



Christian Voices for Life

Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

Would she have survived with proper care?



Education: 24-yr old Tonya Reaves had an abortion at a downtown Chicago Planned Parenthood. Her uterus was lacerated and she bled to death, leaving her 1 yr old child without a mother. Her abortion began at 11 am, but she was not transported to a hospital for emergency care until 4:30 pm. Two days after her death a Planned Parenthood statement said they were “shocked and saddened” by her death. However, they eventually paid a \$2 million dollar wrongful death settlement. Tonya is just one of many women seriously injured or killed by an abortion industry which has long

proclaimed its procedures to be “safe.” Another woman, Itai Gravely, complained of severe pain and asked the doctor to stop the abortion. She was restrained and they continued. She continued to complain of pain after the abortion, but they insisted everything was fine and discharged her. The next day she called an ambulance and required emergency surgery to remove parts of her baby that were left in the uterus. (1)

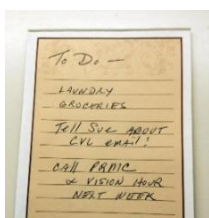
In 2016, the Supreme Court reviewed the constitutionality of HB2, a Texas law requiring abortion doctors to have hospital admitting privileges and abortion facilities to meet ambulatory surgical center standards. In *Whole Woman’s Health vs. Hellerstedt*, the court ruled that the safety standards would close too many clinics, which would place an “undue burden” on women, limiting their access to abortion, which had been determined to be unconstitutional by earlier rulings. They ignored evidence of substandard care at abortion facilities and protected access to abortion rather than the health of the women having them.

In 2018, Americans United for Life (AUL) published *Unsafe*, a study on abortion safety which clearly demonstrates that America’s abortion industry endangers women, with a nationwide pattern of sub-standard care. Even without the additional requirements of HB2, abortion facilities must be kept to the same standards of care as all medical facilities. AUL found widespread (over 130 facilities in 22 states) practices of “failure to maintain a safe and sanitary environment”. At least 82 facilities in 14 states were guilty of failing to ensure that staff were properly trained for their duties. Other violations include the use of expired medications and failure to comply with physical plant standards such as hand-washing stations and fire emergency systems.

1. *Unsafe*, available for download at https://aul.org/publications/unsafe/?mc_cid=56834352fc&mc_eid=3b37141765



Prayer: Dear Father God, please have mercy on women and girls who are experiencing a crisis pregnancy. Help them to trust in You and to find the support they need to cope with the pregnancy and resist any coercion they may be facing. For the women who do proceed with the abortion, please protect them from unsafe facilities. Please help all health and safety regulations to be well enforced at abortion facilities to keep them to the same standard of care as other medical procedures.



Action: If someone expresses an opinion that abortion must remain legal to keep it safe, gently point out that the abortion industry is not even maintaining basic health and safety standards that are applied to other invasive procedures. Investigations have discovered multiple and repeated health and safety violations including unsterilized equipment and unqualified staff giving patient care.