



Christian Voices for Life

Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

This week's Topic: Abortion in the African-American Community



Education: In Texas in 2008, there were a total of 405,242 births, and 78,330 abortions. Discounting miscarriages, then, about 16% of pregnancies were aborted. Among African-American women, however, there were 45,830 births, and 19,708 abortions, indicating that 30% of pregnancies were aborted, nearly double the rate of the total population.¹ Abortion killed more black Americans than the seven leading causes of death (cancer, heart disease, stroke, accidents, diabetes, homicide, and lower respiratory diseases) combined.²

Planned Parenthood, a major provider of abortion in the U.S., was founded by Margaret Sanger, who disapproved of large families and believed in promoting birth control to decrease the population of the poor, black or any other inferior population. She said "The most merciful thing that a large family does to one of its infant members is to kill it,"³ and "We do not want word to go out that we want to exterminate the Negro population..."⁴

1. 2008 Texas Vital Statistics Annual Report, Tables 9A, 9B, and 35. Retrieved 10/26/2011 from <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/chs/vstat/latest/data.shtm#abort>
2. Karen Shuberg, "Abortion Kills More Black Americans Than the Seven Leading Causes of Death Combined, Says CDC Data" CNS News, Oct 22, 2009, retrieved 10/26/2011 from <http://www.cnsnews.com/news/article/abortion-kills-more-black-americans-seven-leading-causes-death-combined-says-cdc-data>
3. Margaret Sanger, *Women and the New Race* (Eugenics Publ. Co., 1920, 1923)
4. attributed to Margaret Sanger by Linda Gordon in *Woman's Body, Woman's Right: A Social History of Birth Control in America*, New York, Grossman, 1976.



Prayer: Dear Father God, may we always recognize our neighbors of any race or creed, the poor, the handicapped, those who are marginalized in any way, as our brothers and sisters. Help our society to offer respect and true help to those in need, to improve their lives with direct assistance, education and other means, rather than offering the poor permission to kill their preborn children. Help more of our brothers and sisters of the African American community to join in the work to reduce abortion, to work to change the concept of abortion as a woman's right or as a boon for the poor. Help poor women who are tempted to abort to find the help they need to choose life for their child.



Action: Bring up the topic of abortion with an African-American friend, or with someone who is an advocate for the poor. Express your opinion that it is a travesty that poor women are being offered abortion as a solution to the "problem" of pregnancy rather than being offered real, life-affirming help to support their child. The solution to poverty is not to kill the poor.