

Commentary

Abortion Right by Anil Shrivastava 'Musafir'



I am not against abortion in certain situations in the early stage of pregnancy such as rape, incest,

endangerment of the mother's life, extremely deformed fetus, and starvation. However, it shouldn't be performed at a later stage (I am not a biologist so I don't know what that later stage ought to be). All I know is that having sex for pleasure and then aborting the fetus for convenience is inhuman. If a person murders a pregnant woman, he is charged with taking two lives. Why so?

Killing a fetus at a later stage doesn't have to do anything with women's rights. "My body, my choice" is a hollow slogan. After all, no one has the right to mutate one's body or commit suicide except in the case of mercy killing due to immense suffering

resulting from a terminal illness. Then why destroy an embryo?

There is no way to seriously deny that abortion is a form of killing. A fetus after it gets life is part of a single continuous process that later goes through infancy and childhood to middle age and beyond. When a group of explorers used to get lost in the past and reached a stage of starvation, they killed the weakest member in the group and eat them. An embryo is also weak and helpless like the weak member of the expedition. So, how is it moral to kill the former just for convenience?

The position that unborn human beings aren't human persons can really tend to a slippery slope from abortion to infanticide. Unfortunately, our society is polarized between pro-life and pro-choice based on the labels they wear such as liberals and conservatives, Democrats or Republicans. They believe more in the manifesto of their group than common sense and reasoning. In fact, abortion should be a medical decision, not a political one.