



Christian Voices for Life

Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

How Does Your Doctor Handle Patients Unhappy to be Pregnant?



Education: A survey in 2011 reported that while 97% of ob-gyns had encountered patients wanting an abortion, only 14% performed them.(1) The vast majority of abortions in Texas were obtained at abortion clinics, or Planned Parenthood, separated from hospitals or doctors who had a general Ob-gyn practice.

So, your ob-gyn or family practice doctor has very likely encountered and will continue to encounter patients who are very unhappy to be pregnant. With abortion now illegal in Texas, it may be less likely that patients will ask about abortion, but they can still be tempted to travel to another state (especially if their employer pays for the travel), or get abortion pills online. Even if they are not considering abortion, they may really need some help to get through the pregnancy. Some doctors may still feel obliged to give referrals to abortion in order to allow the patient her “right to choose”. But certainly, a referral implies some measure of approval for that choice. Some doctors have even **advised** abortion when the pregnancy presents a risk to the health of the mother or if the child is diagnosed with a significant handicap (very possibly motivated to reduce their own risk of a malpractice suit). Medical schools do not educate residents on the potentially devastating emotional consequences of abortion, the deceptive or even coercive practices of abortion clinics, or about help that is available from pregnancy centers (including referrals for adoption and doctors willing to work with a high-risk pregnancy).

Women who are very unhappy to be pregnant need true information about abortion and its consequences; they need emotional support and encouragement to choose life; they need a referral to a local pregnancy center. If your friend is debating whether or not to buy a car, would you send them to a car salesman?

1. <http://khn.org/news/study-fewer-doctors-are-offering-abortion/>



Prayer: Dear Lord, please extend your mercy to the doctors and other clinic workers involved in the abortion industry. Please remove from their hearts and minds any misconceptions they may have that abortion helps women. Give them the courage to face the truth that abortion kills an innocent child, and walk away from their involvement. Help all doctors to be informed about the terrible consequences of abortion and the help that is available for women at pregnancy centers. Help them to be willing and able to refer their patients who are very unhappy to be pregnant to real help with alternatives to abortion.



Action: Ask your Ob-gyn or family practice doctor about what he tells patients who ask about abortion, or seem very unhappy to be pregnant. Encourage him to refer those patients to the local pregnancy center, or the Option Line, where they can get good information, emotional support and practical help to reach the best possible outcome for both mother and baby. So many women who abort deeply regret their decision, and abortion is still available with online pills, or travel to other states. The national Option Line is available at www.OptionLine.org or **800-712-HELP** to chat online or speak to callers

immediately (24/7, Eng/Span), and can refer callers to the nearest pregnancy help center. You can tell the doctor that CVL would be happy to supply him with Option Line business cards to use in referring patients. If he says he would accept such cards, just [contact us](#) with his name, phone number and address. **Please talk to him and bring him “7 Things Every Family Doctor Should Know”**, with information about contraceptives and abortion pill reversal, as well as the information on Option Line.