



## Christian Voices for Life

### Weekly Pro-Life

Education

Prayer

Action

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### What about Rape? How Do You Answer?

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**Education:** Monica Kelsey, although very happy with her adoptive family, was eager to see her birth records when she turned 18. She was shocked to find that her birth mother had been brutally raped. In 1972 her life was protected by law, but at the advice of her own mother, her birth mother did go to a back-alley abortion clinic before changing her mind to have her baby. Today Monica is a firefighter and medic who has saved more lives than she can count. As her birth mother was dying, Monica was able to be there with her and hold her hand. She is married and has three children and thanks her mother as well as God for giving her the gift of life. (1)

Many people hold onto the justification of abortion in the “hard cases” of rape and incest, feeling compassion for the women who been victimized. And when faced with this question, we want to immediately establish the common ground of empathy for the rape victim – “Rape is a terrible thing to happen to any woman.” However, the consensus opinion of women who became pregnant after sexual assault was that they **did not want abortions** – that baby is her child, too, not just the rapist’s child. If women did abort in response to pressure, they reported that the abortion only increased their experience of grief and trauma. (2) Those who chose life did not regret their decision. “Many of these women said that their children had brought peace and healing to their lives.”(3) God can indeed bring good out of evil.

However a child is conceived, he or she is still a precious new life, and does not deserve to be killed because of the crime of the father. In the case of incest, an abortion in addition serves to hide the sexual abuse rather than give the exposure that may lead to ending the abuse.

1. <http://www.faithit.com/this-4-min-story-could-totally-change-the-way-you-look-at-abortion-in-rape-cases/>

2. Reardon, David, Julie Makimaa and Amy Sobie (ed), *Victims and Victors: Speaking Out About Their Pregnancies, Abortions, and Children Resulting from Sexual Assault*, Acorn Books, 2000.

3. Reardon, David, “Rape and Incest Victims Reject and Regret Abortions: New Book Surveys 192 Victims”, retrieved on 9/3/2019 from <http://www.afterabortion.org/news/Victims.html>



**Prayer:** Dear Father God, please have mercy on women and girls who suffer sexual assault or abuse. We thank You for the biological protection that makes pregnancy in these cases rare. We trust in your plan, Lord; we know that You do not make mistakes! We know that You have a beautiful plan for every child that You create; You make them in your own image and give them as a gift to the world, with the ability to build up your kingdom. Help mothers who become pregnant in these circumstances to accept their children and love them, whether they make an adoption plan or parent themselves. Help everyone who encounters these children to treat them with respect as the special creations of your love.



**Action:** The next time someone says that they condone abortion in the case of rape or incest, first agree that rape is a terrible thing, but the majority of women in that situation do NOT WANT abortions! The child is HER child as well as his. He or she was created by God in His image, and God has a plan for their lives. Tell them about Monica Kelsey!