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## What NOT to Say When Discussing Abortion - 2

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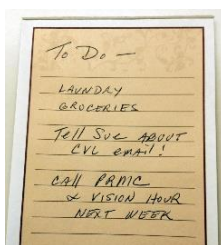


**Education:** Many pro-life people may have the attitude that they do not need any training on how to discuss abortion, they know why abortion is wrong and can state the position clearly. But if the goal is to change someone's mind, just stating truth is not sufficient. I could say "Life clearly begins at fertilization, and it is simply wrong to kill a child in the womb." That's true, but the pro-choice person might hear "I only care about the baby, the mom doesn't matter." Suppose I say instead that "Women deserve to have whatever help they need to have their baby and not have to sacrifice their child in order to solve their problems. There are pro-life pregnancy centers all over the country helping women to cope with their pregnancies without resorting to abortion."

Then there is the "my body, my choice" mantra. This statement is usually NOT saying that the baby is a part of the mother's body, they are saying that the woman has the right to control what happens in her body. So, yes, we all have the right to control our bodies. But what about a mother who takes a medicine for nausea even though she knows it could do serious harm to her baby? Or is it OK to abort a baby at 8 months? If they agree, as most would, that those actions would be wrong, why would those actions be wrong? Isn't it because the child also has rights that should be acknowledged? Our legal system acknowledges that parents have a natural obligation to support their children. Fathers are obligated to provide child support. Wouldn't it make sense that mothers should also be expected to support their children in the natural way for mothers to do so at the beginning of their lives by nurturing them in the womb?



**Prayer:** Dear Father God, please help more and more pro-life people to become well equipped to help their friends and contacts to see that science and the basic belief in human rights show that abortion, the deliberate killing of a preborn child, is always wrong. Help them to convey compassion for women in difficult circumstances and remain calm and respectful as they discuss the topic. Give them the courage to contribute truth to the discussion rather than silence. Please open the minds and hearts of men and women who are pro-choice, and help them to see the evidence and logic that will lead them to a change of heart.



**Action:** Be pro-active in preparing yourself to discuss abortion in a way that will help others to see the truth and logic of the pro-life position. Some helpful books are *What to Say When*, by Shawn Carney and Steve Karlen, *ProLife Answers to ProChoice Arguments* by Randy Alcorn, and *The Case for Life* by Scott Klusendorf. [Equal Rights Institute](#) and [Live Action](#) both offer, at no cost, a series of brief videos (ERI also provides the text) on answering popular pro-choice arguments.