

## TO THE PARENTS:

Abortion is a very sensitive topic, especially when talking to children. It can be difficult to explain the issues to them without causing undue worry and stress. While it may be a difficult task, you are in the best position to help your children understand the truth about abortion.

In a recent survey, the largest pro-life age group was the youngest polled (18-29).<sup>1</sup> The hope of the pro-life movement is in the next generation. You can be a part of that hope by starting with an honest and age-appropriate talk with your children.

## WHAT IS THE RIGHT AGE?

You should start talking to your children about the development of a baby as soon as possible. If you, or a close relative or friend is pregnant, you have a built-in “visual” to personalize what you teach.

Help your children learn about the baby in a mommy’s tummy, and it will give them a pro-life foundation. Take every opportunity to talk to them about the growing baby and how the mommy is taking care of the baby. You can tell them about the different milestones the baby is reaching, including how the fingerprints are being made and the toes are growing little toe nails.<sup>2</sup> By continually treating the baby in the womb as a human (as he or she should be treated), you will help the child grow up with an understanding that there is no difference between born and unborn children -just time and location.

When your child grows up with the knowledge of life before birth, the next step — talk-

ing about abortion — should be much easier. The right age to talk about abortion with your children depends on their level of maturity. Normally, an appropriate age is from five to eight, depending on their ability to understand the limited nature of abortion (i.e., they don’t think abortion is forced or an abortionist will break into the house and kill them). Your child will also have to have at least an elementary grasp of death. Try to think how your child will view the knowledge of abortion. Then decide, based on what you believe their reaction will be, when it is appropriate to talk about abortion.

## WHAT TO SHARE

Abortion is a terrible act, but it is important to shield your child from unnecessary gruesome thoughts or ideas. You need to share only the basics. The other side of this brochure is designed to share with young children what abortion is in a limited but truthful manner.

## BE SENSITIVE

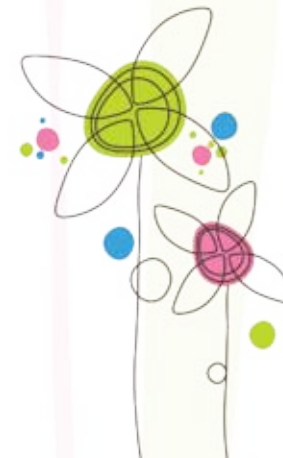
Think and pray about talking to your child about abortion. It is important that they know the truth from their parents. It is not so important, though, as to endanger their emotional well being. You know them best. Make sure they are mature enough to handle this sad practice in our society.

1. See <http://www.kofc.org/un/eb/en/news/releases/detail/549070.html>.

2. For a full list of milestones, see the “Milestones of Early Life” brochure at [www.hh76.com](http://www.hh76.com).

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# HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT ABORTION



## The Baby

Did you know that you once were in your mommy's tummy? That's right! God wanted you to have a safe place to start growing so He made your own room. The place you were living in your mommy's tummy even has a name. It is called a "womb." In your mommy's womb you had a warm place to sleep, a safe place to play, and all the food you could eat (you ate part of what your mommy ate). This was your special place to live for the first nine months of your life.

After you lived there and grew bigger and stronger you were finally born. When you were born you were just a small little baby but you had already been growing and learning while you were in your mom's womb. After your birth you grew some more and you are now the size of, well, you!

When a mom has a baby in her womb she is "pregnant." Pregnant means that a mom is "with child" — she has a baby growing in her womb. There are pregnant moms all around the world who have babies growing in their wombs. Many of these babies will be born and grow up to be kids like you.



*(A picture of what you looked like before you were born)*

## Start from Love

It is fun to talk about when you were safe in your mommy's womb. But we are going to talk about something very sad and very bad that happens to some babies before they are born. Before we do, you need to know that you are loved very much. What we are going to talk about will never happen to you. You are safe but we want you to know about this so you can tell others what the right thing to do is.

## A Sad, Sad Thing

There are many babies who grow up to be kids, but there are also many babies who never even get to be born. They don't get to be born because of something called "abortion." Abortion is when a pregnant woman decides she doesn't want her baby and she goes to a different kind of doctor. That doctor does a very bad thing; he kills the baby. The woman leaves the doctor and she doesn't have a baby in her womb anymore — the baby is dead.

Abortion is a very sad thing. The pregnant mom is normally very sad after she chooses to have the doctor kill her baby. Many others are also sad because the baby died. You probably feel sad right now because you heard that a doctor is killing unborn babies.

The doctors who do abortions are not regular doctors. They are different kinds of doctors who do abortions so they can make lots of money. The doctors normally think they are doing something that is okay, but deep down they know it is not right to kill babies who haven't been born. There aren't any laws to stop them, so they can kill unborn babies without getting in trouble.

## What Can I Do?

We want to stop abortions. We don't want doctors to kill any more babies before they are born. There are many people trying to stop abortion and they are doing many different things. Some people are trying to get laws passed to stop doctors from doing abortions. Others are trying to help moms to decide not to have abortions. Others are trying to tell as many people as possible about the babies who are in danger from abortion. You can help in your own special way as well. Ask the person who gave you this brochure or your mom or dad how you can help stop abortion. Here are a few ideas that you can ask your mom or dad about doing:

1. *Bring a baby fetal model to school and show others what the baby looks like in the womb (see [www.hh76.com](http://www.hh76.com)).*
2. *Pass out information to your friends about unborn babies.*
3. *Call and volunteer at a Right to Life Center or Crisis Pregnancy Center.*
4. *Help man a pro-life booth at your local fair or church.*



*These pictures are of babies before they were born. The image above is an 8-week-old baby. The feet on the left are of a baby only 11-weeks old.*