are not just a group of cells, but that these babies are people who feel real pain. Saying that they are just cells is only an excuse to not feel bad about having an abortion. The truth is they are living irreplaceable babies in the womb who do feel pain. According to Van de Velde M and De Buck F in an article published to the *Fetal and Maternal Medical Review*, by 20 weeks neurological connections between the thalamus and the spinal cord, which also function in adults for pain perception, are almost complete. This shows that like adults these babies can feel pain and it is inhumane to cause them pain by killing them in the womb. People don’t seem to understand that these babies are living creatures just like them, and what is really happening inside them. Also, someone may say they have a right to abortion, but what about the babies? Since they are also human they should have rights as well. These unborn babies are human just like you and me. They should have the natural rights to life and happiness, and these shouldn't be taken away because someone doesn't want a child, or fears having one. Jordan Amis, 30 at the time, described herself as someone who loves lists, organization, and when things go according to plan, but her pregnancy didn't completely stick to her plan. It was a long pregnancy, but she knew that she was growing a little life inside of her and she would do anything to keep it safe. Although it was a painful experience having her child, she ended up with a beautiful baby boy who she later describes as becoming an amazing little guy and she says “My heart melts every time I look at Charlie”. These beautiful, innocent

children deserve the right to live, and even if they may just seem like cells to some, they are not. These children deserve the right to life.

In the end, some may say that it would be extremely difficult to just stop the process of people getting abortions, and this is why there should be pre-abortion ultrasound laws to allow the parent to first see the life that is growing inside them. With this, babies who may not have been here will be here to grow up and have their right to life. If we don't start saving these innocent lives today millions of babies who could live, who feel pain, and who have someone that wants them will be executed, and that number will just keep growing.

## Works Cited

- Amis, Jordan, and Brian Amis. "Charlie's Birth Story: Two Unique Perspectives." *The Journal of Perinatal Education*, Lamaze International Inc., 2009,  
[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2684041/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2684041/).
- Charlotte Lozier Institute. "Fact Sheet: Science of Fetal Pain." *Charlotte Lozier Institute*,  
[lozierinstitute.org/fact-sheet-science-of-fetal-pain/](http://lozierinstitute.org/fact-sheet-science-of-fetal-pain/).
- "Fetal Development: Month-By-Month Stages of Pregnancy." *Cleveland Clinic*,  
[my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/7247-fetal-development-stages-of-growth](http://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/articles/7247-fetal-development-stages-of-growth).
- Prather, Shannon. "Adoption Numbers Plummet in Minnesota and Nationwide." *Pro Quest SIRS Issues Researcher*, 24 June 2018,  
[explore.proquest.com/sirsissuesresearcher/document/2262879408?searchid=1616179472&accountid=124](http://explore.proquest.com/sirsissuesresearcher/document/2262879408?searchid=1616179472&accountid=124).
- Publishing, Harvard Health. "Abortion (Termination Of Pregnancy)." *Harvard Health*,  
[www.health.harvard.edu/medical-tests-and-procedures/abortion-termination-of-pregnancy-a-to-z](http://www.health.harvard.edu/medical-tests-and-procedures/abortion-termination-of-pregnancy-a-to-z).
- "US Adoption Statistics: Adoption Network: Adoption Network." *Adoption Network* |, 10 Mar. 2021,  
[adoptionnetwork.com/adoption-myths-facts/domestic-us-statistics/#:~:text=About%2013%20children%20are%20adopted,are%20voluntarily%20relinquished%20American%20babies](http://adoptionnetwork.com/adoption-myths-facts/domestic-us-statistics/#:~:text=About%2013%20children%20are%20adopted,are%20voluntarily%20relinquished%20American%20babies).
- Van de Velde M;De Buck F; "Fetal and Maternal Analgesia/Anesthesia for Fetal Procedures." *Fetal Diagnosis and Therapy*, U.S. National Library of Medicine,  
[pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22538233/](http://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22538233/).
- "Who Will Speak for the Unborn in Massachusetts?" *Pro Quest SIRS Issues Researcher*, 3 Jan. 2021,  
[explore.proquest.com/sirsissuesresearcher/document/2485290704?accountid=124](http://explore.proquest.com/sirsissuesresearcher/document/2485290704?accountid=124).