How the Abortion Movement Has Become More Radical Post Roe Versus Wade

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Host: David Wheaton 00:08

How the abortion movement has become more radical post Roe v. Wade. That is the topic we'll discuss today right here on The Christian Worldview Radio Program where the mission is to sharpen the biblical worldview of Christians and to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. I'm David Wheaton, the host. The Christian Worldview is a nonprofit, listener supported radio ministry. We were able to broadcast on the radio station, website or app on which you are listening today because of the support of listeners like you. So thank you for your prayer, your encouragement and support. You can connect with us by visiting our website, TheChristianWorldview.org, calling our toll free number 1-888-646-2233 or by writing to Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331.

Americans like to think of our nation and people as, "exceptional," providing an example of goodness, charity, even Christianity to the rest of the world. Now there is some truth to this. America has been immeasurably blessed in resources and liberties, and has spread innovation and freedom across the world. But if we are honest, this nation has also become perhaps the greatest consumer and exporter of moral wickedness, such as sexual immorality in its many forms. Specifically for our topic today, the murder of preborn children. Consider the 1973 Supreme Court decision called Roe v. Wade that led to abortion, which is the intentional murder of preborn human beings, which led to that becoming legal in this country.

A mind numbing 63 million preborn human beings, babies, have been killed since then. That is nearly 20% of the current population of the United States. No matter how it's rationalized, "Women's health care", "My body my choice", or "Reproductive rights," the reality is that every day in our country, pregnant women enter hospitals and clinics where abortionists kill or dismember and extract preborn human beings.

The Bible says this about the preborn child. *For you formed my inward parts; you wove me in my mother's womb. I will give thanks to you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.* That's from Psalm 139, showing that the baby growing in a mother's womb is a human indeed. Now there was great celebration by those who are pro life or oppose abortion when Roe v. Wade was overturned in the summer of 2022, but what has transpired since then can only be described as the demons getting angry and seeking revenge. Alas, Satan never relents in

fomenting sin and evil in the hearts of humans. With abortion now being a matter of each state to decide, extreme bills and laws are being pushed through state legislatures that remove almost all limits on abortion. Our home state in Minnesota, is currently passing one of the most radical abortion bills in the country. Colleen Tronson, executive Director of Metro Women's Center in Minnesota joins us on The Christian Worldview to discuss how the abortion landscape is changing, the rise of the abortion pill, and how Christians can get involved to save lives and proclaim the hope of the gospel.

Now, I've been following this Minnesota bill called the Protect Reproductive Options Act or Pro Act that has been working its way through our state legislature. I saw a video on Twitter, it's a short video by a Minnesota state senator named Erin Maye Quade. She represents a district suburb south of the Twin Cities. The video is titled, Progress Toward Reproductive Freedom. It's about 60 seconds long. She looks young and is smartly dressed and has a determination in her voice as if on some great and worthy cause to end injustice. And here's what she had to say.

Audio Sound Bite: MN Senator Erin Maye Quade 04:25

"Hi everybody. State senator Aaron Maye Quade here from Senate District 56, Apple Valley, Rosemount, Eagan, and I'm really excited that today we had a hearing on Senate file 70, The Reproductive Freedom Codification Act. This hearing brings us one step closer to full reproductive freedom in the state of Minnesota. Senate file 70 repeals unconstitutional abortion restrictions and removes outdated and archaic laws from our books. I'm so excited that this work is progressing. And I look forward to seeing us on the other side when reproductive freedom has been restored in the state of Minnesota."

Host: David Wheaton 04:56

Now, in watching the video it seemed like she could have been talking about just any old law that a state legislature would make, and not have to do with the actual murder of preborn human beings. But she said, "It's time to repeal Minnesota's outdated, archaic and unconstitutional abortion restrictions," as if what has been in place in Minnesota has been all of those things. I had never heard of her, so I looked into who she was. She's, "married" to a "wife" and she and her, "wife" are far left activists fully for abortion and of course, fully for homosexuality and transgenderism.

So you reject God in one area, and you'll likely be against His will on all the other issues as well. Now, Minnesota is a very leftist state. The governor and our entire legislature and political leadership is almost all on the left. California and New York and Illinois, don't have much on leftism when it comes to Minnesota politically. So I'm going to read just some highlights from an article in the Federalist titled, Minnesota Poised To Legalize Infanticide, Nuke Protections For Women And Babies In Radical Abortion Bill. Minnesota Democrats are poised to ignore the

at least 69% of Americans who say they want significant limits on abortion to pass the state's most radical abortion bill, which would legalize taxpayer funded on demand abortion for all.

The Protect Reproductive Options Act or Pro Act, the first bill Democrats introduced in both the State House and Senate this session, would repeal dozens of the state's protections for women and babies, and expand legal immunity for abortions up until the moment of birth and beyond. There are a number of headings in this article about what this bill will do that Aaron Maye Quade considers archaic, outdated, and unconstitutional.

1) It ends protections for babies born alive. Minnesota law recognizes babies who are born alive following a botched abortion as a, "human person under the law." The Born Alive Infants Protection Act reconfirmed these babies deserve and receive life saving medical care. The ProAct however, terminates the protections outlined for a baby who, "breathes or has a beating heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord or definite movement of voluntary muscles." So this law would end protections for a baby born alive after an abortion.

2) It lifts protections on taxpayer funded abortion. So if you're a Minnesotan who is against abortion, well your tax dollars are now going to be funding abortions whether you like it or not.

3) This bill nullifies parental notification. If a minor requests an abortion, Minnesota law requires that parents or guardians be notified before she goes through with it. This would nullify that.

4) It reverses ban on abortions of unconscious women. So any woman receiving abortions in Minnesota, the law currently states must be conscious and given a, "full explanation of the procedure and effect of the abortion," beforehand. Under the ProAct, neither of those conditions must be met to move forward with an abortion.

5) It halts reporting if women die from abortions. Minnesota law requires abortionists to report if a woman dies due to an abortion. Under the new legislation, this act, abortionists will not be penalized for refusing to report abortion related deaths.

6) What this act will do, is it stops reporting abortion statistics altogether. Not only will abortionists no longer be required to report deaths under the ProAct, but they won't have to disclose any of the legally mandated information about the number of abortions they performed, what methods they used, the gestational ages of the unborn babies who were dismembered, why the woman sought an abortion, or any other key information.

7) This law repeals felony charges for sale of the abortion pill and other abortion inducing devices. We'll get to that a little later.

8) This bill allows the unregulated disposal of baby bodies. The ProAct would rescind a statute that requires the remains of an aborted or miscarried baby in a medical facility to be properly and carefully handled and disposed of within the state. This means hospitals and abortion facilities would no longer be required to cremate or bury deceased infants as directed by the commissioner of health.

9) It ends informed consent for women. According to Minnesota statute, also known as The Women's Right to Know Act, women must be told the particular medical risks associated with a particular abortion procedure, the gestational age of the child, and in the case of late term abortion, whether painkillers will be given to the unborn child during the abortion. If the ProAct passes, which it likely will, abortionists do not have to explain any abortion risks to the women.

10) This act expands who can give abortions. According to Minnesota statute, only licensed physicians may perform abortions in a designated facility, such as a hospital or abortion facility using rules from the state commissioner of health as a guideline. Violations of these statutes, including letting unlicensed abortionists perform the dangerous and fatal procedure, will no longer be considered criminal.

I know that was a lot of reading there, but I think it's important to understand just how radical and extreme and pro death and pro abortion these legislators are, who are pushing this bill as the first thing they do in this state. If you live outside the state, the point is that since Roe v. Wade was overturned in the summer of 2022, the abortion movement has become even more radical where there are to be no restrictions on abortion itself, or any of the issues surrounding it. It's a murderous death cult that is completely unashamed of it.

To help us understand what is taking place in Minnesota and in other states around the country, Colleen Tronson joins us today. She's the Executive Director of Metro Women's Center here in Minnesota. This is a pregnancy help center that serves the Lord by offering hope and help to families experiencing pregnancy related challenges. Colleen, you heard all about what is taking place here in Minnesota, and apparently in just a few other states around the country. And it's bound to catch on even more. What is your response to it? And how is this abortion movement becoming so much more radical post the overturning of Roe v. Wade in the summer of 2022?

Guest: Colleen Tronson 12:36

The bill that's moving through our legislative process right now is a bill that has no guardrails for protection for women, girls, and babies in Minnesota. It just shows the radical nature of the pro abortion movement, abortion without apologies, and the de-stigmatizing of abortion is part of their agenda. We see that Minnesota is becoming an oasis for abortion care, as most of the

states around us have put bans or restrictions on abortion. We even heard from a Planned Parenthood representative that said that they have had an increase in people coming from different states to do abortions in Minnesota since Roe vs. Wade was overturned. The old signs used to say, Well, we're not pro abortion. But now the signs say unapologetically, pro abortion.

The darkness is not hiding anymore. The truth about the desire to terminate life is not hiding anymore. It just really shows that their intent is to make this the first bill that they passed through at the beginning of a legislative session. They're very intent on this. So it is very radical compared to other states. The terrifying part of it for me is that they remove the protections for minors especially. No parental notification for minors seeking an abortion, so a 13 year old girl could go into an abortion clinic and have an abortion without her parents knowing it. Also, the abortion reporting to me is scary because there's no regulation of it in terms of what happens to women in the abortion clinic.

As far as the Born Alive Infant Protection Act, which is something that they're trying to do away with in Minnesota, there were, I think, five late term abortions and none of those infants survived. What I think is happening, is they're taking those hard cases like the rape and incest idea or the life of the mother idea or the medical complications or things in there making those things seem like those other reasons why we have to have this unfettered access to abortion. But in actuality, in Minnesota, about 97% of the abortions that are done in Minnesota, are done in the first and second trimester. And they're usually done for reasons not related to saving the life of the mother or a fetal anomaly or difficult thing like that. They're done mostly for, "I just don't want to be pregnant right now", or "I've got a relationship issue, I've got a financial issue", or some reason along those lines. I think we have to be really careful not to buy into the idea that if we're against this, we're against those hard cases. So I want people to remember that those pregnancies where there is a need for medical intervention, those women can still access care.

Host: David Wheaton 15:44

Colleen Tronson is with us today on The Christian Worldview. She is the Executive Director of Metro Women's Center here in the Twin Cities of Minnesota. metrowomenscenter.org is their website. One thing I've been reading, Colleen, is that since the overturning of Roe v. Wade, that the abortion pill has become much more prominent. Tell us about that. What that does, who can get it? And how widespread is the use of that? Colleen Tronson will answer that question right after this break.

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Featured Children's Resources 17:23

Scripture commands that children ought to be brought up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. Offering Biblically sound resources for children is one of our top ministry priorities. At our store at TheChristianWorldview.org, you will find carefully selected children's Bibles and books along with video and audio resources. Check out the Bible Infographics for Kids books, Little Pilgrims Progress, and the popular Adam Raccoon set. Theo is a 15 episode video series addressing key doctrines of the faith that is a must see for children and adults. Satan and the world are bent on capturing the heart and mind of your child. Instead, get sound resources that will train them up in the way they should go. Browse and order at TheChristianWorldview.org. Or give us a call for recommendations at 1-888-646-2233. That's 1-888-646-2233 or TheChristianWorldview.org.

Host: David Wheaton 18:30

Welcome back to The Christian Worldview. I'm David Wheaton. Be sure to visit our website, The ChristianWorldview.org where you can subscribe to our free weekly email and annual print letter, order resources for adults and children, and support the ministry. Our topic today is how the abortion movement has become more radical post Roe v. Wade. Our guest is Colleen Tronson, Executive Director of Metro Women's Center in Minnesota. Colleen, the abortion pill has become much more prominent. Tell us about that. What that does, who can get it and how widespread is the use of that?

Guest: Colleen Tronson 19:09

Boy, this is another scary development for women and for babies. Growing concern in Minnesota and around the country is an increase in chemical abortions. Two sets of pills are given to a woman seeking an abortion. The first pills cut off the oxygen supply to the developing human being in the womb. The second pill, taken hours later induces contractions, so the woman experiences a painful delivery of her baby at home in her own bathroom. Over 60% of the abortions in Minnesota are done in this way. The terrifying thing about this for me is that because these chemicals are accessible online and through the mail, today, the closest abortion clinic to a woman is her mailbox. It's very, very disturbing. I've actually had two encounters with women who've experienced a chemical abortion.

One woman contacted me when she was in the middle of the abortion and said she didn't want to continue it, she'd only taken the first pills, so we connected with her and we tried to get her to a doctor to administer progesterone, which could possibly stop the abortion from happening. It was too late. The baby passed, but not without it being a horrific experience of her bleeding profusely, having to be taken by ambulance from her home in the presence of her five year old child, and she experienced a miscarriage. She was devastated by that, and she didn't think it would happen to her like that. She said, "they didn't tell me that it would be like that".

Another woman, a similar situation came to me after the fact and said, t"hey didn't tell me that it was going to hurt so bad, they didn't tell me that I was going to miscarry my baby in the toilet". These are traumatic experiences that a woman has. Experiencing a miscarriage under any circumstances is difficult, but experiencing it in your own home without proper warning, if you will, that it's going to be as bad as it is, is abusive, I think to women. It's not kind, and it gives them the idea that you can just pop a pill and it'll be just fine.

Host: David Wheaton 21:24

It sounds like a woman can get those without a doctor. Is that true? And does that count toward the abortion counts in any given state?

Guest: Colleen Tronson 21:32

That's a really good question. I think if you look online to the Minnesota Department of Health, there are records of how abortions are performed in Minnesota, and you could find that information there. I actually called one of the local abortion clinics just to see how I could get this pill, how could I do this, and I asked what it would cost. The lady told me \$860. So you can get those pills. There's something called tele-med abortions where you can have an appointment with a doctor over the phone and then the pills can be mailed to you in Minnesota.

I don't know if every state has that rule. But in Minnesota, you can do it. There's a new group that emerged in the summer of 2020 called, Just the Pill, and it's a medical doctor whose plan is to have a chemical abortion vehicle that will go around to the edges of our state and provide services to ladies from the other states around us that have banned abortion. We know Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota and Iowa have put abortion bans in place. So this abortion vehicle, chemical abortion, or just the pill van will go around the state and serve women who are looking for abortion through pills. I have heard recently that they're actually trying to outfit a surgical van so that could also be used to take abortion to the border. They're desperate to keep it available, I guess that's what I want to say. They're thinking of more and more different ways to do the deed.

Host: David Wheaton 23:10

Yes, it seems now that Roe v. Wade has been overturned there's actually a greater radicalization of it at this point, which just shows you that the heart of man that rejects God and His Word, that He's the creator of life; they want to destroy life. It's really, really troubling.

Colleen Tronson with us today on The Christian Worldview. I want to read a paragraph to you and play an audio soundbite recently from a representative in the House of Representatives, US House. This from Christian headlines. The bill, HR 26 would require that life saving care be given to babies who survive an abortion according to the bill supporters. Specifically the bill states that, "An infant born alive after an abortion has the same claim to the protection of the law that would arise for any newborn." Further, the bill requires that the infant born alive be, "Immediately transported and admitted to a hospital." The bill passed the House of Representatives, 220 to 210. Every single Democrat voted against this bill, except for one. During the floor debate, Representative Hilary Shelton, who's a Democrat from Michigan, she cited Jeremiah 1:5 from the Bible in her opposition to this bill. And this verse is often quoted by the pro life community. It reads in part, "*Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I set you apart.* Let me play that soundbite and then get your follow up remarks.

Audio Sound Bite: Representative Hilary Shelton 24:53

"I'm the first mother in history to represent West Michigan in Congress. This matter is deeply personal to me. I recently shared publicly about my own experience navigating a complex miscarriage and the loss of my daughter. As a pro choice Christian, who chose life, this issue is so personal to me. My faith informs my actions, but it doesn't dictate the policy of an entire nation. And further, when I read the Scripture, I turn to passages and I'm guided by passages like Jeremiah 1:5 which states, "I knew you before I formed you, and I placed you in your mother's womb. It doesn't say the government's womb or the speaker's womb, it says the mother's womb. I believe life is precious, but I reject the idea that if I embrace the sanctity of life, I also must be forced to invite the federal government in to regulate it. We must protect families from unnecessary government intrusion into the most sacred and personal decisions of our lives and our children's lives".

Host: David Wheaton 26:02

Okay, so that is quite an audio bite, and so many things wrong there. She's basically saying, I'm a pro choice Christian. That's an oxymoron to say that. You cannot be a true Bible believing Christian and know that God is the Creator of life and know what abortion is, it is the intentional killing, even murder of a human being. So that's an oxymoron. But then saying, "what my own personal faith is, can't be dictated to the rest of the country". We do this all the time. You're not free to murder another person in this country. So we obviously legislate morality.

very convincingly, very assertively, but what's your reaction when you hear that particular audio soundbite, Colleen?

Guest: Colleen Tronson 26:51

We're all going to have to answer to God someday for the choices we make and for the statements we make in public, and for someone who is in a position of that level of government and influence, to not use her encouragement to people to stand for life is terrifying to me. Because, if she is a pro choice Christian, as she says, we can't really hyphenate Christianity. You're either a Christian or you're not a Christian. You can't be a pro choice Christian in the sense of abortion on demand without apology, you just can't do it. Also, I'm sure her situation was very difficult. She said she had a complicated miscarriage. And I want people to keep in mind that those complicated medical situations that require medical intervention, because of the pregnancy situation, are something completely different than, "I just don't want to be pregnant now". Just to use a complicated miscarriage that she had to justify taking the life of other children, I think is a big stretch. I only have to go to the Bible and find in Exodus where it says, Thou shalt not kill, and that's where I stand. We shouldn't kill, and especially the most vulnerable of the vulnerable in their mothers wombs. I think it's insulting to women, to say that the only way we can be free of government intervention is that we have the right to kill our children, I think that's insulting.

Host: David Wheaton 28:29

Colleen, how do you explain how people in the country don't see that as just barbaric; that you wouldn't want to provide life saving medical treatment for a baby that's born alive after an abortion that didn't take?

Guest: Colleen Tronson 28:47

Well, the Bible says that our hearts are deceitful and desperately wicked, who can know it? And that's the thing that comes to my mind. It also makes me think, whose pocket are these people in? What restraints are they under? What promises did they make to constituents or people that they wouldn't allow these things to pass? Groupthink is really dangerous, and especially when it might be on such a massive issue as this. We need to think biblically and think critically about the issues that are in front of us. Sometimes when you're a politician, you might not have that freedom because of pressure from people who are in your districts. You know, I don't know all the details, but I just wonder, who have they made promises to that they have to vote against this? Also, you know if you vote to protect a life that was meant for abortion, then you're kind of in a quandary of wait, I said it's okay to kill this baby but now it's alive, now what? So to keep alive something that you wanted dead, really puts you in a difficult psychological place.

Host: David Wheaton 29:56

Colleen Tronson with us today. I would just say, to encourage listeners, if you didn't hear our previous interview with Colleen, where she tells her story about having three abortions before she came to saving faith in Jesus Christ, you can hear the interview by going to our website, The ChristianWorldview.org. Click on past programs and scroll down to the July 2, 2022 program. It is extremely powerful to hear what God has done in Colleens's life. I'm sure there are women listening today who made choices that they very much regret. There's a conscience that convicted them, and thank God for that kind of conscience. What is the basis for God forgiving a woman who's had an abortion?

Guest: Colleen Tronson 30:46

Well, God does have the right to judge us because He is a righteous judge, and He does have every right to judge us for the sin and that we commit. When we choose abortion; some women choose it with full knowledge of what they're doing. Some choose it, because they're coerced by boyfriend, family, whatever. Some women choose it because they're involved in prostitution, and the pimp wants them to not be pregnant, so they are coerced into that. All the reasons why women choose abortion, they're so varied and nuanced, that it's hard to know in each situation, what the responsibility is of the woman.

If she chooses abortion, at some point, she's going to have to deal with God about that. Some women never have physical complications, some women never have emotional consequences, but all of us as women, at some point, we're going to have to face God with the choice that we made.

I love II Corinthians 1:3-4. It says, *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble, with the comfort that we ourselves receive from God. I love that compassion and comfort that God gives to us when we confess our sin and ask for forgiveness. The Bible says that, <i>If you confess your sins, God is faithful and just to forgive your sins.* I know that verse written to Christians, John 3:17 says that *God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.* When we in sincerity come to God, first of all, as sinners, because we're born of Adam, that's where our sin nature comes from, we need to understand that we need a savior first of all; that we need the gospel, that that gospel is available for anyone who will believe, and that Jesus loved us before we loved Him.

Even when we weren't thinking about Him, He was thinking about us, and He is available for us to ask for forgiveness from God and to receive that, and then to be cleansed. I love the scriptures that talk about God casting our sins as far as the east is from the west, and that he puts it behind him, and he doesn't remember it anymore. I think there's a point for us, when dealing with someone who's had an abortion, to really talk about, are you remorseful for the abortion? Are you remorseful that you took the life of your child, or are you just sorry that you're suffering?

I think we have to be really honest with ourselves as women who've had abortions that we are guilty of a sin against the Holy God, that we took a life that we had no right to take. But then I think about all the but God's in Scripture, about God who is rich in mercy, and who loves us, and that forgiveness is so available to us. But we have to be honest first about what we did. Certainly there are situations where people were coerced or forced into it, and were acted upon by other people. But ultimately, we have to take responsibility for that and ask for forgiveness, and God will forgive you and I know He will, because He did it for me.

I love Isaiah, where it says, *Come now let us reason together saith the LORD though our sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow, they'll be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.* And you know, in my life, there had been a lot of scarlet, and in the women that I deal with, there's lots of scarlet, there's lots of stuff, but God is available. That's such a comfort to me. And as Christians, because we've been on the receiving end of receiving God's compassion, we can be living witnesses to His mercy and with His loving care. We can share that compassion with others, not to beat people up or to cause them to feel more shame than they're probably already feeling, but just to say, there's a remedy for this, and that remedy is Jesus Christ, and he's available to you.

Host: David Wheaton 34:52

Amen! I think of Romans 5:8. *God demonstrates His own love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.* What an incredible thing to think of the life of King David in the Old Testament, how he committed adultery with Bathsheba, and he arranged to have Bathsheba's husband murdered, hid that sin and finally, when he was confronted about it, he repented, and was completely restored and forgiven by God. That's the incredible mercy and grace of God, that this is a forgiving and graceful God for those who truly are repentant over their sins. So thank you for explaining that. We'll take a short break and be right back, you're listening to The Christian Worldview. I'm David Wheaton.

Featured Resource: My Boy Ben 34:56

David Wheaton here. For a limited time, we are offering My Boy, Ben for a donation of any amount to The Christian Worldview. The book is the true story of a Yellow Lab that I had back when I was competing in the professional tennis tour. It's about relationships with Ben, my parents, with a childhood friend I would eventually marry, but ultimately with God who causes all things, even the hard things to work together for good. You can order a signed and personalized copy for yourself or for your friend who enjoys a good story, loves dogs, sports, or the outdoors and most of all needs to hear about God's grace and the Gospel. My Boy, Ben is

owned by The Christian Worldview. It's 264 pages, hardcover, and retails for \$24.95. To order go to TheChristianWorldview.org or, call 1-888-646-2233 or, write to Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331.

Featured Resource: TCW USB of Top 2022 Programs 36:40

Here's a unique resource and product for you from The Christian Worldview. We put the top 15 programs of 2022 on a great looking bamboo USB flash drive adorned with The Christian Worldview logo. Programs like, What is the Christians Duty to God vs. Government, 12 Mega Clues that Jesus Return is Nearer Than Ever, How America's New Woke Religion is Not Good News, Transhumanism and the Quest to be Like God, and What Really Happens When You're Born Again. Simply plug the flash drive into the USB port on your Windows or Mac device and you will have the top programs at your fingertips. Plus, with a large four gigabyte capacity, you'll have plenty of extra space to load your own files. The flash drive is \$25.

You can order by calling 1-888-646-2233, going to TheChristianWorldview.org or writing to Box 401 Excelsior, Minnesota 55331. Thanks for joining us today on The Christian Worldview. I'm David Wheaton, the host. Just a reminder that today's program and past programs are archived at our website, TheChristian Worldview.org. Transcripts and Short Takes are also available. Our topic today is how the abortion movement has become more radical post Roe v. Wade. Our guest is Colleen Tronson, Executive Director of Metro Women's Center in Minnesota. Colleen, what have you found at Metro Women's Center when a pregnant woman gets involved with this organization? What do you find changes their mind about having an abortion?

Guest: Colleen Tronson 38:27

That's a really good question. You know, every day we hear stories about people who are experiencing challenges, and every day we hear hard stories about individuals. Some are abortion vulnerable. Some just need a little support. I'm always astounded when a tank of gas or a grocery gift card can save a life. I had one woman come in and she had three kids already and was thinking about abortion because she didn't know how to feed her kids. A bag of groceries, a tank of gas, ongoing support, and she chose life for her baby. Rent help, support, maternity clothes, baby clothes, just those practical helps. And we're not trying to say that, if you just have a crib, or if you just have a car seat, you can be a good parent. We're saying that there's hope for you in the midst of your hopelessness, that we'll come alongside you and we'll support you and help you and just that extra shoulder to have help with has made a big difference. I just had a gal in this week and she was facing an eviction notice. I was able to reach out to a couple of agencies and we were able to get her at least three quarters of the money she needed so that she wouldn't get evicted. That gives her hope and it gives her help so that she can face the difficulty that she's facing.

So many of the women that we see are not abortion minded but maybe have had an abortion in their past and when we talk to them and they say "I didn't know there was help available, I didn't know I could ask for help", so they maybe chose abortion because they didn't know there were over 40 pregnancy resource centers in Minnesota. They didn't know that there was cradle of hope. They didn't know that there was life fund. They didn't know that there was help available. In their crisis, they didn't know and chose abortion, so it really depends on each person's situation, what will be the turning point for her.

For some women it's, "I didn't know that my baby's development was like this. I didn't know that my baby had cardiac activity at 18 days. I didn't know the fetal development pieces". For some of them that makes a difference. We have fetal models here at the office and they're the exact size and weight of a baby at a certain developmental stage. A couple of times when a woman was undecided, I said, "You know, do you know about your baby's development?" And she said, "No." And I said, "Would you be willing to let me show you what's going on?" And using those fetal models has been helpful. We always ask permission, we don't just shove it in their face. But just the reality of, this is what's going on inside my womb, can be helpful for them.

Host: David Wheaton 41:05

Colleen, we know this great evil is going on all around us in this country. And people who are pro life want to get involved. Just close us today with some ideas for listeners and for churches to get involved in the pro life movement, especially when the gospel, the only hope to sinners is inextricably linked to this work in the pro life movement.

Guest: Colleen Tronson 41:33

I was reading today in Psalm 119:130. It says, *The entrance of thy Word gives light; It gives understanding unto the simple.* As we do this work in Minnesota and throughout the country, it's the Word of God that's gonna bring light into the darkness of the hearts of people. It's the Word of God that brought light into my darkness when I was on the other side of this issue. It was the Word of God that illuminated the truth about my sin, and it illuminated the truth about abortion to me. I had a conversation with a woman the other day whose daughter is going through an unplanned pregnancy situation and she had heard the words that I had spoken before about abortion and about the issues around pregnancy care help. Because her daughter is now in the middle of this, she said to me, "I listened with different ears tonight." I think sometimes we need to listen with different ears when we talk to people who are in these situations, not listening to judge or listening to give an answer, but listen to their stories and listen to the whys behind they might be thinking about these things. We can only really do that in the context of relationship with people, so there's lots of different ways to fight abortion. There's legislation, there's pregnancy help, there's maternity homes, there's all kinds of plays, but without the relationships with people who are in these situations, we're not going to make a

difference; we're not going to be able to change their minds in one little conversation, so it has to be in the context of relationship that we do this. Doug McLaughlin used to say, "you know, as Christians, we're not supposed to be in our holy huddles, looking inward, we're supposed to be looking out to see who God might be calling us to help."

As the church comes to grips with what's happening with abortion, be involved in pro life works throughout their states. If you have a pregnancy center in your city, get involved, provide diapers, provide formula, provide car seats, provide car repair, provide those things that might help a woman who might be thinking about abortion, if she doesn't have support. I'm always so amazed to look back on our ministry and see how, at different times a bag of groceries or a gas card changed a woman's heart enough so that she didn't choose abortion. Those little things that you can do out in your own community to help will make a difference.

Also, I think from the pulpit, we need to speak about compassion for people who need help. Pregnancy is a public thing. It shows up. There's lots of sins that we do as Christians that don't show up, but this one shows up. il we don't speak about how to help people who are in that situation, if we don't speak about it from the pulpit, we're missing being the hands and feet of Jesus to someone who needs it; giving that cup of cold water to someone in need.

Churches being involved by speaking out from the pulpit. In thinking about the fact that Minnesota is becoming an oasis for abortion, think about all the people coming from different states that we might not have ever had an opportunity to share the gospel with, we might run into those folks. And we might have an opportunity to share the gospel with them, we might have an opportunity to bring light into their darkness. We can stem some of the tide. We're not going to change everybody's mind, but we can do something. This last week, a lady called me and said, "you know, you helped me 15 years ago. And I just wanted you to know that my life is good now." I don't even really remember what we did with her, but she remembered it, because she said, "I just wanted to tell you that you helped me when I needed help." I think sometimes we start thinking that, Oh, we have to do this big, flashy something, but really, it just starts with one person doing one thing, for one person who's in a pregnancy situation. God doesn't expect us to perform heroic feats of anything. He just wants us to be available. By being available, we can make a difference in one person's life.

Host: David Wheaton 46:00

Well, Colleen, I just want to thank you for coming on the program yet again. Thank you also, I think, on behalf of people, at least in this area, and I know that people who are pro life nationwide, who just want to thank you for the great work that you do at Metro Women's Center, helping women find alternatives to abortion, so we just thank you and wish all of God's best and grace to you. Thank you for coming on the program.

Guest: Colleen Tronson 46:24

Well, thank you David for raising awareness about the issue and continuing to be a voice for the unborn and for the ladies and for the guys who are involved in this issue. We all have our part to do and everyone doing their part can make a big difference.

Host: David Wheaton 46:39

Again, Colleen Tronson, the Executive Director of Metro Women's Center here in Minnesota joined us today. Their website is metrowomenscenter.org. Just a couple of follow up points on this topic of abortion.

What's the way forward? Well, it's confusing how a majority of Americans are pro life, at least they profess to be, but our political leaders, at least in large part, are pro abortion. That's hard to explain. Apparently people aren't voting their pro life values or election fraud is far beyond what we could possibly imagine. Listen to this soundbite from Minnesota State Representative Tina Liebling as she is asked when a baby becomes a human being. Listen to this rationalized non objective answer.

Audio Sound Bite: Representative Peggy Scott 47:34

When is a baby a human, representative Liebling?

Audio Sound Bite: Minnesota State Representative Tina Libeling 47:34

"There are a number of things to respond to there. You know, first of all, I think the inflammatory rhetoric that is used in this space; I understand we all have feelings about abortion, Representative Scott, everyone does. And these questions about when is the baby human? When does human life begin? You know, the thing is, different people have different feelings about those issues, and their feelings may change depending on their own personal situation. It doesn't matter what I think is human or not human or, you know, it matters what she thinks. It matters what her family thinks. That's what matters. So that's why your question to me is completely irrelevant. Why should I as a politician inflict my feeling about it into somebody else's life? That would be absolutely wrong, and I think most Minnesotans would think that was absolutely wrong."

Host: David Wheaton 48:25

Just to clarify, every law legislates someone's morality. Someone's worldview is being imposed on another person whenever a law is made. That is a textbook example of relativistic thinking that there is no objective truth. We as Christians know there is objective truth because God sets objective truth in His Word, but you reject God and you reject objective truth.

So the first point, on the way forward on abortion is to:

- 1) Make it unthinkable. We're not going to be able to depend on political action and political laws to ban abortion. Celebrate the victories where you can get them, but just like with the issue of smoking, it used to be very popular, now people don't want to smoke because they know how bad it is for them. We need to be persuasive in proclaiming the truth of God's word, that the preborn baby is a distinct human being from its mother, deserving the right to life. To kill that life intentionally is murder and that should be unthinkable for any woman to do.
- 2) Has to do with judgment. I was reading in Matthew chapter 11, where Jesus says, And you, Capernaum, [a town where Jesus spent a whole lot of time] will you be lifted to the heavens? No. You will go down to Hades. For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, [which was burned to a crisp because of their sin of homosexuality] it would have remained to this day. But I tell you that it will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment than for you. That from Matthew chapter 11. We need to proclaim repentance of sin in our nation. If He judged Sodom for their wickedness, how much more is He going to judge our own nation for being every bit as wicked as Sodom, especially due to the fact that we have been given so much biblical truth in the Gospel in this country and yet rejected it?
- 3) As Colleen was saying, that every Christian can get involved in some small way, speak the truth about abortion and make it unthinkable for people, say what it actually is. The lie is everywhere. Listen to this recent soundbite on MSNBC, from a Minnesota politician who says partial birth abortion doesn't actually take place.

Audio Sound Bite 51:01

"A child does not come out partway alive, and then doctors kill it. That's not a thing. That's not a thing today, it's not a thing tomorrow. It's not a thing 10 years ago, it's not a thing. So for us to legislate things that don't exist in real life, again, perfect example of why politicians should not practice health care."

Host: David Wheaton 51:22

Dictionary definition of partial birth abortion: A late term abortion of a fetus that has already died or is killed before being completely removed from the mother. Recognize the lie and speak the truth.

The final thing and the most important thing of all, is to proclaim the hope of salvation to all people in the midst of this. Jesus said in that same chapter in Matthew 11, *Come to me, all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.* Whether you are for or against abortion, whether you have had an abortion or not, all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Romans 6:23 says, *For the wages of sin is death*, [judgment in hell. But here's the good news] *but the free gift of God*

is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. The Bible says, believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved.

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