



Christian Voices for Life
Weekly Pro-Life
Education
Prayer
Action

Amended California Bill Still Allows Infanticide



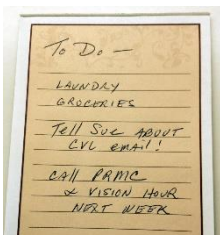
Education: On 2/23/12, the Journal of Medical Ethics published an article entitled “After-birth abortion – Why should the baby live?” The authors argued that since abortion is largely accepted, and there is no significant moral difference between a fetus and a newborn, that the killing of newborns should also be acceptable for any of the same reasons that abortion would be deemed acceptable. They consider both fetuses and newborns to be only “potential persons” with no rights. (1) “Wrongful birth” lawsuits have been won by parents who sued the doctor for failing to inform them of a child’s serious disability during the pregnancy, and thereby did not allow them the option to choose to abort. Some parents pursue such suits in spite of dearly loving their handicapped child. (2)

In 2022, Maryland and California considered bills that would legalize infanticide.(3, 4) The Maryland bill was abandoned, and a key amendment did greatly reduce the danger of the California bill, which passed in May of 2022. (5) The bill disallowed any penalty for a person who acted or omitted an action in relation to a pregnancy outcome, including a perinatal (within about a month after birth) death ***due to causes that occurred in utero.*** While the phrase added (in bold italics) withdraws protection for actions of neglect or active killing of a newborn, the bill is still dangerous. Any health and safety regulations regarding abortion can be totally ignored since no one can be charged with causing harm related to their actions. A baby born alive after an abortion attempt has no protection. If a coroner determines that the cause of death of a fetus was actually suffocation after birth, that evidence cannot be used to prosecute anyone. (5)

1. <https://jme.bmj.com/content/39/5/261>
2. <https://lawrina.com/blog/wrongful-birth-legal-issues/>
3. <https://www.nationalreview.com/corner/maryland-bill-effectively-decriminalizes-neglecting-newborns-to-death/>
4. <https://www.lifenews.com/2022/03/25/california-bill-would-legalize-infanticide-babies-could-be-left-to-die-up-to-6-weeks-after-birth/>
5. <https://www.californiafamily.org/2022/05/infanticide-bill-amended-after-huge-public-outcry-but-serious-problems-remain/>



Prayer: Dear Jesus, please enlighten the minds and hearts of anyone who do not see the value of every life You create, whether a person is healthy or has special needs. Help them to see that harm is done when a child is deprived of life, because Your plan for them is not allowed to take place. Bless those families who adopt children with special needs, and the agencies that specialize in placing such children. Lead our world to a greater respect for the value of every human life.



Action: Inform your friends of the danger that exists for children even after birth. “Slippery slope” arguments have long claimed that devaluing life in one situation will lead to a general devaluing of life in other situations. It is absolutely true that there is little moral difference between killing a child within the womb and killing a newborn. While we argue that both have the right to live, the acceptance of abortion will lead to greater acceptance of neonatal euthanasia, which is has been [practiced in the Netherlands](#) since 2014.