

## Why I Am Catholic

We are the strongest and most consistent voice against abortion. And we continue to talk about the direct and indirect consequences of abortion and the abortion mind set.

On January 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion in a 7-2 decision in the Texas case of *Roe vs. Wade*. The decision included a second case; *Doe vs. Georgia*. The two women involved in these cases would later change their position and become pro-life.

In the last 36 years, approximately 1.5 million babies are aborted each year: a total of 54 million babies.

Today this has a direct impact on our economy and our national security. In the early 1990s, when the first generation began graduating from high school, the absence of 1.5 million workers per year led to the U.S. seeking workers from other countries. Many of these workers were recruited by U.S. companies. This led to today's immigration problems and border security issues.

Our military, due to personnel shortages, now is recruiting foreign young adults. They are offering a quick pathway to citizenship for two years of military service. The young man or woman ideally should be here on a student visa or green card or already be a permanent resident.

Illegal labor is a life issue brought on by the greater life issue of abortion.

Abortion has changed the mind set of this country towards the purpose of sex, marriage, family, children, etc. Over the last 36 years, the divorce rate has skyrocketed, today more children are born out of wedlock than ever before, and the rate of child abuse has grown as well. When children are not safeguarded in the womb, they also become less safeguarded after birth.

Women also are treated with less and less respect. Domestic violence and abuse in relationships. Especially against pregnant women. The treating of women as sex objects. These are all related to abortion and how our society views pregnancy and children.

The Safe Haven Law in Nebraska led to parents dropping off their kids from all over the country giving them to the state. Today we hear the word child used in the same sentence with burden, problem, or thing. That should never happen. We should hear gift, blessing, or wanted never unwanted.

Today millions of women struggle with guilt, shame, depression, broken relationships, nightmares, etc. They are often suffering from Post-Abortion Trauma and the Stress and Syndrome this causes. The church offers programs of healing and reconciliation.

In the Nicene Creed, we profess that, "we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life." By professing that, it means we must defend and celebrate life. The church has taught and lived this since the beginning.

How can a person receive the Body of Christ in the Eucharist if they are not willing to defend the human body and the sacredness of life from the first moment of conception until natural death?

Christ offers His Body for us so that we might offer our body for Him.