



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

### Education

### Prayer

### Action

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## This week's Topic: Abortion Does NOT Help Poor Women

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**Education:** On the order of 30% of abortions are chosen because of economic reasons.<sup>1</sup> Whether it is a married couple or a single mother already struggling to provide for children already born, adding the burden of medical bills, long term responsibility for another child, and perhaps loss of income, may seem to be too much to bear. "Preventing" the arrival of another child by means of abortion may seem to be the only reasonable and even responsible choice. But do most parents consider eliminating their other children when times are tough? No, of course not! They do the best they can to keep the family together and work for a better future. A child within the womb is already alive and a part of the family as well. Economic success is certainly not the only factor to determine quality of life! Knowing that you are doing your best to love your family and lead them to following the Lord is worth more than economic security.

**Abortion can actually contribute to poverty.** Studies have shown that detrimental psychological effects of abortion on women can make them less able to be successful in their school and career, less able to maintain a permanent relationship, more likely to have problems with drugs or alcohol, and likely to eventually become a single mother after repeat abortions.<sup>2</sup> All these effects contribute to long term poverty.

1. Johnston, Wm. Robert, "Reasons Given for Having Abortions in the United States", retrieved from <http://www.johnstonsarchive.net/policy/abortion/abreasons.html#9> on 8/18/11.
2. Reardon, David C. "Abortion and the Feminization of Poverty", retrieved from [http://afterabortion.org/1999/abortion-and-the-feminization-of-poverty/#N\\_1](http://afterabortion.org/1999/abortion-and-the-feminization-of-poverty/#N_1) on 5/6/12, originally published in *The Post-Abortion Review* 1(3), Fall 1993.



**Prayer:** Dear Father God, please have mercy on families who are burdened with economic difficulties. Help them to have faith and hope in You, that You will provide for their needs. Help them to see a child as always a gift and a blessing for their family, real and alive from the moment of conception within the womb. Help them to overcome any pride that comes in the way of finding and accepting the help they need to care for their family. Help all of us to be generous in sharing our resources with those in need, so that all your children can be provided for.



**Action:** Families who are tempted by abortion because of poverty can be helped in many ways by pregnancy centers. Ultrasound can show them the humanity of their child within the womb. Referrals can be made to help the family find the help they need with medical care, food, and other items. The pregnancy center itself can also provide baby clothes, diapers and other needed items. Please consider supporting your local pregnancy center with a donation of baby items or financial support. See [www.prcfortbend.org](http://www.prcfortbend.org).