

# **Being Pro-Life is Being Pro-Love**

by Holly Guise

Abortion. The termination of a child's life before birth. It's a sore subject for some, and a topic that creates a feeling of deep passion in others.

In today's society, abortions are becoming more and more common. When asked why they chose abortion, most women would say something along the lines of this: it interferes with education, occupation, or financial stability. Most people's reason for aborting a child is the lack of time and money. They don't think about the consequences too much either. Women who abort think of the situation as a "condition of pregnancy", as opposed to being the "mother of a child". Abortion most certainly not the truth to an unwanted pregnancy. Adoption is a beautiful and life changing thing. It is not fair to the child in the womb; his or her own life is being taken from them and there is nothing they can do to help it. There are countless stories of mothers who decide to go in the abortion route and lose friends and families because of it. So no, it does not build goodwill and better relationships. Is abortion beneficial? No, mothers who undergo an abortion are almost always subject to severe side effects with their health, not to mention a dead baby. This is true for the story of Abby Johnson- author of *Unplanned*.

From her college years up until September of 2009, Abby was pro-choice and the director of a Planned Parenthood Abortion clinic in Texas. Abby's relationship with God was nonexistent, and she put very little thought into her job description. Abby believed she was helping women in crisis, and she was very proud *of* it.

Every day was a challenge. When Abby would pull into the parking lot every morning, she was met with constant mobs of people surrounding the clinic building: "pro-lifers". Some were chanting, some were shouting, some waved signs with the words "Baby Murderers" written in red, but others just stood there praying. They prayed in little circles and by themselves. For the longest time, Abby was able

to look past all the insults and degrading remarks. Although they were on opposite sides of the fence (physically and mentally), Abby was able to befriend some of the pro-lifers that stood in the same spot every day. She tried to fit in with them, but she couldn't avoid the obvious: Abby directed a clinic that ended the lives of innocent babies while no one else on the other side of the fence did. She had two abortions herself, which resulted in a serious illness that lasted for months. In the book *The Walls Are Talking* by Abby Johnson, she writes about her experience with a medication abortion and how it altered her life.

Abby's career didn't start out with abortions and pro-choice, though. She grew up in a Christian family that attended a pro-life church. A young and naïve Abby, inspired by a woman from a career fair during her junior year of college, joined Planned Parenthood persuaded that their main goal was to make abortions rare. She was told she would make a difference- this was a cause she believed in. Abby had been influenced by semantics: using ***technical*** and ***medical*** terms to describe things rather than a meaningful or heartfelt explanation. Semantics is used all the time in controversial topics such as abortion. Doctors use this tactic when referring to the abortion as a removal of a fetus; although that is what is happening; they avoid mentioning that in reality it is killing a child. Studies show that once expecting women see their ultrasound and hear the baby's heartbeat, they change their minds about aborting. They have come to the realization that in the womb is a baby ***literally depending on them*** to stay alive.

While Abby Johnson worked for Planned Parenthood, "serving women in crisis" became "scheduling abortions for women in crisis" and she never gave it second thoughts until September 26, 2009 when she was asked to assist an abortion for the first time. She watched as a 13 week old baby fought to live but lost the battle. From that moment, Abby swore she would never support abortion again. She quit her job and became an advocate for the unborn. Abby renewed her lost faith in Christ, firmly believing it was God's plan to witness the abortion and realizing just what she had been doing.

She began her own pro-life movement and started working to get abortionists out of the industry. Today, Abby Johnson is the proud founder of And Then There Were None: a nonprofit organization that does just that. Every day, And Then There Were None is responsible for counseling everyone involved in an abortion clinic out of their jobs and onto the road of recovery as they search for new employment. It is free to everyone, and the counseling is personal, meaningful, and life changing. And Then There Were None understands the worried hearts of the abortion clinic workers. They understand that it's not just a job- it's an emotional investment. Clinic workers are inadvertently supporting the prochoice standpoint and it is very difficult to get rid of that judgment. Working for an organization such as Planned Parenthood creates a negative connotation when the employees are in social situations, when it's written on resumes, and when they meet new people. Since And Then There Were None first opened its doors, almost 500 abortion clinic workers have left their jobs and have begun the process of healing. Abby Johnson hopes to one day end abortion for good.

Just like Abby has created, there are many organizations out there today striving to spread Abortion awareness and change the hearts and minds of those who have come to be known as "prochoice." For example, March for life is a wonderful way for pro-life to be spread across the nation. Although I have not attended a march myself, many have told me just how amazing it is: the feeling of marching for a *worthy* cause: the lives of the unborn. I hope to be able to share in this experience with them one day.

Abortion. The termination of a child's life before birth. It's a sore subject for some, and a topic that creates a sense of deep passion in others. Just like Abby Johnson, anyone is able to help save the lives of babies: those who can't help themselves, by spreading abortion awareness and being pro-life, and in turn being pro-love.