



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

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### Dr. Seuss was Right

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**Education:** When a pro-choice person says that a child-in-utero is not human, or “just cells”, many pro-lifers might respond with the biological argument that every new life begins at fertilization. The early stage of development of a new individual of any species is just that – a stage of development, from which the individual continues to progress to the next stage, not from anything being added from the outside, but self-directed changes that only require that the individual be supplied with the same oxygen and nutrients that are required for life at any stage.

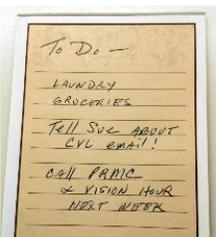
However, what the individual often really means is that even though the child-in-utero is clearly alive and human, they are not yet a **person**, with rights equal to that of a born person. I agree that when you hear the word person, you generally picture an adult. To look at a ball of cells and call it a person is not an obvious conclusion. **But what is it that we all share that defines us as persons with equal rights?** It can't be size or abilities that vary from one person to another. Some people are smarter than others, some more dependent on others. This person-defining quality must include newborns, and exclude animals. If you try to define an ability like self-awareness, it will exclude newborns but include some animals. (If you put a dot on an elephant's head and let him look in a mirror, he will rub at the dot on his head, understanding that he is looking at himself.) Chimpanzees will use tools. The only common factor shared equally by all people – but not by animals - is our humanity. (1)

If we want to protect sea turtles, we protect their eggs. So why can't we understand that if human life deserves protection, that includes children-in-utero? Dr. Seuss was right – “A person is a person no matter how small.”

1. Taken from Module 5 of *Equipped for Life* Course from Equal Rights Institute. See <https://www.equippedcourse.com/>
2. Dr. Seuss in *Horton Hears a Who*, 1954, 1990.



**Prayer:** Dear Father God, please allow the right to life of children-in-utero to be recognized by everyone. Help everyone to understand that we all began our lives in the womb, and no matter how much smaller we were then, or how differently we looked, that was **us** in our mother's womb, and if our mothers had aborted us, **we** would have died. If a woman and her baby need help, help us to love them both, and find ways to help them both to get through whatever difficulties they face with the best possible outcome. Help the world to understand that giving a woman permission to kill her child is not a loving response to her need; she needs help that will allow her to have her baby and arrange for her child to be well cared for.



**Action:** Think about your friends and family members. Do you know – not just assume you know - how they feel about abortion? If not, ask them when you have a quiet time together. If they are pro-choice, ask them what their reasoning is. Listen and find common ground; especially agree with any concern they express for women in difficult circumstances. But difficult circumstances do not change right and wrong. Get to the real issue of what is the child-in-utero? Are they deserving of an equal right to life as born persons? If not, why not. Use the

arguments above to encourage them to at least think more about the issue. You can also mention, of course, that abortion hurts women more than it helps. See <http://www.christianvoicesforlife.org/after-abortion> for facts about the physical and psychological risks of abortion.