המוסד למען קדושת חיי אדם

Saving Jewish Lives

JEWISH PRO-LIFE FOUNDATION™

Healing Jewish Hearts

June 19, 2018

Rabbi Dennis S. Ross
Concerned Clergy for Choice

Dear Rabbi Ross,

We recently learned of your booklet *Abortion and Judaism - Rabbinic Opinion and Jewish Law,* displayed among informational resources at a New York Jewish center. Though your involvement with Planned Parenthood and abortion rights activism earns you a living and finds much support in your Jewish circle of influence, we find it to be terribly disturbing. We most humbly ask you for your attention as we share our perspective.

Jews raised in the pro-abortion culture are conditioned from an early age to believe that elective abortion as birth control solves the problems resulting from unplanned pregnancy, unwanted and abused children, social and financial challenges, professional conflicts, gestational anomalies, and sexual and physical assault. This Jewish view sees the 'right to choose' abortion as a civil liberty, necessary health care, good for women and allowed by Jewish law.

We see it differently, The abortion business is all about monetary profit derived from the sacrifice of human capital. This is, of course morally wrong in Judaism, which goes to great lengths to provide rules of business conduct that are moral and just. Jews have a keen sense of social injustice and speak out against it without reservation. Our community goes to great lengths to protect the life of a convicted serial murderer, paying for decades of food, housing, education and expensive legal appeals in the small chance this person may be wrongly accused. Yet, our innocent unborn children have no comparable advocate; instead, the majority Jewish community actively supports killing them for any reason with no second opinion or legal defense required. Millions of baby girls who are aborted every year have no civil liberties as Jewish feminists remain silent.

Many Jews who condone and support abortion have sympathy for the plight of a woman who faces problems because of unplanned or unwanted pregnancy, but decline the community responsibility to provide financial and emotional support and pregnancy care services which would be far more helpful than to provide an abortion that harms her, destroys her child, and rarely solves the concurrent problems. Women who complete their pregnancies have far better outcomes than those who terminate. Also, abortion puts women at risk for breast cancer and infertility.

Judaism demands a high level of compassion and mercy for the vulnerable and defenseless. No other demographic is as vulnerable as the defenseless child in the womb. No compassion is shown for the millions of babies who are starved, poisoned, burned, dismembered, and whose skull is punctured and crushed after partial delivery - all done without pain medication and all for profit. The abortion business shelters sexual predators and sex traffickers, and routinely lies to and exploits women. These business and medical practices put great moral stress on Jewish abortion providers, and ought to cause you to reconsider your endorsement of such practices.

Abortion in America, Europe, and in Israel is now a primary form of birth control - and leads to the termination of thousands of unborn children every **day**. The Guttmacher Institute, which keeps statistics for Planned Parenthood, estimates that 1.3% of abortions in America are Jewish, leading to approximately 300 Jewish lives lost through violent abortion death every week*. In Israel, the number is at least 576 Jewish lives lost through violent abortion death every week.**

*Abortion Facts, Abortion Statistics

**Israel Health & Medicine: Legal Terms of Abortion

Abortion isn't only about loss of life and destiny. It is also about tremendous harm to women after abortion, which is well documented and researched. I have spoken with many post abortive Jews and non Jews who report that the abortion experience left them feeling betrayed by the friends and family who recommended it, as well as grief-stricken, broken-hearted, emotionally and mentally unbalanced, physically compromised, and spiritually inconsolable.

As you know, Rabbi Ross, in Judaism abortion is judged to be the unwarranted taking of a life within a life. It is prohibited, just as murder is prohibited. Originally, our rabbinic tradition correctly found one exception to the prohibition - that of breech birth which, if not remedied, would kill both mother and child. The Halachic requirement to save the mother's life by taking the child's life was restricted to this grave imminent danger. Today, only 1% of abortion is used to save the life of the mother, and this percentage is dwindling as pre-term babies can be removed from the uterus and given life saving care. The Jewish propensity to expand the limits of this exception disregard the human life that hangs in the balance - an innocent human life.

We've been taught that "It's not alive until It's born", a corrupted, misleading reference to ancient rabbinical opinion on the status of the unborn. This is 2018, the age of ultra-sophisticated ultrasound that verifies instantly the humanity of the child in the mother's womb. Now, it is scientific proof that human life begins at conception. We know without a doubt that abortion kills an innocent living human being. Judaism prohibits killing an innocent person. Therefore, in Judaism elective abortion is wrong.

Judaism emphasizes the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death, making it incumbent upon Jews to find alternative life saving ways to deal with unplanned and unwanted pregnancy. Adoption and single parenthood are much better choices for Jews than the intentional killing of an innocent life. Indeed, Judaism insists that a Jew break all the Sabbath rules to save the life of a fetus. Judaism prohibits desecrating the human body, but abortion destroys a human body, and the harvesting of baby parts for profit runs contrary to Jewish respect for the dead.

Our Jewish tradition provides clear guidelines to follow regarding the protection of unborn human life. From Genesis 9:6-7, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood through man, shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made He man. And you, be fruitful, and multiply; swarm in the earth, and multiply therein", to Deuteronomy 30:19, where our Heavenly Father clearly declares, "I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before thee life and death, the blessing and the curse; therefore, choose life, that thou mayest live, thou and thy seed."

In the Zohar, our mystical sages warn us of disturbing human unborn life, "For there are three [persons] who drive away the Shekkinah (indwelling of God) from the world, making it impossible for the Holy One, Blessed be He, to fix His abode in the universe and causing prayer to be unanswered.....{The third is} he who causes the fetus to be destroyed in the womb, for he destroys the artifice of the Holy One, blessed be He, and His workmanship…… For these abominations the Spirit of Holiness weeps."

Rabbi Ross, we realize that your reputation and livelihood depend upon complete immersion in the Jewish pro-abortion culture. Investigation about the other side - the tragic side - of abortion may be quite unnerving. Until recently, the unavailability of Jewish pro-life educational materials has prevented intelligent, well educated credentialed Jewish professionals from exploring this facet of the abortion business. Please visit our website to learn how you may begin to move toward a life saving position on the issue.

Thank you for your attention. Please contact us anytime for a confidential discussion, and may HaShem grant you great wisdom as you journey towards His light.

Sincerely,

Cecily Routman

Cecily Routman, Founder