

Juliette Orr

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Pro-Life Speech

61 million. According to the Guttmacher Institute, that is how many American lives have been lost to abortion since Roe vs. Wade in 1973. Those lost 61 million have created a ripple effect; mothers, fathers, and entire families suffer from the loss of that baby and the effects of the abortion. That's 61 million mothers, 61 million fathers, 61 million families whose lives are forever irreversibly changed.

Fourteen-year-old Lyn walked into the abortion clinic uncertain, scared, and broken. Lyn squeezed the nurse's hand as she counted backwards to ten, and then... a few short hours later, Lyn's "problem" was gone, and she left the clinic with an empty uterus.

A few years later, Lyn became pregnant again. She was told that she could not go to college, get married, or have a successful career if she kept this baby, so Lyn had another abortion. Lyn eventually did get married and tried to have a baby with her new husband, but her two abortions had done their damage. Two miscarriages later, Lyn unsuccessfully attempted suicide, believing that she was being punished for her previous abortions.

As a way of dealing with her guilt, Lyn joined a pro-choice post-abortion support group. However, Lyn quickly found that mourning a child lost to abortion was not tolerated. Lyn was told by everyone in her life that her sorrow, regret, and anguish were irrelevant. Her mother, her teachers, her friends, her boyfriend, and, yes, even the pro-choice support group told her to "get over it." These same people had pressured Lyn to get an abortion,

yet after the death of her child, they offered her no support, no outlet for her grief. Lyn later said, “I knew grieving a clump of cells was wrong, because every authority figure in my life had told me so. I had to be a normal person, and normal people didn’t grieve abortion.”

Abortion is not something that women can just “get over.” Women who have had abortions have to deal with the consequences of their choice every day, and it often rips their families apart. Abortion means a lifetime of depression, guilt, self-hatred, and regret.

However, abortion is not, as many say, a “woman’s issue.” There is another, forgotten victim of abortion: the father. Millions of fathers desperately want to hold and raise their child, but are legally powerless to stop their own baby from being murdered. Grandparents, too, suffer from seeing their grandchildren aborted and their sons’ or daughters’ lives ruined.

When Lisa’s son told her that he and his girlfriend were expecting a baby, she was elated! She was pregnant as well and was excited that her daughter and her grandchild would be the same age. Her son, Patrick, was absolutely thrilled to be a father, but his girlfriend decided to abort the baby. Patrick and Lisa both desperately tried to talk her out of it, and offered her their utmost support in this pregnancy, but it was futile. Lisa came home on Sunday evening to find her son sobbing uncontrollably: the abortion had been scheduled for the next morning. As Lisa held her son, her own heart broke at the thought that this precious unborn baby would never have the chance to be held by her father or doted on by her grandmother. 19 years later, Lisa’s pain is as fresh now as it was then. Everytime she sees her own daughter, she is reminded of the lost grandbaby that she couldn’t save.

Fathers and grandparents are deeply impacted by abortion, but what about the baby’s siblings? Many will never know that they were even supposed to have a younger sister or an older brother. Although they may not have even existed when their sibling was aborted, that lost

brother or sister leaves a hole in their lives that is impossible to fill. As one survivor sibling said, “Suddenly I found myself thinking about my little brother! I became disoriented and lost control of the car for a moment as I burst into tears having lost him. I was astounded by my reaction, but I couldn’t shake the sadness and longing to have known him.” The harsh reality of abortion leaves a child reeling, forever wondering what life they could have had if the sibling was in it. Survivor siblings commonly struggle with intense survivor’s guilt, realizing that the only difference between them and their aborted brother or sister is whether or not they were wanted.

Abortion completely destroys family life, leaving in its wake a trail of dead babies and dead hearts. How many aunts, uncles, cousins, and siblings has abortion taken from families? How many brothers and sisters are robbed of the chance to be a part of their siblings’ lives because their own lives were extinguished before birth? How many daddys will never get to meet their baby girl or boy? The answer? 61 million. Abortion has killed future husbands and wives, completely destroying their potential for producing new life. Because of abortion, entire generations will now never exist, and we are left with generations of broken families. Broken mothers, fathers, grandparents and siblings, whose lives are forever altered by the tragedy of abortion. 61 million human beings have been unnecessarily slaughtered due to abortion. But how many lives are impacted by those 61 million aborted? *That* number is impossible to count.

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