

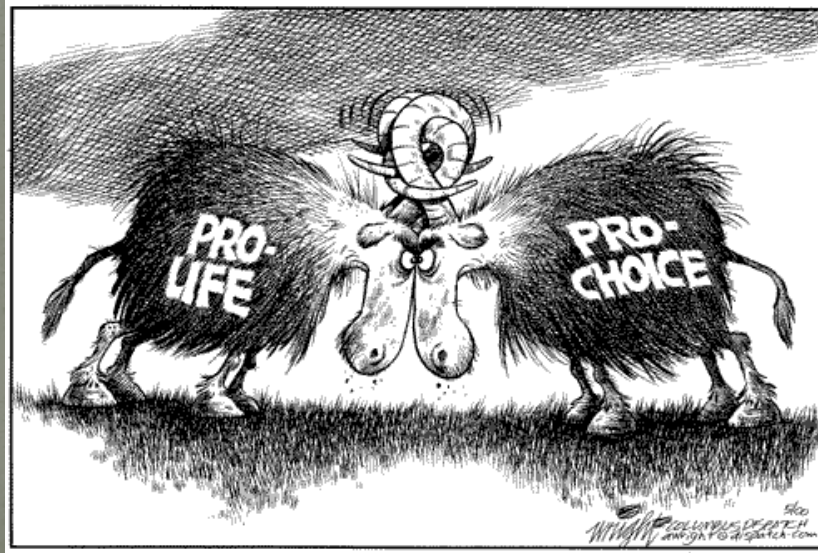
Abortion is Morally Wrong



By: Pablo Abreu

Let's take it back...

- Rode v Wade landmark case
- Court ruled,
 - A) no restriction on abortion
 - B) states may restrict abortion to protect mother
 - C) states may limit abortion



John T. Noonan Jr.

- 10-24-1926- Present
- Has written several works on moral issues
- Serves as a senior judge on the US court of Appeals in San Francisco, CA
- Believes that an entity becomes a person at conception
- Abortion is morally wrong, unless is done to preserve mother's life



ure.

Noonan's Point of View

- Noonan believes that conception is the beginning of life **therefore** the fetus is a human being
- “The positive argument for conception as the decisive moment of humanization is that at conception the new being receives the genetic code. It is this genetic information which determines his characteristics, which is the biological carrier of the possibility of human wisdom, which makes him a self-evolving human being. A being with a human genetic code is a **man**” (356).
- Does this citation ring a bell?
- Hint: Queen of England.

Noonan's continuation

- Noonan bases his argument that conception marks the beginning of life using probability
- For example, in an ejaculation there are 200,000,000 sperms
- 1 out of 200,000,000 has the chance of developing into a zygote
- Approx. 390 out of 1,000,000 oocytes are ovulated
- In summary= 80% percent likelihood that the conceptus lives ☺
- Fetus= conceptus becomes human, because it carries genetic coding



Fetus= human being?

- Noonan also brings up the theme of viability when talking about the fetus
- A fetus is dependent of its mother, this is the only way is able to live and develop
- “The fetus is still absolutely dependent on someone’s care in order to continue existence; indeed a child of one or three or even five years of age is absolutely dependent on another’s care for existence; uncared for, the older fetus or the younger child will die as surely as the early fetus is detached from the mother” (354)
- How about a fetus detached from a mother’s womb and grown artificially?

Questions

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QzHBwn4Ay4w>
- Personally, when do you think life begins?
- Can you think of any scenario(s) where abortion is permissible?
- How about abortion in cases of incest? Or even rape?
- Should abortions be allowed for someone who knows their baby will have a serious illness or condition?