

Sample Essay #1¹

Abortion is the most controversial issue having no grounds of agreement among two polar aspects. The argument is life and death though the uncertainty of complication makes it difficult. I don't believe in abortion because it's murder we are not the ones that can decide whether the person that a woman gives birth to should live or die. Abortion is a life or death matter, having equal supporters on both sides. Yet those supporters have one goal in common: decreasing the number of abortions and making abortion safer. Abortion is defined as the "removal of the embryo or fetus from the uterus in order to end a pregnancy" (Dictionary.com). Abortion is surrounded by many questions such as: Does the constitution defend a right to abortion? Does this include confidentiality? Is a developing fetus a being? Should the law allow abortions for rape or incest?

The Constitution permits abortion legalization. It's not in the Bill of Rights or the Constitution, but the right to privacy and reproductive rights is an "enumerated right." "The Supreme Court in 1973, Roe vs. Wade, legalized abortion in the first trimester. Since then, over 35 million women have had legal abortions". Twenty-four percent of pregnancies are aborted and forty-one percent of the abortions are teenagers in America. Just because abortion is legal doesn't mean it's okay. Slavery was legal over 150 years ago but that didn't mean it was right.

When a fetus starts living can't be determined but according to facts, the heart beats after 16-25 days and the brain works after 40 days. Some people think that after conception you become a person whereas others think otherwise. But suppose you have 50 pills on a table and one is poisonous. Would you randomly swallow a pill not caring if it's is a normal pill or poison? No, you value your life so why not a fetus? The fetus could be alive and abortion could be murder. Because abortion is legal, whether or not the fetus lives to be born depends on people and whether the unborn are protected by rights.

¹ Modified from <http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20081130193305AAHUtKY>

Abortion for rape is another controversial topic. Babies born of this act are not intended since the sexual act is forced. Many say killing these babies is okay but is it? Pro-life is a group that goes against abortion. They claim human life begins at conception. They believe the unborn deserve life. Even for rape, they believe the child shouldn't be punished for a wrong act.

Abortion may be legal in the US but Pro-Lifers hope to make an amendment. They also support adoption. A strong base for the Pro-Life group is religion. Most of the Pro-Lifers are Christian and statistics show that the less religious a person is, the more likely they are to be Pro-Choice.

Pro-Choice believes women have the freedom to choose abortion. This group believes abortion is a personally protected choice. They think if abortion is illegal, it will increase in "back alley" abortions, or self abortions or worse, the mother may kill the baby, as some young mothers have. They believe the fetus is a "mass of tissue" (Wilke, 1) instead of human. Pro-Choice believes personhood begins after birth. They think kids should be wanted and reducing unwanted children will lower child abuse. They also believe the world is way overpopulated. But since when does a person's life depend on the amount of people in the world?

Rubric Application

GRAMMAR: .25

LOGIC: .5

RHETORIC: 1.25

Total = **2**

Explanation:

Grammar: Sentence structure ranges from awkward to incoherent and grammatically incompetent. Clear lack of editing.

Logic: No clear thesis statement. The arguments of this essay aren't clearly developed and seem not to have any logical order. Many generalized assumptions are made without explanation or justification. Terms aren't explained or clarified.

Rhetoric: Rhetorical devices are present, but very clumsily executed. Transitions between paragraphs aren't clear. Sources are utilized and quoted, but not very effectively or gracefully (and without clear citation). The introduction doesn't clearly present the paper's overall purpose and there is no actual concluding paragraph to the essay.