To be pro-life is to be pro-women because abortion is harmful to women.

At Life we’re calling for:

- Increased help and support for every pregnant woman
- Increased education about the harm abortion causes to women
- Increased knowledge about the humanity of the unborn child
- A society which gives equal rights and protection to its smallest and most vulnerable members

Why be pro-life?

Because...

- to be pro-life is to:
  - be compassionate
  - realise abortion hurts women in many ways
  - provide loving and caring alternatives
  - understand the scientific truth that human life begins at fertilisation
  - uphold every human being’s fundamental right to life
  - be anti-discriminatory
  - realise abortion is not a ‘necessary evil’ and to work towards a world where no woman should ever feel she has to choose an abortion

Psychologists’ studies show this:

“Abortion was associated with increased risks of mental health problems, no increase was evident for those having unwanted pregnancies that came to term” (Fergusson, 2008)

At age 25, 42% of the women who had an abortion in Ferguson’s cohort had experienced major depression in the last four years.

Pregnant? Need to talk?
Call: 0808 802 5433

The great early feminists knew this:

“Abortion is the ultimate exploitation of women” Alice Paul (Author of US Equal Rights Amendment 1923)
THE FACTS & STATS

ABORTION LIMIT ENGLAND & WALES

• Abortion is illegal in the UK under the Offences Against the Persons Act 1861. The Abortion Act 1967 permits doctors to perform abortions under certain circumstances.

• The legal time limit for most abortions is 24 weeks, but abortion is permitted up until birth in the case of fetal abnormality or if the mother’s physical or mental health is at ‘serious risk’.

2016 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STATISTICS

Total: England & Wales = 190,406

Including 4,810 non-residents
All other figures given are for residents only

1: every 3 minutes
That’s 732 per working day

38% repeat abortions
58 women had at least 8 abortions

98% abortions funded by NHS

141 Selective Reduction Abortions
in cases of twins, triplets and other multiples

United Nations’ Declaration of Human Rights

Article 3: “Everyone has the Right to Life”

Article 7: “All are equal before the law and are entitled without discrimination to equal protection of the law”

Abortion For Disability

3,208 abortions were performed under Ground E, Abortion Act 1967

90% of babies found to have Down’s Syndrome in the womb are aborted.

*There is a substantial risk that if the child were born it would suffer from such physical or mental abnormalities as to be seriously handicapped.*

DOH Statistics state it is likely there is a “significant undercount” presented in recorded statistics for abortions for disability.

Abortion For Disability have gone up by 39% since 2011.

3,766 + 648 = 4,414

706 for Down’s Syndrome
9 for Cleft Palate

THE JOURNEY OF THE UNBORN CHILD

• It is a scientific fact that new human life begins at fertilisation. When the sperm and egg join together a new genetically unique human being is created.

At fertilisation one’s DNA has already determined characteristics such as eye colour, hair colour and height. It is from this point that we continue to grow into who we are today and who we will be in the future.

For most abortions, the UK time limit is 24 weeks. Babies born at 24 weeks have a 50 - 70% chance of surviving

97% of abortions were performed under Ground C, Abortion Act 1967

“The continuance of the pregnancy would involve risk, greater than if the pregnancy were terminated, of injury to the physical or mental health of the woman.”

97% abortions were performed due to mental health risk

Only 60 were performed due to physical health risk

97% of abortions were performed under

Ground C, Abortion Act 1967

“Everyone has the Right to Life”

Department of Health Statistics

in cases of twins, triplets and other multiples

FERTILISATION

Unique Human DNA formed

7 weeks

11 weeks

12 weeks

19 weeks

24 weeks

Brain waves detected

Has nails and unique fingerprints and can respond to touch

Responds to sounds and can hear mother’s voice

BIRTH
If you’re pregnant and need to talk:

Call our helpline: 0800 802 5433
Or text ‘LIFECARE’, followed by your message to 88020.
Visit our website: lifecharity.org.uk
Contact us: 01926 312 272
Email: sam@lifecharity.org.uk

Pregnancy Matters™
Here for you whatever your pregnancy related problem.
Need to talk? We’re here to listen.

Life Matters®
Our team delivers dynamic presentations and workshops across the UK. We promote the positive message of Life’s services, and we educate the next generation about life inside the womb, the humanity of the unborn child and other life-related topics.

To book a talk please visit: lifecharity.org.uk/life-matters
Educational resources for students and teachers can be downloaded for free.

To keep up to date with all issues subscribe to Life eNews by visiting lifecharity.org.uk/get-involved
Follow us: @lifecharity /lifecharity
Follow Pregnancy Matters™: /pregnancymatters /pregnancymatters

• Counsellors & skilled listeners provide a safe space to support you whatever your situation.
• Life’s network of supported housing provides upskilling, emotional and practical support.
• Life volunteers distribute baby equipment.

Get in touch
Follow Pregnancy Matters™:

LifeBeforeBirth
Life After Birth

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Fertilisation
Unique human DNA is formed, deciding the skin, hair and eye colour, talents, voice, smile and sex of the baby.

Human embryo (Greek)
meaning growing human.

3 weeks
The heart starts to beat.

By 3 weeks the brain is starting to send messages around the body and the baby is over a hundred times bigger than at fertilisation.

By 8 weeks all organs are in place and the body is essentially complete.

By 10 weeks the baby now has nails and unique fingerprints and can make a fist.

By 11 weeks the part of the brain responsible for memory is starting to form.

By 12 weeks the baby responds to touch. The baby is very active, kicking and doing somersaults.

Fetus (Latin)
meaning young one.

7 weeks
By 6 weeks the heart starts to beat.

3D ultrasound scans show recognisably human behaviours: smiling, yawning, hiccupping, sucking fingers and toes.

11 weeks
By 13 weeks the baby is sucking and swallowing the amniotic fluid to exercise the lungs.

By 15 weeks the baby may move around in the womb upon hearing music.

By 16 weeks the mother may feel the baby move for the first time and the baby can hear their mother’s voice.

12 weeks

17 weeks is a crucial time for the baby’s senses, which enables their understanding of the outside world.

By the beginning of the 3rd trimester they are able to respond to taste, sound and light.

With proper medical care babies born at 24 weeks have a 50-70% chance of survival.

19 weeks

Full Term
3D ultrasound scans show recognisably human behaviours: smiling, yawning, hiccupping, sucking fingers and toes.

By 32 weeks the memory is working.

By 37 weeks the baby is considered full term.

13 weeks
By 13 weeks the baby is sucking and swallowing the amniotic fluid to exercise the lungs.

By 15 weeks the baby may move around in the womb upon hearing music.

By 16 weeks the mother may feel the baby move for the first time and the baby can hear their mother’s voice.

14 weeks

18 weeks

By 18 weeks the baby is about as big as a lemon.

The baby is about 43cm (17in) long and weighs up to 1kg (2.2lb).

16 weeks

17 weeks

15 weeks

19 weeks

Birth
By 37 weeks the baby is considered full term.