

Living Life on Purpose (By Defending Life)

Gerard A. Figurelli
Sanctity of Life Sunday, 2018

70,000,000

60,000,000

50,000,000

40,000,000

30,000,000

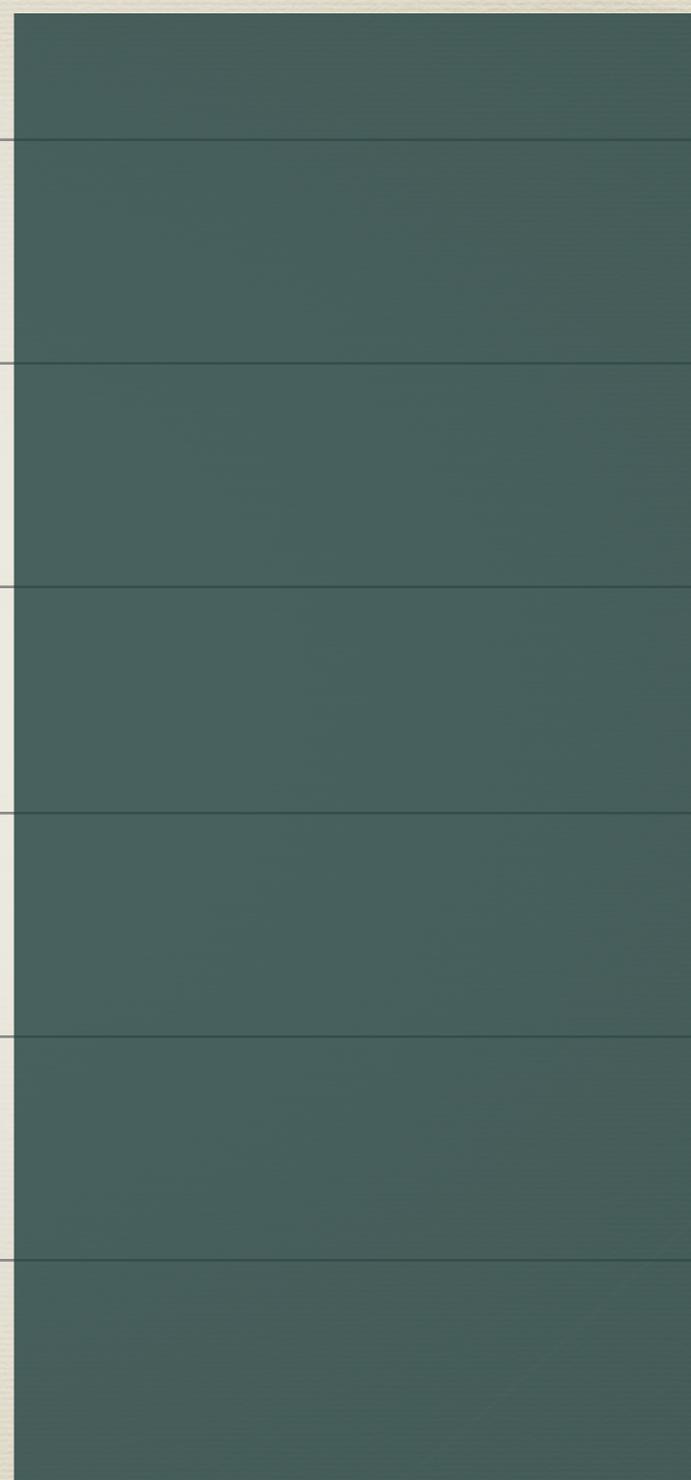
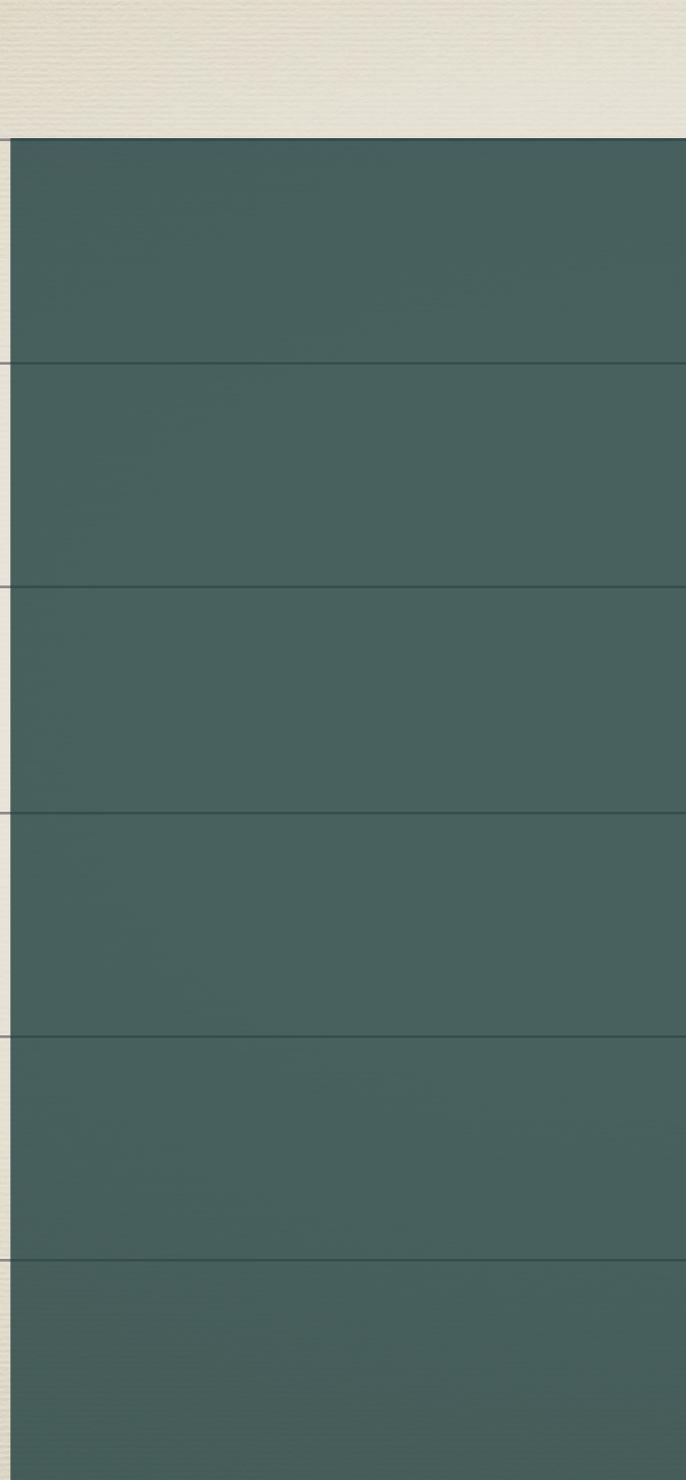
20,000,000

10,000,000

0

U.S. abortions (1973-2017)

U.K. population (2016)



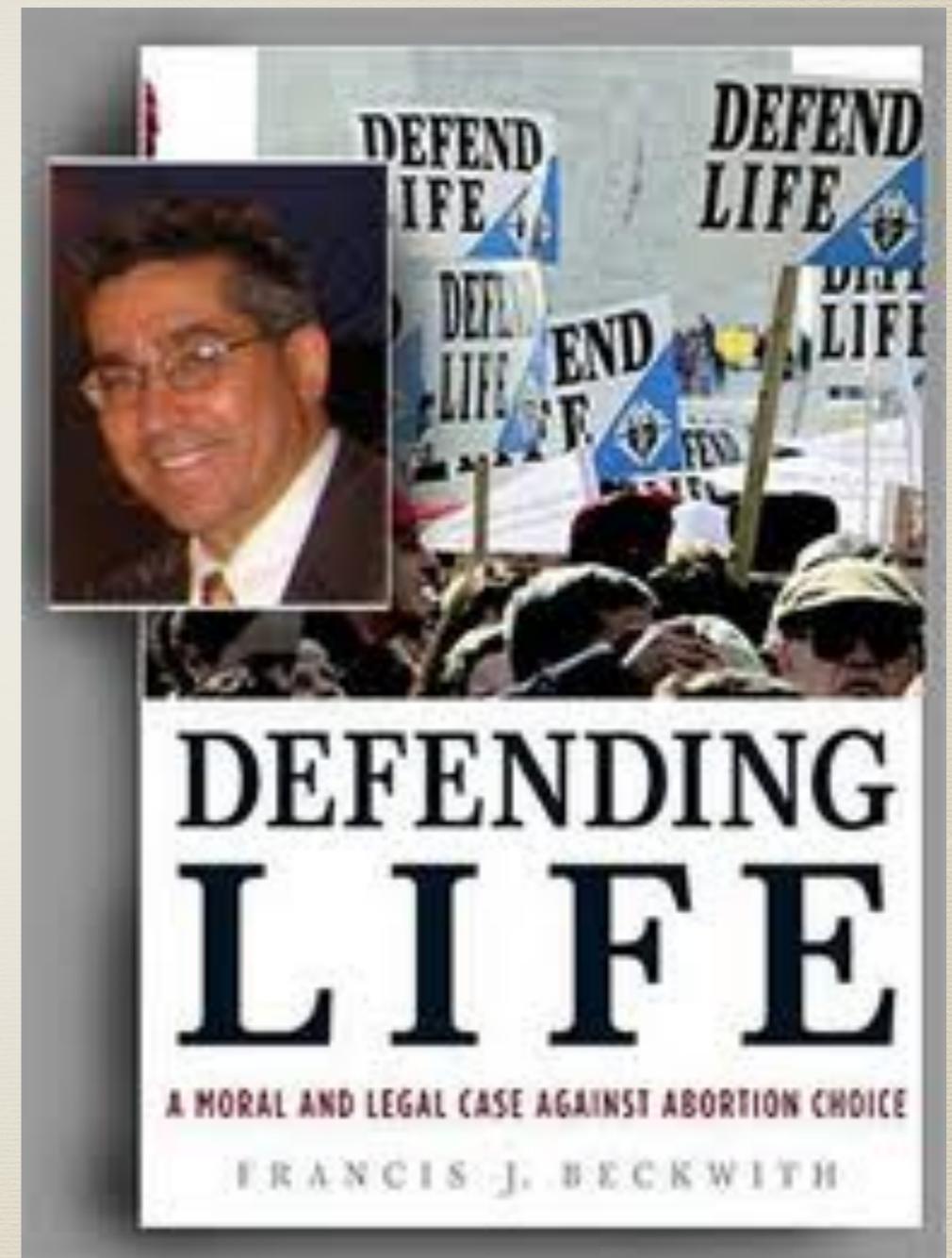
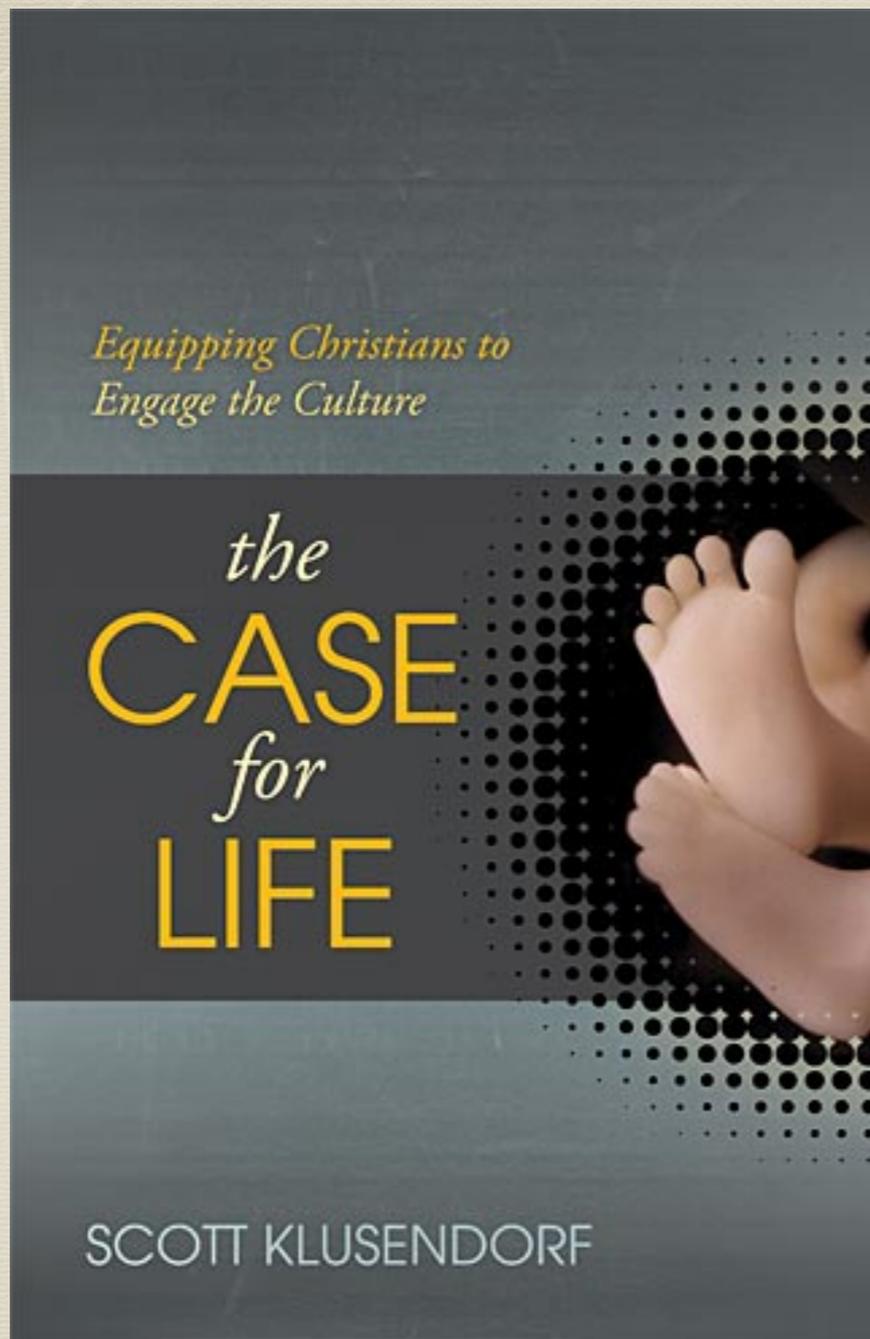
Sanctity of Life Sunday

- * President Ronald Reagan
- * First Presidential Proclamation of Sanctity of Human Life
- * January 13, 1984



Living Life on Purpose (By Defending Life)

- * A Basic Case for Life
- * Our Mission



abort73.com

A Basic Case for Life

- * **God values human life**
- * Abortion-on-demand devalues human life
- * Therefore, abortion-on-demand is unjust and immoral in the eyes of God

God Values Human Life

* **Gen. 1:26-27** Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

God Values Human Life

* **Gen. 2:18; 21-22** Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.” So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

God Values Human Life

* **Psalm 8:3-5** When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

God Values Human Life

* **Psalm 139:13-16** For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

God Values Human Life

- * **John 1:14** - And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.
- * **Matthew 9:35-36** And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

God Values Human Life

- * **1 John 4:2-3** By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God.
- * **Apostles' Creed:** I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

God Values Human Life

- * **Gen. 9:6** Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.
- * **Exodus 20:13** You shall not murder.
- * **Rom. 13:9** For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

A Basic Case for Life

- * God values human life
- * **Abortion-on-demand devalues human life**
- * Therefore, abortion-on-demand is unjust and immoral in the eyes of God

Abortion Devalues Human Life

- * The Case from Science: The Unborn is Fully Human
- * The Case from Philosophy: The Unborn is a Person

The One Issue

- * It is unjust and immoral to intentionally kill an innocent human
- * Is the unborn a full-fledged member of the human family?



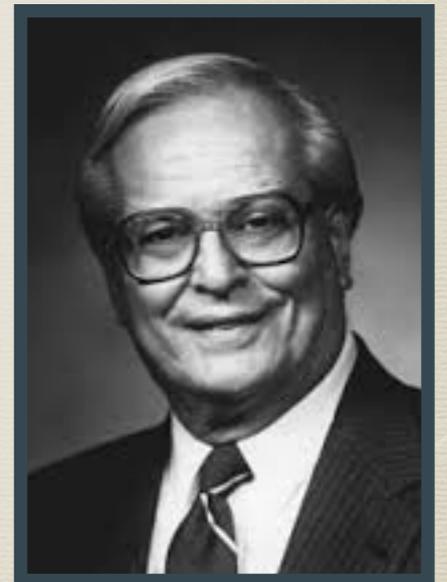


The Case From Science

* Dr. Hymie Gordon, Mayo Clinic

* Theologians and philosophers may go on to debate the meaning of life or purpose of life, but *it is an established fact that all life, including human life, begins at the moment of conception.*”

* source: Defending Life, 68



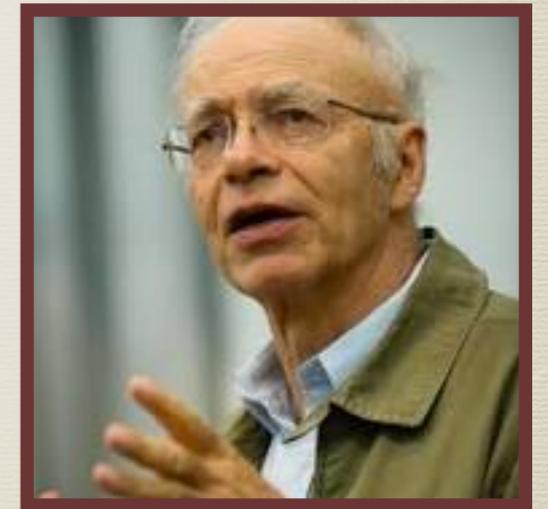
The Case From Science



- * Dr. Micheline Matthews-Roth, Harvard Medical School
- * “So, therefore, it is *scientifically correct* to say that an individual human life begins at conception, when egg and sperm join to form the zygote, and this developing human always is a member of our species in all stages of its life.”
- * source: Defending Life, 68-69

The Case From Science

- * “Whether a being is a member of a given species is something that can be *determined scientifically*, by an examination of the nature of the chromosomes in the cells of the living organisms. In this sense there is *no doubt* that from the first moments of its existence *an embryo* conceived from human sperm and eggs *is a human being.*”



Peter Singer

Writings on the Ethical Life, 127
quoted in *Aborting Aristotle*, 2

The Case From Philosophy

* “If the unborn is not a human person, no justification for abortion is necessary. However, if the unborn is a human person, no justification is adequate.”



Greg Koukl

The Case From Philosophy

- * Four differences between unborn and born humans:
 - * **Size**
 - * **Level of Development**
 - * **Environment**
 - * **Degree of Dependency**

SLED test developed by Stephen Schwartz, source: *Defending Life*, 159ff.

The Case From Philosophy

* Four differences between unborn and born humans:

* **Size**



The Case From Philosophy

* Four differences between unborn and born humans:

* **Level of Development**



less personhood?



more personhood?

The Case From Philosophy

* Four differences between unborn and born humans:

* **Environment**

Peter Singer & Helga Kuhse:

“Pro-life groups are right about one thing: the location of the baby inside or outside the womb cannot make such a crucial moral difference....”



The Case From Philosophy

* Four differences between unborn and born humans:

* **Environment**

“The solution, however, is not to accept the pro-life view that the fetus is a human being with the same moral status as yours or mine. The solution is the very opposite: to abandon the idea that all human life is of equal worth.”



The Case From Philosophy

- * Four differences between unborn and born humans:
 - * **Degree of Dependency**



The Case From Philosophy

- * These differences do not have moral significance:
 - * **Size**
 - * **Level of Development**
 - * **Environment**
 - * **Degree of Dependency**

A Basic Case for Life

- * God values human life
- * Abortion-on-demand devalues human life
- * **Therefore, abortion-on-demand is unjust and immoral in the eyes of God**
- * **and therefore should be resisted by His redeemed people**

Living Life on Purpose (By Defending Life)

* A Basic Case for Life

* **Our Mission**

Justice is our Mission

“You say abortion is none of my business because only women have abortions and I'm not one of them. I say abortion is my business because only humans are aborted and I am one of them.”

-Mike S. Adams

Justice is our Mission

* **Zech 7:9-10** Thus says the Lord of hosts, Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another, do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor, and let none of you devise evil against another in your heart.

Justice is our Mission

* **Isa 1:16-17** Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Justice is our Mission

* **Jer. 22:3** Thus says the Lord: Do justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor him who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the resident alien, the fatherless, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place.

ABORT
CHRISTIANS



The Gospel is our Mission

Abortion is not a distraction from the gospel. It makes sin concrete. Sinners need a solution. We have a solution.

-Scott Klusendorf

The Gospel is our Mission

* **Luke 5:29-32** And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them. And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”

The Gospel is our Mission

* **1 Cor. 6:9-11** Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

The Gospel is our Mission

* **1 Tim. 1:15-17** The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.