Christian Voices for Life

Wednesday Word

Education

Prayer

Action

Real Freedom is Not Just Choice

Education: What does it mean to have the freedom to make a choice? If someone has you at gunpoint and tells you to get in a car, are you really free to say no? If you don't, he could shoot you in the foot and remove any chance to run away later. The immediate consequences of saying no are too frightening to consider. A woman who is facing abandonment, and/or loss of home or job, may be terrified of the consequences of her pregnancy. She may or may not have learned about fetal development even at only a basic level, so it is easy to believe the lies that the baby is only "a blob of tissue". She may not be aware of the help and emotional support available for her to see an acceptable future. If she is not informed about the baby as well as all her options, she cannot make a truly free decision. Facilities and staff that provide abortions are selling a product to make a profit, meet a quota, or just keep a job they desperately need. They have no interest in providing a client with an informed decision.

Many Americans are astonished to hear that the number of abortions increased after Dobbs. The fact is that after decades of steady decline (due to pro-life efforts), they began to increase in 2017, before Dobbs.(1) Why? Around that time, non-profit funds to pay for abortions began to be provided in significant amounts ($327,000 in 2018). After Dobbs, those funds saw a sharp increase (from $1.6 million in 2021 to $3.6 million in 2022). More of the funds also provided funds for travel to other states.(2) The decrease in abortions in states with bans was greatly offset by travel to other states, or getting abortion pills online. Also, poor women who would not have been able to get abortions in the past because of the cost, were now able to get the funds to do so.

The basic element causing a demand for abortion is the continually growing acceptance of both sexual activity outside marriage and abortion. Unmarried women don't want to be single moms. Women athletes want to pursue their career during the prime period of their ability. And then, of course, there is the element of money. Abortion is a very profitable business, and profits can be increased by active encouragement of young people to be sexually active, as well as fighting restrictions and ignoring laws about mailing abortion pills.

1. https://societyfp.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/WeCountReport_10.16.23.pdf
2. https://abortionfunds.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/NNAF_AnnualReport2023_ENG_Digital-1.pdf

Prayer: Dear Lord, please bless the work of pregnancy centers, churches, and others to reach and to help the women who need their services, and help all women who are considering abortion be aware of and have access to those services, in order to make a truly free and informed decision. Please move more and more American citizens to realize the injustice and harmful nature of abortion, as well as return to a respect for chastity.

Action: Spread the word about the existence of pregnancy centers and OptionLine.org, especially to anyone who might be in position to consider an abortion for themselves or their daughter. Train yourself on how to be effective in helping your friends and neighbors to accept the pro-life view. Every pro-choice person who becomes pro-life is one less person to vote pro-abortion, fund an abortion, or encourage others to get an abortion.