

G.L.O.B.A.L.
JUSTICE



BIBLICAL JUSTICE: A TO X
ABORTION

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2017

Video
Guide

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Video Guide

Presenter: Paige Comstock Cunningham, Executive Director, Center for Bioethics & Human Dignity. Ms. Cunningham is also a Trustee of Taylor University, an affiliate professor at Trinity Law School and Trinity Graduate School. She was an adjunct instructor at Wheaton College for 8 years, and is a past president and board chair of Americans United for Life.

Moderator: Sosamma Samuel-Burnett, Founder/President, G.L.O.B.A.L. Justice

I. Topic Summary:

Abortion is one of the most debated topics in the U.S. and is a growing concern worldwide. Those who support the “right to life” do so on the basis of biblical, human rights and human dignity standards. Those who support women’s “right to choose” do so based on reproductive and women’s rights based on constitutional protections. Much of the debate centers on whether an unborn child can and should be concerned a person with inherent value as a person.

While reported abortions have been decreasing in the United States since 2011, as of 2015 it is estimated that 906,000 abortions occurred based on available data. California, New York had the highest incidences and Wyoming and the Dakotas had the least. Abortions occur disproportionately among women of color, particularly African-American women and also among economically disadvantaged women.

Internationally, abortion affects millions of women and raises related cultural concerns. Infanticide and specifically genricide are more common in other countries, particularly

in the developing world, China and other non-Western cultures. In addition, there are various health and societal concerns associated with abortion in various parts of the globe.

This video discusses some of the key aspects of the abortion debate, the basis for varying perspectives, and the impact of abortion both in the U.S. and globally.

II. Key Biblical Verses:

- Psalm 139:13-16
- Jeremiah: 1:5
- Psalm 127: 3-5
- Genesis 1:27
- Psalm 8:5-7
- Job 31:15
- Psalm 22:10
- Isaiah 49:15

III. Key Constitutional and Human Rights Standards:

- Declaration of Independence Preamble
- US Constitution: Preamble, Amendment I, Amendment XIV
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- International Covenant on Economic Social & Cultural Rights
- International Convention on the Rights of the Child

IV. Key Resources

- Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity
- National Right to Life
- Americans United for Life
- Live Action

- Center for Disease Control & Prevention, Abortion Findings and Report:
https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/data_stats/abortion.htm
- "Global Women's Health, Commodification and the Abortion Debate" by Michelle Kirtley:
<https://cbhd.org/content/global-women%E2%80%99s-health-commodification-and-abortion-debate>

V. **Questions for Study & Reflection:**

- Why is Abortion a biblical justice concern?
- Why is Abortion a global justice concern?
- What is the biblical basis for supporting the human life and particularly of the unborn?
- What is the constitutional basis for supporting the life of the unborn and women's rights?
- Why is abortion continued to be used when various forms of birth control are readily and freely available?
- Why is abortion disproportionately affecting people of color, those in economically disadvantaged communities, and in the developing countries?
- How can Christians and others advocate for the unborn while still supporting women's rights?

