Life Lines

Respect Life Newsletter - No. 16

Does "the Pill" Kill?



The short answer is yes!

The Birth Control Pill (and IUDs) kills babies. The medical community has known this for 50 years. In 1963 the Health Department published this statement: "All the measures which impair the viability of the zygote at any time between the instant of fertilization and the completion of labor constitute, in the strict sense, procedures for inducing abortion."

This is how it happens... The birth control pill works in three ways:

- 1. It can prevent the release of an egg from the ovary (ovulation). However, while using the pill, women can and do experience breakthrough ovulation meaning that an egg is released and available for fertilization.
- 2. It causes the cervical changes which can prevent fertilization, but not always...
- 3. ...AND it changes the lining of the uterus. This makes it difficult, if not impossible, for the five-to-seven-day-old baby to attach to the lining, where he/she would receive the nourishment needed to grow. If the baby does not successfully attach to the lining, he/she dies and is expelled. This process is known as a chemical abortion. The fact that it can occur as a result of taking birth control pills is why the pill is frequently referred to as an abortifacient.

The American Life League computed that from 1973 to 2003 approximately 6,605,000 to 11,725,000 chemical abortions occurred in the United States *annually*. During this period, a total of 196,325,000 to 324,325,000 chemical abortions wiped out the equivalent of the *entire* United States population!



Q: How does the pill kill babies?

A: This can happen because the pill and other birth control products can prevent implantation from occurring. When the preborn baby implants in the womb, the baby establishes a connection with the mother so that he or she can receive the sustenance needed to grow. If the preborn baby cannot implant in the mother's womb, he or she will die.

Q: Why aren't we better informed about the fact that the pill can kill babies?

A: In 1965, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) stepped in and issued a medical bulletin that "officially" changed the definition of conception from the union of sperm and egg to implantation: "Conception is the implantation of a fertilized ovum [egg]." Once that happened, it was easy for pill manufacturers and other organizations, such as Planned Parenthood, to cover up how the pill works and only mention that it "prevents pregnancy" when, in fact, women have become pregnant while being on the pill.

Q: How do you know when life begins?

A: It is a proven, scientific fact that when the human egg and human sperm unite, fertilization occurs and a new human being is created.

Q: Is it OK to take the pill for my acne or other health reasons?

A: Although the pill may have some minor benefits, the fact that it can kill preborn babies and cause harmful side effects for the woman outweighs its minor benefits. Because the pill weakens the immune system, it can cause bacterial infections and can make a woman more susceptible to the AIDS virus. It can also cause the following side effects: pelvic inflammatory disease, infertility, cervical cancer, ectopic pregnancy, shrinking of the womb, breast cancer, blood clots, birth defects in children conceived while their mothers are on the pill, stroke, weight gain and much more. ^{2,3,4}

Q: Isn't it better to be on the pill when you are sexually active?

A: Better for whom? The pill does not prevent you from getting a sexually transmitted disease, it is not 100 percent effective in preventing pregnancy and you could conceive a child who gets chemically aborted before the baby's presence is even known to you. Moreover, sexual activity outside of marriage is seriously wrong.

Q: Is the pill dangerous to my health?

A: Absolutely! There are links between the birth control pill and breast cancer, cervical cancer, deep vein thrombosis (DVT), infertility, birth defects, blood clots, pelvic inflammatory disease, ectopic pregnancy, shrinking of the womb, stroke, weight gain and much more. ^{6,7,8}

Sources:

- 1 American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Terminology Bulletin (September 1965).
- 2 John Wilks, A Consumer's Guide to the Pill and Other Drugs, 3rd ed. (Mandaluyong, Philippines: National Book Store, Inc., 2000).
- 3 "QuiverFull Pill Fact Sheet," http://www.quiverfull.com/birth control/fact sheet on pill side effect.html.
- 4 Bogomir M. Kuhar, PharmD, FASCP, Infant Homicides through Contraceptives, 5th ed. (Bardstown, KY: Eternal Life, 2003).
- 5 All quotes from this decision are taken from Griswold v. Connecticut, 381 U.S. 479 (1965), http://supreme.justia.com/us/381/479/case.html.
- 6 "OuiverFull Pill Fact Sheet," (see Note 3).
- 7 "The Truth about 'the Pill,'" http://catholic2.tripod.com/catholic2/.
- 8 Kuhar, Infant Homicides through Contraceptives, (see Note 4).