

Mallory Myrick

EH-111

Professor England

September 28 2020

### Should Abortion Be Illegal?

Aborting babies is proof that not everyone views an unborn child as valuable. There are so many psychological and physiological issues that go along with mothers who choose to have abortions. Every day in the United States, approximately 2362 abortions are performed. This breaks down to 98 abortions every hour, which then equates to 1 abortion every 96 seconds. There has been a huge debate over whether or not abortions should be legal since the Roe vs. Wade debate in 1973. During this debate, the US Supreme Court decided that abortion is a fundamental right for women and made abortions legal. The pro-life group of people opposed this with the argument that human life starts at conception and abortion is seen as murder of a life. The group of people known as pro-choice feel that a woman should have the choice to have an abortion without any governmental or religious beliefs hanging over them.

Some may argue that a baby shouldn't come into the world if they will be unwanted. While this may be a valid argument, I think that at some point there has to be accountability for one's actions taken into consideration. There are actions that take place before a baby can even be conceived, as a baby just doesn't appear in the womb. These babies are precious and they don't deserve to be treated any less because of someone's immature actions and decisions. I firmly believe that abortion is one of the most controversial topics but, in my opinion, is one that shouldn't even be questionable.

"Personhood begins after a fetus becomes "viable" or after birth, not at conception." (<https://abortion.procon.org>) Pro-life groups have the belief that life begins at conception. Therefore, the unborn babies are human beings and deserve to have a right to life. A baby's heart starts to beat at 5.5 - 6 weeks gestational age. (<https://www.healthline.com/health/pregnancy/when-can-you-hear-babys-heartbeat>) That, to me, says that a human life starts long before the baby is born. If you were to murder a human, that is to cause the heart to stop beating and pumping blood, it is punishable in a court of law. So why is it that it is perfectly acceptable, and in some cases "normal", to abort an unborn child? Shouldn't it be treated the same way as an adult life that has a heartbeat?

"Abortion gives pregnant women the option to choose not to bring fetuses with profound abnormalities to full term." (<https://abortion.procon.org>) I don't think the previous statement is fair because who are we to choose which person can be born and which one shouldn't be? We are all created equal and those with abnormalities all have a place in this world. For example, Abraham Lincoln had a diagnosis of an intermittent left hypertropia. (<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/9083959/>) Does this mean that Abraham Lincoln's mother should have aborted him because of that defect? We wouldn't have had one of the greatest President's that the United States ever had!

There are always two sides to the coin. In this particular instance, there are very heavily debated points of view. Should abortion be illegal? This is a question that every American and every human for that matter needs to ask themselves. Weigh out the good and the bad and make your decision based on the facts. This is something I am very passionate about as I firmly believe that everything happens for a reason; even if it means that someone's life is inconvenienced by their choices.

#### Works Cited

Pros & Cons - ProCon.org. (2020, June 04). Retrieved September 30, 2020, from <https://abortion.procon.org/>

Abortion Statistics. (n.d.). Retrieved September 30, 2020, from <https://www.all.org/learn/abortion/abortion-statistics/>

Chertoff, J. (2018, September 26). When Can You Hear Baby's Heartbeat? Retrieved September 30, 2020, from <https://www.healthline.com/health/pregnancy/when-can-you-hear-babys-heartbeat>

JH;, G. (n.d.). Lincoln's vertical strabismus. Retrieved September 30, 2020, from <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/9083959/>