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P.O. Box 3158, Grand Rapids, MI 49501 ■ (616) 257-6800, 1-800-968-6086  
www.lifemattersww.org ■ store.lifemattersww.org ■ staff@lifemattersww.org

## Real Men Save Babies

### SHOULD MEN SPEAK UP ABOUT ABORTION? OR IS IT FOR ONLY WOMEN TO DECIDE?

Some men give women little choice but to abort their babies, yet it's those who try to protect women and the unborn from abortion that are accused of waging "war on women."

Abortion advocates welcome men to speak out as long as they support "reproductive freedom" and "a woman's right to choose." They overlook the ways abortion oppresses women. There *is* a war on women, but not the one described by abortion proponents.

- In some countries, abortion and infanticide are used to suppress the female population and the overall value of women in society. Estimates of "missing girls" due to sex-selection abortion run as high as 60 to 160 million.<sup>1</sup>
- Abortion itself endangers the well-being of women.<sup>2</sup>
- Sometimes women are assaulted for refusing abortion. Did you know murder is the leading cause of death among pregnant women?<sup>3</sup>

Too often a woman's abortion decision lacks any resemblance to "freedom of choice" or an exercise of "rights." In fact, a majority of women having abortions (64%) report feeling pressured, forced, rushed, or insufficiently informed prior to an abortion.<sup>4</sup>

Women may be coerced by a husband, partner, parent, doctor, friend, family member, employer, or person in authority. They feel coerced when they're misinformed about abortion or not told of alternatives. Coercion also takes the form of exploitation and blackmail, loss of a job or home, withdrawal of emotional or economic support, and too often escalates to violence.

Teenagers are especially vulnerable to coercion, and its effects can be more severe. They're more likely to suffer psychologically after an abortion.<sup>5</sup>

## WHAT CAN BE DONE?

1. It's time to recommit ourselves – men included – to defending the weak and helpless. This is a biblical virtue that mirrors the character of God.<sup>6</sup>
2. It's crucial to reach men with the message of life and sexual purity because women aren't the only ones who are "abortion-minded." Nor are women alone in suffering spiritually and emotionally after abortion.
3. What about those who've failed to protect a baby? Is there forgiveness and hope for them? In Jesus' name, YES!<sup>7</sup>

A battle has raged over 40 years, but not men *against* women. Men are welcome in pro-life ministry! They make a difference for life by working, praying, and giving alongside women all over the world.

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1. "Women in an Insecure World: Violence against Women, Facts, Figures, and Analysis," Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, [http://www.unicef.org/emerg/files/women\\_insecure\\_world.pdf](http://www.unicef.org/emerg/files/women_insecure_world.pdf)
  2. "Recent Research: Abortion's Harm to Women," compiled by The Elliot Institute, <http://www.theunchoice.com/pdf/FactSheets/RecentResearch.pdf>
  3. Palladino, et al., "Homicide and Suicide During the Perinatal Period: Findings From the National Violent Death Reporting System," *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, November 2011, 118:5, pp. 1056-1063. [http://journals.lww.com/greenjournal/Fulltext/2011/11000/Homicide\\_and\\_Suicide\\_During\\_the\\_Perinatal\\_Period.13.aspx](http://journals.lww.com/greenjournal/Fulltext/2011/11000/Homicide_and_Suicide_During_the_Perinatal_Period.13.aspx)
  4. "Forced Abortion in America: A Special Report," The Elliot Institute, <http://www.theunchoice.com/pdf/FactSheets/ForcedAbortions.pdf>
  5. "Risk Factors Predicting Post-Abortion Psychological Sequelae," The Elliot Institute, <http://www.afterabortion.org/riskfactors.html>
  6. Psalm 82:3-4, Proverbs 31:9, Isaiah 1:17, Jeremiah 5:28; Ps. 10:17-18 and 146:9, 2 Samuel 22:33, Prov. 10:29, Is. 25:4, Jer. 16:19.
  7. Acts 4:12, Romans 5:8-10 and 10:13, 1 John 1:9.

### Additional resources:

- "Wrongly Accused: Seeing through WAR ON WOMEN rhetoric in order to address the real issues facing women today," Right to Life of Michigan, [http://rtl.org/prolife\\_issues/waronwomen.html](http://rtl.org/prolife_issues/waronwomen.html).
- "Do's and Don'ts for Men," Women's Resource Center, Mobile, AL - <http://www.wrcmobile.org/Pages/For-Men/>
- "The Rights of Unmarried Fathers: State Statutes," Child Welfare Information Gateway, [https://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws\\_policies/statutes/putative.pdf](https://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/laws_policies/statutes/putative.pdf)
- Men and Abortion Fact Sheet, Alliance for Post-Abortion Research and Training, [http://www.standapart.org/index.php?route=information/information&information\\_id=8](http://www.standapart.org/index.php?route=information/information&information_id=8); "An Online Pilot Study to Investigate the Effects of Abortion on Men," by Catherine T. Coyle, RN, PhD, Reclaiming Fatherhood website, <http://www.menandabortion.info/10-research.html>.