



Christian Voices for Life Wednesday Word

Education
Prayer
Action

3 Ways YOU Can Help Prevent Coerced Abortion



Education: Those in favor of legal abortion often talk about a woman's "right to choose". The truth, however, is that most abortions are unwanted, coerced, or even forced. 64% of women report feeling pressured to abort. (1) A report from the Elliott Institute (1) gives many examples of real cases in addition to references to a number of studies. Teens are especially at risk, because they are less able to solve problems and stand up to pressure.

Teens are particularly at risk to coercion from school counselors, from her parents, or from other adults who seem to be knowledgeable about what is best for her. School counselors may discourage her from even involving her parents before proceeding with the abortion.

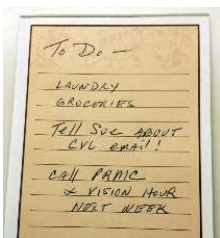
Parents may believe it is their right to make that choice for their daughter. But no matter her age, the pregnant mother has the right to decide to carry her baby. In some states, including Texas, forcing a child to abort is considered child abuse. One mother literally took her daughter to a clinic at gunpoint. (1)

"Gaylene" became pregnant at 14, and turned to her school counselor for advice before going to her parents. He told her she was too young to be a parent, that adoption would be too difficult and that there was no need to trouble her parents about it; abortion was the answer. She did not feel she decided herself for the abortion, but did proceed with it. She later attempted suicide several times and got involved with alcohol, drugs, and crime. (2)

1. David Reardon, "Forced Abortion in America" available [Forced Abortion Fact Sheet.pdf](#) and at [Forced Abortion Fact Sheet.pdf](#)
2. Amy Sobie and David C. Reardon, "A Generation at Risk – How Teens are Coerced or Manipulated into Abortion" Accessed 10/27/25 from <http://www.theunchoice.com/EINews/2008Vol7/Vol7No7.htm>



Prayer: Dear Father God, please have mercy on women who are subjected to pressure and coercion to abort. Help them to feel your loving arms around them and send your Holy Spirit to give them strength and perseverance. Help them to find the support and resources they need to feel free to choose life. Help our legislatures to act to protect women against coercion and punish those who are guilty of the crime. Help church communities to make it clear to their members that they will support mothers in crisis pregnancies. Help everyone to realize that women who have aborted may have been coerced, and should not be judged, but helped to heal from the experience.



Action: There are three actions that can prevent coerced abortion.

1. **Talk to students.** Friends of teens are likely to be the first to find out about an unwanted pregnancy and the possibility of coercion to abort. Give out copies of the "Dear Student" letter from Students for Life and [the Justice Foundation](#).
2. **Talk to parents.** Many parents may not realize the devastating effect that abortion can have on their child, or are just unwilling to support their child through a pregnancy. Give out copies of an article about the effects of abortion, [found here](#), and copies of the "Dear Parent" letter from the Justice Foundation.
3. **Support legislation to criminalize coerced abortion.**