



The
**PROPHETIC
CONDITIONS**
Series



ABORTION

Woman's Choice
or Modern Holocaust?



ABOUT THE COVER

The word “abortion” is explosive! Its mere mention strikes a chord in most people, leading to endless arguments and debates: A woman’s “right to choose,” U.S. Supreme Court decisions, parental consent, right to protest, the life and safety of a fetus, stem cell research—and much more. But, in the end, abortion is the *erasing of human life!*

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Note: This report previously appeared in serial form in *The REAL TRUTH* magazine.

Why the PROPHETIC CONDITIONS Series?

Knowledge and technology are exploding, yet the world is drowning in a sea of problems! *Alcohol abuse* is on the rise. Vast regions of farmland are “dying of thirst” due to droughts and erratic *weather* patterns. The allure of *drugs* is fast seducing a younger generation that no longer knows how to be kids. *Crime* is more violent, more entrenched, more widespread than ever. *Immorality* is robbing families and youth of their innocence by “entertaining” sick, perverted, carnal desires. And the earth is choking in the *polluted* filth produced by humanity.

WHY?

The *Prophetic Trnedes and Conditions Series* will report global trends and problems. It explains why humanity is deluged with such overwhelming—and insoluble—problems.

And points to mankind’s *only solution!*



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ABORTION

Woman's Choice *or Modern Holocaust?*

Since its legalization in 1973, nearly 50 million abortions have been carried out in the United States alone. Is abortion simply “a woman exercising her rights over her body”? Or something much more grave?



THIRTY YEARS after the Roe versus Wade case, which led to the legalization of abortion in the United States, the battle still rages on. Those on both sides of this issue, firmly entrenched in what they believe to be morally and ethically right, are taking their campaigns to the street, television studios, abortion clinics and, chiefly, Washington, D.C.

Some resort to political mudslinging to get their point across. Others to violence, murdering those they feel are guilty of the same crime! Adding to this chaos, developments in stem-cell research and the Laci Peterson murder case are causing some activists to lose sight of their political stance.

What confusion! Little did the Supreme Court imagine that their ruling would lead to such a divisive battle in the *United States*.

On the PRO-LIFE side (sometimes referred to as “anti-choice”), abortion is seen as the outright slaughter of innocent lives, as merely a convenient way for women to “resolve the problem” of unplanned and unwanted pregnancies.

By promoting abstinence in sex education programs, instead of merely the use of contraceptives, pro-life supporters reason that there would be fewer unwanted pregnancies. In addition, they suggest that any unwanted children could be adopted by one of the thousands of couples unable to have children.

In the wake of the murder of Laci Peterson and her eight-month-old unborn son, Conner, momentum is now building to make it a federal crime to harm a fetus. The Unborn Victims of Violence Act, now dubbed “Laci and Conner’s Law,” seeks to treat a fetus as a *separate* victim. Under the law, anyone who harms a fetus would spend as much time in jail as if the mother were harmed. Additionally, handing abortion opponents their greatest victory in decades, Congress banned the procedure known as “partial-birth abortion” in June 2003. These developments are causing pro-life supporters to wonder whether the Bush administration is taking the much-anticipated steps to overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

On the PRO-CHOICE side (sometimes referred to as “anti-life”), advocates view abortion as a way of putting children who may be born with birth defects or diseases out of their misery. This allows the medical community to terminate fetuses that would otherwise have short lives and long, painful deaths caused by genetic disorders or other such maladies. Abortion is also seen as a way of reducing the number of unwanted children who would be born into abusive or poverty-stricken homes, thus reducing child abuse. Pro-choice supporters also state that if a woman happens to be a victim of rape or incest, she should have the option of abortion readily available.

Overall, the pro-choice movement states that a woman should have the right to choose whether to keep or abort the child growing inside *her* body. In effect, the reasoning is, “It’s *my* body, so *I* decide what to do!”

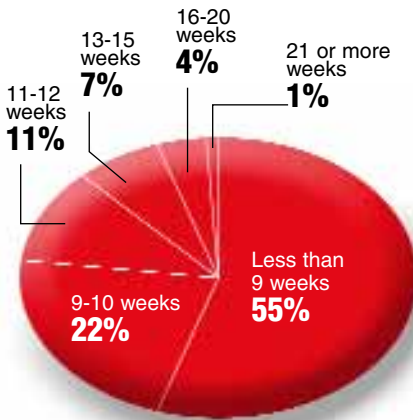
Therefore, the struggle continues, with many millions of unborn children caught in between. Whether single or married, parent or child, young or old, and regardless of race or religion, abortion has affected us all—in more ways than most realize.

“Abortion on Demand”

Over thirty years ago, the Supreme Court handed down a decision that

WHEN WOMEN HAVE ABORTIONS:

(88% of abortions occur in the first 12 weeks of pregnancy.)



SOURCE: The Guttmacher Institute, calculations based on CDC data, 1998

legalized abortion in the U.S. Before this time, abortion was *illegal* and simply considered an *IMMORAL* action that one would never think of actually debating.

This soon changed. Although Texas law prohibited abortion, except to save a pregnant mother’s life, Jane Roe, a resident of the state, filed a lawsuit seeking to obtain one. The court ruled that a woman had a constitutionally protected *right* to have the procedure, and that this fell within the right to privacy, as protected by the Fourteenth Amendment. The decision made it legal for a woman to have an abortion at any point during the pregnancy. It also defined levels for regulating abortion in the third trimester of the pregnancy—weeks 27 through 40.

In effect, the final verdict ruled that a child is the *property* of the parent—who *has* the right to decide whether the child is wanted.

Attempting to walk the tightrope allowed by the U.S. Constitution, Justice Harry Blackmun stated, “The Constitution does not define ‘person’ in so many words. Section 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment contains three references to ‘person.’ The first, in defining ‘citizens,’ speaks of ‘persons born or naturalized in the United States’...But in nearly all these

instances, the use of the word is such that it has application *only postnatally*. None indicates, with any assurance, that it has any possible pre-natal application...

“We need not resolve the *difficult question* of when life begins. When those trained in the respective disciplines of medicine, philosophy, and theology are unable to arrive at any consensus, the judiciary, at this point in the development of man’s knowledge, is not in a position to speculate as to the answer” (emphasis ours throughout).

As a result, this court ruling affected the laws of all 50 states.

Liberals and the feminist movement at the time viewed this as a monumental step in the “emancipation” of women—of leveling the playing field with men, who never had to deal with an unwanted pregnancy. Women now had the right to *CHOOSE*—a family *or* a career, marriage and a monogamous relationship with a husband *or* a single life of sexual freedom. Additionally, since unwanted children could now be aborted, child abuse would soon end.

But since then, what has happened to this “brave new world” of women’s liberation and freedom—one supposedly free of child abuse?

Not exactly what was envisioned. In fact, aside from a high increase in sexual promiscuity, sexually transmitted diseases and AIDS, child abuse has skyrocketed since 1973, when 167,000 cases were reported in the U.S. In 1980, the number rose to 785,100; in 1987, there were 2,025,200 cases; in 1989, there were 2,435,000; and in 1999, there were 3,244,000 cases of reported child abuse (National Center on Child Abuse Prevention Research).

These numbers speak for themselves. Clearly, this is not the result foreseen by feminists and liberals in the 1970s.

Sobering Statistics

Since 1973, has the “better, brighter tomorrow” envisioned by the feminist movement become reality? What has been the result of *Roe v. Wade*? To

Images of a Healthy Developing Fetus

Weeks measured from conception:

7 weeks



11 weeks



8 weeks (2 months)



12 weeks (3 months)



14 weeks



16 weeks (4 months)



20 weeks (5 months)



what extent have women in the U.S. sought abortions? The facts are staggering:

■ Abortion is one of the most common surgical procedures.

■ The estimated number of *legal* abortions performed in America alone since 1973 is nearly 50 million—and this is said to be even greater, since it only represents abortions *reported by licensed agencies*.

■ Every twenty-two seconds, an abortion takes place in the U.S.

■ According to the Department of Defense, the total American casualties for the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, World Wars I and II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Gulf War and the Iraq War, in addition to deaths attributed to September 11—all combined—is estimated at 1.27 million. In 2001, 1.31 million pregnancies in the U.S. alone ended in abortion—

such as Sweden (18.7) and Australia (22.2).

■ Black women are more than 3 times as likely as white women to have an abortion, and Hispanic women are 2½ times as likely.

■ About 43% of women obtaining abortions identify themselves as Protestant, and 27% identify themselves as Catholic.

■ Over 60% of abortions are among women who have had 1 or more children.

The Formation of Life

The following is an overview of the growth process, from a fertilized egg to a cuddly newborn baby, illustrating the amazing transformation of what some term “fetal tissue.”

The First Trimester (weeks 1 through 13): Fertilization, or conception, takes place when the chromosomes of the sperm and the egg com-

Also in week seven, brain waves can be measured. (Ironically, brain waves are one of the legal criteria in determining whether a person is alive. So, if one can be pronounced “dead” because there are no measurable brain waves, then how can one not be considered “alive” when brain waves *are* detected?)

Arms, legs and toes are growing, and the placenta can now provide oxygen for the baby to “breathe.” Blood is redirected through the almost completely formed heart. In week ten, teeth begin to bud in the unborn child’s mouth. Week twelve brings the production of vocal cords, and crying in the womb becomes possible, although quieted by the amniotic fluid. Because of the now fully developed brain and nervous system, the child can feel pain. Eyelids are formed, protecting the optical nerves until the eyes are opened in the seventh month. Also

“About 43% of women obtaining abortions identify themselves as Protestant, and 27% identify themselves as Catholic.”

down from the all-time high of 1.61 million in 1990.

■ At least one in three women in the U.S. will have had an abortion by age 45.

■ By age 20, one in seven women in the U.S. will have had an abortion.

■ About 19% of women having abortions in the U.S. are teenagers; 33% are age 20-24; 48% are age 25 and older.

■ About 83% of abortion patients are unmarried.

■ 26% of women seeking abortions have the procedure billed directly to their public or private insurance.

■ The Alan Guttmacher Institute stated that the worldwide abortion rate (the number of abortions per 1,000 women age 15-44) can range from a low of 6.5 in the Netherlands, to a high of 77.7 in Cuba.

The U.S. abortion rate is 21.3, comparable to other developed nations

bine. Conception is calculated as occurring two weeks after the woman’s last period. (This is the date from which the weeks of pregnancy are determined.) Within the next week, the fertilized egg will bury itself in the lining of the uterus, where it can be protected and nourished throughout its growth.

This begins the development of the embryo’s physical characteristics, such as the backbone, spinal column, nervous system, kidneys, liver and intestines. By week three, the heart begins beating. At five weeks, the brain begins developing. In the seventh week, facial features, including the eyes, mouth and tongue, begin to be visible on the small, raisin-sized embryo. Blood cells develop, giving the unborn child its own blood type. The muscle system also begins development, allowing movement within the womb.

during this point, the unborn baby can often be seen through ultrasound sucking its thumb.

Over 88% of abortions take place within this first trimester of a pregnancy!

The Second Trimester (weeks 14 through 26): With the baby’s developing muscle system and growing arms and legs, the mother begins feeling kicks and movement. During weeks fifteen and sixteen, eyebrows, eyelashes, hair and taste buds appear. With fully developed hands and feet, the baby can now kick, grab and grasp.

By weeks sixteen through twenty, a doctor can determine the sex of the child through an ultrasound. The unborn baby now has fingernails, fully developed fingerprints, and can even recognize its mother’s voice. By this point of the pregnancy, the fetus, while not yet fully developed, could survive outside the womb.

About 11% of abortions take place within this second trimester of the gestation process.

The Third Trimester (week 27 through birth): The fetus is now completely formed and only needs time for growth and the maturing of internal organs. Legs are now proportionate to the entire body, and toenails, teeth, hair and eyebrows are now visible. A thin hair, called *laguno*, covers much of the baby's body at six months, and a waxy covering, *vernix*, coats the skin. The baby breathes oxygen-rich amniotic fluid into its developing lungs. Most of the baby's time will be spent sleeping during the seventh and eighth months. The baby also begins to experience REM (rapid eye movement) sleep, which causes dreams. For several months, the baby has been feeding through the umbilical cord, drawing nutrients from the mother's blood. Now that the baby is tightly confined to a small space within the uterus, the mother feels numerous squirms and wriggles. It is only a few weeks until the baby is born.

One percent of abortions take place within the third trimester of the pregnancy. While abortion advocates state that 1% is insignificant, keep in mind

that it is 1% of an estimated 1.5 million abortions a year. What seems to be a small number is actually an estimated 15,000 third-trimester abortions a year—or 1,250 a month—about 40 a day! When seen in the proper context, this 1% is far larger than most care to admit.

The Procedure

Despite having sterile and clinical-sounding terms attached to it, such as “vacuum aspiration,” “D&C,” “D&E” and “D&X,” exactly what is involved in the abortion procedure? The following is a brief description of the most popular forms of first-trimester abortions. (Note: While the procedures are described in the least graphic manner, some explicit description is unavoidable.)

Mifepristone: Also known as RU 486 or the “morning-after pill,” mifepristone is a chemical that interferes with the woman's hormones needed to maintain the womb lining—the baby's source of nourishment and protection—which, in effect, causes the embryo to starve. A second drug is administered, causing the woman to expel the embryo—the unborn child! Mifepristone is rela-

tively new and the exact long-term side effects are still unknown. However, one of its effects is heavy bleeding, for up to three weeks, after its use. (See “The ‘Morning-After Pill’” inset for more information on RU 486.)

Methotrexate: Though not FDA-approved for abortions, this chemical is also used as a treatment for arthritis and psoriasis—as well as a cancer treatment, when administered in higher doses. Injected five to nine weeks into the pregnancy, methotrexate creates a folic acid deficiency that stops cell division (the growth process), resulting in termination of the fetus. Suppositories are then administered to expel the unborn child. Possible side effects include severe bleeding, nausea, pain, diarrhea, bone marrow depression, severe anemia, liver damage and methotrexate-induced lung disease.

Vacuum Aspiration: This procedure takes place during weeks six to sixteen, and consists of a suction tube being inserted into the cervix and uterus, and sucking out the placenta and the fetus into a container. Often, because of the powerful suction, the unborn child is dismembered. To

Misconceptions About Roe v. Wade

Abortion advocates firmly state that the Supreme Court's ruling provides strict guidelines regulating second- and third-trimester abortions.

But what exactly are those guidelines? What reasons could allow the state to grant an abortion during the final three months of the child's development?

Justice Blackmun, author of the *Roe v. Wade* decision, divided the full-term pregnancy into three trimesters. He ruled that states had *no* right to restrict abortions within the first six months (the first and second trimesters), and that a woman can abort her pregnancy during this time for *whatever* reason.

Concerning third-trimester abortions, the ruling continued that the state had *a right—not an obligation*—to restrict the procedure only to pregnancies that posed a health risk to

the woman. However, this third-trimester ruling hinged on how the state defined exactly what poses a “health risk.”

In “*Roe v. Wade: Abortion on Demand*,” Dr. Frank Beckwith helps clarify the court's definition of a “health risk,” by examining the ruling made in another abortion case, *Doe v. Bolton*: “In *Bolton* the court ruled that ‘health’ must be taken in its broadest possible medical context, and must be defined ‘in light of all factors—physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman's age—relevant to the well being of the patient. All these factors relate to health.’”

In effect, as long as the pregnant woman can convince her physician that the birth will be a “risk” to her physical, emotional, psychological or familial well-being, the state can

grant her an abortion *up until a few weeks prior to her due date!*

Dr. Beckwith continues, “It is safe to say, therefore, that in the first six months of pregnancy a woman can have an abortion for *no reason*, but in the last three months she can have it for *any reason*. This is abortion on demand.”

With four simple words—“IT IS SO ORDERED”—the Supreme Court legalized the practice of abortion. While Norma McCorvey, otherwise known as “Jane Roe,” is now a staunch *pro-life* supporter, her lawsuit caused a decision that drastically changed multiple millions of lives. □

ensure that there are no pieces of the fetus remaining in the womb, body parts are accounted for (often by reassembling the unborn baby). The uterus can be punctured during this procedure, causing internal hemorrhaging. Severe infection is also common, as placenta often remains in the uterus.

Dilation and Curettage (D&C): Surgically expanding the cervix (the mouth of the womb), a loop-shaped steel knife is inserted into the womb and the abortionist slices the fetus into little pieces, as well as separating the placenta from the uterus wall. This procedure is administered between weeks six and sixteen of the pregnancy. Similar to vacuum aspiration, internal hemorrhaging and severe infections commonly occur after this procedure. (This procedure is not to be confused with the similarly named procedure to correct menstrual abnormalities.)

The following are second (or third) trimester abortion procedures:

Dilation and Evacuation (D&E): This is a common procedure for pregnancies between weeks thirteen to twenty four, and is similar to D&C. The cervix is again forced open, and forceps grab the unborn child's body parts and tear them out from the mother's womb, piece by piece. Since the skull is hardened to bone by this time, the abortionist crushes the head inside the womb and extracts all the pieces. During such an operation, the fetus can be seen on an ultrasound recoiling from the abortionist's forceps.

Describing the D&E procedure, Dr. William Hern, an abortionist from Colorado, stated in a 1978 report to the Association of Planned Parenthood, "We have produced an unusual dilemma. A procedure is rapidly becoming recognized as the procedure of choice in late abortion, but those capable of performing or assisting with the procedure

are having strong personal reservations about participating in an operation which they view as destructive and violent...Some part of our cultural and perhaps even biological heritage recoils at a destructive operation on a form that is similar to our own, even while we may know that the act has a positive effect for a living person.

"No one who has not performed this procedure can know what it is like or what it means; but having performed it, we are bewildered by the possibilities of interpretation. We have reached a point in this particular technology where there is no possibility of denial of an act of destruction by the operator. It is before one's eyes. The sensations of dismemberment flow through the forceps like an electric current...The more we seem to solve the problem, the more intractable it becomes" ("What About Us? Staff Reactions to the D&E Procedure," Hern, Corrigan).

The "Morning-After Pill"

There has been much written over the last few years about mifepristone (trade name mifeprex), also known as RU 486 outside the U.S. This is often referred to as the "morning-after pill," because of the perception that this non-surgical "pill" is actually just an after-the-fact contraceptive.

In reality, the "pill" is a series of treatments and follow-up visits to the doctor. The initial visit involves the pregnant mother taking three pills—either in the doctor's office or at home. This is followed a few days later by another drug dispensed by the doctor. A third visit is then required approximately fourteen days later to verify that this process has terminated the pregnancy. This procedure is successful in ending early pregnancies (49 days or less from last menstrual cycle) approximately 95% of the time. The other 5% still require a surgical abortion.

When the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved this in September 2000, many felt it would be a much easier way to end a pregnancy, when compared to a surgical abortion. What has become clear is that this is anything but an easy way out. It requires more follow-up with the

doctor, more pain over an extended period, the potential for serious side effects (scores of deaths have resulted from its use), and a significant psychological impact on the pregnant woman.

Some, willing to take the risks, have said it felt like a "more natural way to go" because they could feel changes in their body as it reacted to the powerful drugs, which block hormones and cause the woman to go into contractions. In essence, this forces a miscarriage. Women have said that they likened the pain and discomfort to a type of "penance."

Though not as popular as anticipated, RU 486 is a way for women to avoid the stigma of a surgical abortion, and "running the gauntlet" of protesters outside clinics. No matter how medical science tries to sanitize the process of ending innocent life, numerous women have found that there is no avoiding the emotional scars inflicted by their actions.

The June 2, 2003 issue of *TIME* reported that the health center of the publicly funded James Madison University had prescribed the "morning-after pill" over 2,000 times. When discovered by a state legislator, a

measure was proposed to the J.M.U. senate, which would end its distribution to university students. It was approved, and the health center stopped dispensing the pill.

The result?—2,714 university students signed a petition stating that the decision affected the health and safety of the student body, and that the center should continue prescribing the "pill." The bill, however, was not overturned. (However, the president of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League [NARAL]: Pro-Choice America personally invited the two women who led the campaign to attend a five-day training course in the Gloria Steinem Leadership Institute.)

In effect, no matter how people may want to simplify it, the "morning-after pill" is merely an abortion in *tablet form*. □



“In effect, the final verdict ruled that a child is the *property* of the parent—who *has* the right to decide whether the child is wanted.”

Saline Abortion: This abortion procedure is used after week sixteen of the pregnancy, and entails the insertion of a needle into the woman’s abdomen, which removes about eight ounces of amniotic fluid, replacing it with an equal amount of a concentrated salt solution. The baby then inhales the salt, causing its lungs and flesh to burn. Death occurs within the hour, and a dead, shriveled child is delivered within twenty-four hours. Side effects can include uncontrolled blood clotting throughout the body, severe hemorrhaging, seizures, coma, serious side effects on the central nervous system, or even death.

Digoxin Induction: This technique is used between weeks twenty and thirty-two, and involves the injecting of chemicals directly into the child’s heart. Once dead, suppositories allow the mother to expel the unborn child.

Hysterotomy: Similar to the procedure followed when performing a c-section, the fetus and placenta are removed from the womb and simply “disposed of.” This procedure is used between weeks twenty-four and thirty-eight.

Partial-Birth Abortion (D&X): Also called “dilation and extraction,” partial-birth abortion was banned by Congress in June 2003. This procedure is used for twenty to thirty-two week pregnancies, and involves pulling out the unborn child through the birth canal, making sure that the head remains in the mother. If the unborn baby were completely pulled out at this point, it would be alive. (Ironically, in any other circumstance, the doctor would be required to make every heroic effort to save the child’s life.) However, the abortionist makes an incision on the back of the head, and removes the child’s brain with suction through a catheter. The head then collapses, allowing the child to be removed “intact.”

If abortionists could see face-to-face the countless millions of babies who have been aborted in the above procedures, would their opinion on the morality and legality of abortion still be the same? Would they still see them as nothing more than “fetal tissue”?

Two Important Questions

The mountain of evidence proving abortion’s impact on mortality rates in

the U.S. is unmistakable. Thousands of pages would be needed to detail the numerous accounts of psychological trauma and life-threatening effects abortion has had on those involved in the procedure—not to mention the overall affects on a society that legalizes the termination of innocent life. In effect, we live in a world that relies on *murder* as a means of contraception and of dealing with social problems!

No doubt, abortion *has* deeply affected today’s society. There are countless opinions on the legality and morality of ending unwanted pregnancies. If you ask 100 different people for the basis of their opinion, they will offer almost as many different reasons.

Yet, without adding one’s individual opinion, TWO simple questions slice through personal commentary and philosophies, once and for all settling this controversial issue. They answer the CRUX of the never-ending debate over legalized abortion:

WHEN does LIFE begin?—and—WHO has the RIGHT to give or take away life?

Media Bias?

Another incredible force behind society's slanted views of abortion is the media. While the media is supposed to present unbiased reporting on all issues—including abortion—watching news telecasts from various media outlets presents a far different picture.

What has this created?—A wave of ideologue rhetoric, spoon-feeding the American public on how they should think on certain issues. All this, while under the banner of presenting the unbiased facts of the day. Many people are

beginning to identify this, as evidenced by a recent Gallup Poll, in which nearly half the country stated that they believe the media has a liberal bias.

For example, imagine if a disease spread around the world, and 126,000 lives were lost. One can expect to go home and hear some reporting on this epidemic of holocaust proportions. What if a war broke out, and 126,000 soldiers were killed in one day? Surely, one could expect to turn on the television and see thousands protesting the war—calling

for its quick end. Yet, each day, this many unborn children are aborted worldwide, with nearly 50 million in America alone since 1973!

Instead, what fills newspapers and broadcasts are headlines of abortion clinic bombings, or intolerant, “anti-choice” groups trying to take away a woman's right over her body. Biased references to both sides of the debate are all over headlines: “Anti-choice” and “anti-women,” versus “pro-choice” and “pro-women.”

However, certain black-and-white developments

regarding abortion—such as President Bush's banning of partial-birth abortion—have been particularly difficult for the mass media to ignore and shuffle away under news headlines about “the war against women continues” or “another bombing at an abortion clinic by crazed ‘anti-choicer.’”

Recall Justice Blackmun's statement in *Roe v. Wade*, “*We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins. When those trained in the respective disciplines of medicine, philosophy, and theology are unable to arrive at any consensus, the judiciary, at this point in the development of man's knowledge, is not in a position to speculate as to the answer.*”

But these questions *can* and **MUST** be resolved. Doing so removes all doubt of whether abortion is simply a woman's CHOICE—or whether it is sanitized MURDER. Answering these questions also reveals the lasting effects abortion has had on the marriage and family institutions, and exposes the media bias around the world.



SINCE THE legalization of abortion in 1973, America has been dealing—in part—with its social, economic and moral problems through the disposing of the unborn. It can be said that each child born in the U.S. since 1973 is not only an American citizen—but is also a *survivor* of its laws.

With over three decades since *Roe v. Wade*, and as the world descends further into the fog of “the new morality” (which began taking shape in the mid-twentieth century), society still cannot even agree on the simplest of issues concerning abortion. Many, claiming that abortion is a woman's God-given right over her body, continue this practice blissfully unaware—not wanting to know the truth behind such unresolved issues as: Have millions of *human lives* been aborted, or were they merely *fetal tissue*? And, what exactly is the value of a fetus?

According to today's standards, it is not worth much. In the October 2003 issue of *Reader's Digest*, Dr. Eric Keroack, an ob-gyn in Boston, stated, “A fetus is considered so precious that we spare no expense to save its life; yet it's also so worthless that it can be legally disposed of.”

Why is it that after thirty years, the most monumental issues surrounding abortion still remain in debate? How can it be that, while millions of either human beings or “blobs of organic matter” are being aborted, so many questions concerning this procedure remain unanswered?

Why can science send men to the moon, discover amazing complexities of the human cell, and create the most intricate, technological innovations,

yet *cannot* even answer the crux of the abortion debate: **WHEN** does life begin?—and—**WHO** has the right to take it away?

According to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Blackmun, such difficult questions need *not* be resolved. But is this true? Should we dismiss such an all-encompassing decision, simply because those trained in the fields of medicine, philosophy and theology are unable to come to a *unanimous* consensus? Can one dare risk the lives of millions while waiting for such a universal decision—coming from a mankind who cannot even agree on the simplest of matters?

In this part of the series, we will analyze these questions. We will also examine the global effects of abortion and how it has affected the marriage and family institutions, and learn why the media has presented such a one-sided view of “abortion on demand” to the now not-so-trusting public. We will also see, after examining the facts, the true implications of abortion.

Global Scope of Abortion

In Part One, we saw how legalized abortion has affected America. But what effects has it had on society as a whole? Although abortion does not seem to be as controversial in the rest of world as it is in America, this is not

because the procedure rarely occurs.

Notice: While nearly 50 million abortions have taken place in America alone since 1973, an estimated 46 million abortions take place around the world *each year*—over 126,000 a day. According to a United Nations Population Newsletter, 20 million of these are performed *illegally*.

According to “Abortion Policies: A Global Review,” by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, of 192 countries and territories analyzed, 55 provide abortion on demand. Of these, 27 restrict abortion on demand only to the first trimester (weeks 1 through 13).

Of these same 192 countries and territories, all but four offer legal abortions to save the mother’s life. Also, 135 offer abortions to mothers who may suffer from a health or mental “risk” (and this is open to interpre-

other developed nations, such as an 18.7 rate in Sweden and a 22.2 rate in Australia.

In Poland—where abortion was declared illegal nearly ten years ago—a Dutch “abortion boat,” consisting of a tugboat with a women’s clinic, is reported to have been stationed in international waters to offer Polish women pregnancy counseling, birth control and the abortion pill known as RU486 and, if asked, to perform abortions. This group of abortionists, called “Women on Waves,” is hoping that Poland will ease its stance on abortion once it is part of the EU. These “abortion tours” are becoming more common, and frequently visit international waters near nations that restrict abortions.

Ironically, while abortion is prolific around the world, it is most controversial in America. Why? In an article, “The war that never ends,” *The*

ner of the American Constitution is what has caused the firestorm among so many.

The Economist further attributes the battle over abortion to America’s supposed high regard for “Christian values and morals,” and for an American fondness for “arguing about fundamentals.” The article continues, “Europeans routinely turn moral issues into technical ones—and then hand them over to technocratic elites. America is a country of fundamentalists, thanks to its constitutional tradition, its legal culture and perhaps its Puritan heritage. For Americans, abortion can never be just about health. It has to be a clash of absolutes: the *right to choose* versus the *right to life*. Add to that the openness of the American political system, which makes it impossible to hand controversial questions over to technocratic elites, and you have the making of an *endless*

“No doubt, abortion *has* deeply affected today’s society. There are countless opinions on the legality and morality of ending unwanted pregnancies.”

tation), if the pregnancy is the result of rape, the unborn has a birth defect, or simply upon demand.

In countries (mainly Catholic) where abortions are prohibited, mothers who self-induce abortions—and this is becoming more common each day—are charged with *infanticide* and imprisoned. Yet, in a bordering country, the procedure may be legally available, and all a mother needs to do is visit a clinic.

Illegal abortions are commonly performed in unsanitary conditions, with unsafe surgical procedures and by untrained people, and account for an estimated 78,000 deaths of pregnant women worldwide each year.

On the worldwide scale, the abortion rate (the number of abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44) can range from a low of 6.5 in the Netherlands, to a high of 77.7 in Cuba. The U.S. abortion rate is 21.3, comparable to

Economist explains that although other countries (mainly in Europe) have legalized abortion, it is not such a debated issue as it is in America. This is mainly due to *how* it was legalized in the U.S.

European nations legalized abortion through legislation, occasionally through referenda. This open-forum discussion allowed opponents’ objections to help mold the laws to suit both sides as much as possible. This gained the support of both sides, who felt that their opinion was voiced. Also, Europe provides abortions free, with slightly stricter time limits for when the procedure can be performed, stating that it is available for the *health* of the woman—not her *right*.

On the other hand, America placed abortion rights on par with freedom of speech and religion—stating that it is a part of one’s right to privacy. Placing abortion rights under the ban-

argument about fundamentals.”

In effect, abortion has become a battle of “rights.” On one side of the trench are those standing up for the “right” of a mother to decide whether her unborn child lives or dies. On the other side are those defending their “right” to uphold life and to practice what they believe to be “Christian” morals and ethics.

But there is an additional *right* that many have overlooked. This right is found on a document signed on July 2, 1776—called the Declaration of Independence—which states, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are *endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights*, that among these are LIFE, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

According to the technocrats, this right to life, however, hinges on the exact moment when human life

begins. Some believe it to be at conception—when the sperm and the ovum meet. Others claim that life does not begin until the fetus takes in its first breath, similar to when life entered Adam in the Garden of Eden.

Since brain waves are one of the legal criteria in determining whether someone is alive, and are measurable in the unborn child by week seven, it has been said that, legally, life begins at that time. However, the exact moment that life begins *must* be determined. After all, millions of lives hang in the balance.

What Science Reveals

For over three decades, some in the medical profession—whom the world has “knighted” with the responsibility to discover when human life begins—have claimed that they still do not have the irrefutable proof needed to determine when life begins. But there are

“By all the criteria of modern molecular biology, life is present from the moment of conception” (Dr. Hymie Gordon, Chairman of the Department of Genetics at the Mayo Clinic).

“The exact moment of the beginning of personhood and of the human body is at the moment of conception” (Dr. McCarthy de Mere, medical doctor and law professor, University of Tennessee).

“The majority of our group could find no point in time between the union of sperm and egg, or at least the blastocyst stage, and the birth of the infant at which point we could say that this was not a human life” (Willke & Willke, *Handbook on Abortion*, 1971, 1975, 1979 Edit., ch. 3).

“Scientifically there is absolutely no question whatsoever that the immediate product of fertilization is a newly existing human being. A human zygote

alert, and articulate. Well, many of those things aren’t manifest in a newborn child. He’s not snapping off witty sentences...But we know the capacity for it is there” (*Newsweek*, “The War Over Fetal Rights,” June 9, 2003).

The mountain of proof that life begins at conception is so great, Dr. William Harrison, an ob-gyn in Fayetteville, Arkansas, stated, “The real issue in the abortion debate is *not* when life begins, but is it morally meaningful life? Well, I don’t know.”

With every passing year, the fundamental views regarding the beginning of human life are changing. Medical science is discovering that they are able to save premature babies at earlier stages. With state-of-the-art innovations, allowing mothers to see their unborn child develop, smile, blink and move within the womb, assumptions on when human life begins are in question. In fact, it is reported that many

“And, as stated, any American born after 1973 is a survivor of legalized abortion—not simply a citizen of his country.”

many others in medicinal science who plainly state that this proof has been found—yet it continues to be dismissed by the skeptics.

Notice: “I have learned from my earliest medical education that human life begins at the time of conception. I submit that human life is present throughout this entire sequence from conception to adulthood and any interruption at any point constitutes a termination of a human life” (Dr. Jerome LeJeune, genetics professor, University of Descartes in Paris).

“Each individual has a very neat beginning, at conception” (Prof. Micheline Matthews-Roth, Harvard University Medical School).

“The beginning of a single human life is from a biological point of view a simple and straightforward matter—the beginning is conception” (Dr. Landrum Shettles, discovered male- and female-producing sperm).

is a human being. It is not a ‘potential’ or a ‘possible’ human being. It is an actual human being—with the potential to grow bigger and develop its capacities” (Dr. Dianne Irving, “When Does Life Begin? Scientific Myths and Scientific Facts,” *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*, 1999).

When asked in an interview, “When does life begin?,” Hadley Arkes, author of “Natural Rights and the Right to Choose,” replies, “The leading textbooks on embryology say it’s the union of two gametes, a male gamete or spermatozoon and a female gamete or mature ovum. You can phrase it different ways, but on the medical side there is no dissident on this matter. What we find is that people are not arguing over the science, they’re arguing over the social definition of a human being. People throw in all these other attributes—it has to be

women seeking an abortion have a change of heart once they see the baby through ultrasound images.

As technology continues to evolve, those who ignore the above statements are presented with a tragic dilemma: As society descends deeper into the modern “new morality,” how long can millions of potential lives be disposed of until medical science *unanimously* agrees to some irrefutable proof of when human life is worth saving? How long will it be until the public becomes so accustomed to this “constitutionally-protected right,” that it simply refuses to know the answer?

Science has clearly *proven* that life begins at CONCEPTION—when the sperm and the ovum meet. It is then only a matter of time for the physical human features to develop.

Why do so many people continue to debate nonsensical questions such as “When is the fetus’s life worth the

value of a human life?” According to the facts presented by science—it *is at conception!* At that moment, to take the life of the human fetus is morally and ethically wrong—it is outright MURDER!

Family and Marriage

Another aspect of modern society that has been deeply affected by abortion is the institution of marriage and family. Since the mid-twentieth century, the new morality has been molding society, especially the younger, more susceptible minds.

What does this new morality entail?—Premarital sex, unmarried couples living together, open sexual experimentation, tolerance and exhibition of different sexual lifestyles, constant conditioning of children to be accepting of *any* and *all* forms of sexuality—and the list goes on.

Before this new morality came on

education in classrooms as early as elementary school, by the time teens graduate from high school, many have had more sexual encounters than they can actually count.

And, as stated, any American born after 1973 is a survivor of legalized abortion—not simply a citizen of his country.

This is the NEW MORALITY—and is further promoted by many in the media and politics to appease the degenerating morals of a decadent society, paralleled by that of ancient Rome. (To learn more about the God-ordained institution of marriage, read our free booklet *The Purpose of MARRIAGE—Ever Obsolete?*)

William J. Bennett, in his book *The Broken Hearth*, writes, “Men and women today can have sex more promiscuously, more casually, and with much lower odds of pregnancy and childbirth. For the first time, on a

no longer the same. No longer do all families have a father and a mother, raising healthy, happy children to live the way God intended. In fact, God has been pushed completely out of most people’s lives. They do not want the Creator of all things—the *Originator* of human existence—to be in *their* lives, homes, schools or government. That is the true origin of the abortion debate—the governments of men have thrown out God’s instructions in His Holy Word—the Bible!

Now that you have seen what science states regarding the facts behind the origin of life, ask yourself the all-encompassing question: What does *God* think about abortion? Although society has strayed from the true God, removing Him from the picture, what does *He*—as the *AUTHOR* of human life—say on this matter?

“Couples no longer feel that they have to get married, because ‘so many people are getting divorced, we’ll just live together.’”

the world scene, couples dated for marriage, and held a high regard for the institution of marriage. Sexual relations were saved for *after* marriage. Children were a blessing to have, not a curse—as they are to many in today’s “get” society. Women would never dream of having an abortion, nevermind to maintain a career or a single lifestyle.

But it is far different today.

Couples no longer feel that they have to get married, because “so many people are getting divorced, we’ll just live together.” Today, single and even married women have the occasional abortion because they cannot handle the stress or responsibility of a child. Families are torn apart through adultery and other domestic problems, and, because of the “tolerance” taught in schools, children are unable to grasp a clear-cut definition of exactly what a family should be. Because of sex edu-

large scale, sex has been de-linked from both marriage and procreation. The results of this revolutionary shift are all around us, in our homes, on our streets, in the books we read and the movies and television shows we watch. Sexual promiscuity, heterosexual and homosexual alike, is a fact of life, incorporated into the mentality and often then behavior of even the youngest adolescents, and reinforced even by well-meaning adults through programs like the free distribution of condoms in schools. As for the by-product of increased promiscuity, the more measurable ones can be found in high rates of abortion and out-of-wedlock births, as well as the relentless march of sexual diseases both old and new.”

Again, *this is the NEW MORALITY.*

According to what is acceptable in society today, the God-ordained institution of marriage and the family is

Crime and Sin

To understand what God thinks of abortion, one must understand the difference between crime and sin. They are not the same, nor are they defined by the same set of laws.

According to most of man’s governments, abortion is a legal procedure. In countries where it is illegal, it is a crime to have an abortion, often resulting in a prison sentence. If someone holds up a bank and steals money, this is a crime. A crime is the breaking of *man’s* laws.

Sin is similar, and is defined in I John 3:4: “Whosoever commits sin transgresses also the law: for *sin is the transgression of the law.*” Sin is the breaking of *God’s* laws. Depending on where you live, it may not necessarily be a crime to have an abortion, but it is a *SIN*—and is a clear *breaking* of the Sixth Commandment, “*Thou shall not kill*” (Ex. 20:13).

In living contrary to God's ways, humanity has resorted to killing millions of innocent children—all in the name of creating his own laws, apart from God.

This has been the effect of Adam rejecting God's revealed knowledge in the Garden of Eden. Instead of learning and obeying God's laws, man chose to decide for himself right from wrong (Gen. 3:6; I John 2:16; Prov. 14:12; 16:25).

In II Timothy 3, Paul further describes how society would be in the end times—almost 6,000 years after Adam's fateful decision in the Garden: "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. *For men shall be lovers of their own selves* [abortion kills children, simply so that people are free of them], covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, *Without natural affection* [all parents

abound in the last days of mankind's rule over the earth.

When Life Begins

For 6,000 years, humanity has been cut off from God and His Holy Spirit (Isa. 59:1-2)—which imparts spiritual understanding—leaving only fallible human reasoning to solve all of man's greatest problems. In the Garden of Eden, God offered man His Spirit, which would have been available to the entire world had Adam eaten of the Tree of Life (Gen. 2-3).

Instead, Adam ate from the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 2:9), which gave him the capacity to understand only *physical* knowledge. Since then, society has lived contrary to God's *spiritual* laws, only acquiring physical knowledge. Humanity has also been in ignorance of God's spiritual Plan of salvation for humanity.

But, God has revealed His Plan for

earnest—or small portion—of God's Spirit (II Cor. 1:22; 5:5), which will change Christians into spirit-composed sons of God.

This great understanding parallels physical reproduction—the conception and birth of a human life—to spiritual reproduction—the conception and birth into spirit life. *This* is the grand purpose of human life today, and is the gospel message that Christ brought—that of birth into the FAMILY AND KINGDOM OF GOD.

After repentance and baptism, the life of a Christian begins through spiritual conception—the receiving of God's Holy Spirit. Spiritual conception is pictured by physical conception, which begins human life. Until the Christian is BORN—born in the Spirit and into the Family of God at Christ's Return—he is in a period of spiritual gestation. Just as the human fetus grows and develops within the

“Before this new morality came on the world scene, couples dated for marriage, and held a high regard for the institution of marriage.”

want the best for their child—abortion is the complete opposite], trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, *lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God* [while many profess to esteem Christian ethics and morals, they continuously go against Him]; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof...Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth [mankind has had a wealth of knowledge at his disposal, yet cannot come to agreement over the most basic understanding]" (vs. 1-5, 7).

It is this same mentality, described by Paul, which made the court ruling in 1973 to legalize abortion in the United States. This same mentality fuels both sides of the abortion debate, bringing it to ever-increasing confusion and violence, and is the same mentality that Paul stated would

humanity through His Word—the Holy Bible. This great truth cannot be understood by the most intellectual minds; neither can the God-rejecting mind—which seeks to remove God from every aspect of life today—understand it unless God allows it to.

God's supreme purpose is to reproduce Himself through man! While man is earthly, made of dust, God is spiritual, composed of eternal and inherent life. (To learn more about God's Plan to reproduce Himself, read our free book *The AWESOME POTENTIAL of Man.*)

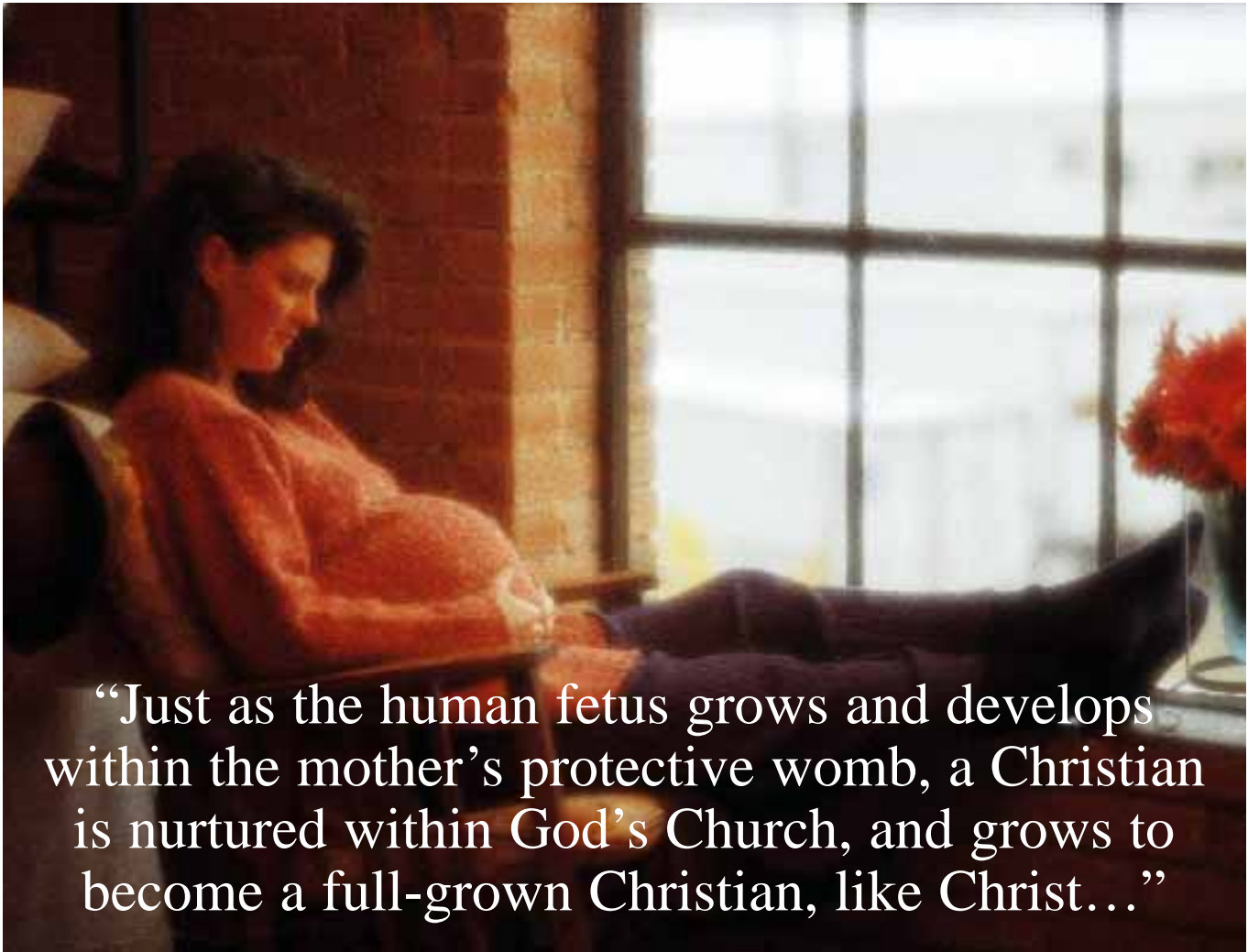
At the end of man's 6,000 years of misrule, war and misery, Christ *will* return, establishing God's kingdom and government on the earth. Christ's saints—those who obey God's Word and are in God's Church, the spiritual mother (Gal. 4:26; Heb. 12:22-23)—will then rule the earth with Him. Today, true Christians have in them an

mother's protective womb, a Christian is nurtured within God's Church, and grows to become a full-grown Christian (II Pet. 3:18; Eph. 4:12-13), like Christ our elder Brother (Rom. 8:14-17).

At Christ's Return, this small amount of God's Spirit within each Christian will change, causing the physical, carnal man to be born of the DIVINE NATURE of God's Family (I John 3:1-2).

The parallels between the physical conception and birth into a human family and the spiritual conception and birth into the God Family are not by coincidence—they were authored by God, and have always been a part of His Plan for mankind. If you understand this great truth, it also is not by coincidence—God is revealing it to you!

This is the AWESOME POTENTIAL OF MAN—so says your Bible. The truth



“Just as the human fetus grows and develops within the mother’s protective womb, a Christian is nurtured within God’s Church, and grows to become a full-grown Christian, like Christ...”

behind the modern holocaust of abortion is that vast numbers of potential sons of God are being slaughtered every day!

There Is Still Hope

As we have seen, human life begins at conception. To deliberately kill or injure such a life is MURDER, and is punishable only by God the Father—the great Lawgiver. Tragically, this world, cut off from this great understanding, continues to slaughter

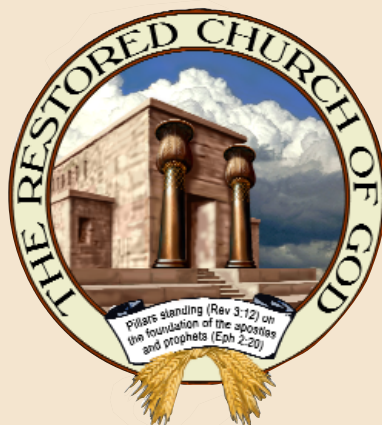
God’s greatest creations—His future sons!

But there is still hope. If you have experienced an abortion in your family, or have perhaps undergone the turmoil of this procedure yourself, God reveals that a time is coming when the world will be at peace, and all who have died will be raised to live again.

At that time, *all* who have died—including the many millions of aborted children—will be resurrected, and reunited with their families. At that

soon-coming time of *God’s kingdom*, these aborted children will get a chance to live, and learn what it means to be born into the human family—and later into the GOD FAMILY.

This is the *good news* of the wonderful world that awaits mankind. *This* is the gospel message that Christ brought to this world. If society would only give heed to this warning (Ezek. 33) and obey God, they could prepare for this time of lasting *peace* and *happiness* for all! □



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