

life matters

Roe: What We Didn't Know

Vol. 13, No. 2

a publication of

**Life Matters
WORLDWIDE**

P.O. Box 3158

Grand Rapids, MI 49501

(616) 257-6800

1-800-968-6086

lifemattersww.org

In the infamous *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision, Justice Harry Blackmun wrote that we simply don't know when life begins, so he wouldn't dwell on that point. If theologians and philosophers couldn't agree, he said, how can anyone know for sure?

Since that time, however, our knowledge of unborn human life and abortion has grown almost as fast as a child developing in the womb. For instance, back in 1973 ...

- **We didn't know** much about what preborn babies look like or how they develop. Today the Internet is full of 3-D images and videos of living embryos and fetuses in the womb.
- **We didn't know** babies could be diagnosed and treated while still in the womb.
- **We didn't know** that babies undergoing abortion feel pain.
- **We didn't know** babies born prematurely could survive and thrive through technology and patient loving care.
- **We didn't know** the harm that smoking, substance abuse, and poor nutrition can do to babies in the womb.

- **We didn't know** what abortion would do to women. In 1975 researchers began documenting the severe emotional toll abortion is exacting on many women. Since then, many studies have documented a problem called "post-abortion syndrome."
- **We didn't know** that abortion would be linked to breast cancer in women.
- **We didn't know** abortion would become such a common procedure, with over one million performed each year.
- **We didn't know** nearly half of all abortions every year would be performed on women who'd already had one or more, or that abortion would be used as birth control.
- **We didn't know** other nations would follow our lead and also legalize abortion, resulting in the deaths of 50 million or more babies worldwide each year.
- **We didn't know** abortion would be used to eliminate children of the "wrong" gender, or to "prevent" minor birth defects.
- **We didn't know** the devaluation of human life would lead to human cloning.
- **We didn't know** scientists would find a way to generate human life in the laboratory, and experiment using human embryonic cells.
- **We didn't know** the legalization of abortion would lead people to believe they should also have a right to die.

**What we
didn't know
40 years ago
HURTS**

We know more now, but what are we doing about it in 2013?

Life Matters Worldwide began nearly 30 years ago. We're still committed to helping God's people articulate the biblical pro-life message in word and deed. May we help you with a biblical pro-life ministry that changes lives? Call us, or visit our website today.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES – For more information on prenatal development, visit the *Endowment for Human Development* at ehd.org. For more on what abortion does to women, see www.afterabortion.org. For interesting analyses of abortion statistics, go to www.johnstonsarchive.net/policy/abortion/index.html.