

Online Catechism Lesson 14: Life Begins in the Womb, Abortion, and Aborted Fetal Cells

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Life begins in the womb but not at conception

1. Life begins in the womb when God creates the soul within its body, which is probably forty days after the body is created, after conception.
2. Hence beware of the heresy that life begins at conception, when the male seed fertilizes the female egg.

For detailed information, see RJMI book *Life Begins in the Womb*.

Against abortion

3. The mortal sin of abortion is the deliberate termination of pregnancy by surgery, pills (such as the morning-after pill), potions, injections, or any other way. Hence anyone who believes in, procures, defends, promotes, or supports abortion is guilty of mortal sin.
4. However, it is not murder and thus not sinful when a choice must be made to spare either the mother or the infant in cases in which only one can survive the birthing process.
5. If an abortion takes place before the soul is created within the body, the following mortal sins are committed by those who obtain, participate in, or condone these abortions:
 - a) The mortal sin of contraception
 - b) The mortal sin of denying that procreation, the begetting of children, is the primary purpose of relations between man and woman¹
 - c) The mortal sin of stealing a body that was being prepared for a soul to enter into. You can call the offenders “body snatchers.”
 - d) The mortal sin of unjust mutilation, which is a mortal sin against the Fifth Commandment
 - e) The mortal sin of murder by intent for those who obtain, participate in, or condone abortion and believe that life begins at conception. Even though murder is not committed, they believe it is committed because they believe that life begins at conception.
6. Catholics who procure, support, or defend abortion in any way incur automatic minor excommunication even when there is no soul in the body when it is aborted.

Products that use cells or other body parts of aborted infants are mortally sinful

7. Products that use cells or other body parts of aborted infants are mortally sinful.

¹ See RJMI book *Natural Family Planning to Prevent Conception Is Contraception: Procreation Is the Primary Purpose of Sexual Intercourse*.

For example, any product the used stem cells of aborted infants in its production or testing phase is a mortally sinful product.

8. Anyone who knows a product used cells or other body parts of aborted infants in its production or testing phase but nevertheless promotes, defends, supports, or uses it is guilty of the mortal sin of murder.
9. The products of companies that used stem cells of aborted infants in its production or testing phase but no longer do so because the company stopped it are no longer sinful.
10. If a brand named product uses stem cells of aborted infants in its testing phase but the generic product does not, then the generic product is not mortally sinful but only the brand name.
11. If an independent lab tests a brand name product with stem cells of aborted infants, then only the lab is guilty of mortal sin but not the brand name product, as long as the brand name product did not use stem cells of aborted infants in its production or testing phase.

For the glory of God; in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Michael, St. Joseph, Ss. Joachim and Anne, St. John the Baptist, the other angels and saints; and for the salvation of men

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Mary's Little Remnant

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