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**APPENDIX A –  
375 Women Injured By Late Term Abortion**

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**MISSISSIPPI WOMEN**

M.B., Nita Balsley, D.K., Sonia, Amanda Orick, Ann Reed, S.D., C.S., A.D.

**OTHER WOMEN**

Jannis L. De Land, Diane Szurleys, Melanie, Cyndi Saunders, C.H., Jamie Casey, Donna Barham, Mary Fainn, Tijuanna Adetunji, G.B., Karen Douglas, D.G., V.M., J.R., Twyla, Chanda Smiley, Deborah, Amy McLeod, M.C., Cheryl Hall, N.W., Vickie Jackson, Michelle, Sue, Wanda Couch, Jennifer Ingram, Carol Owens Vaughn, Linda Jackson, Linda Nunley, A.H., P.R.C., Brooklyn, K.C., E.M., Deanna Ekins, Jennifer Brannon, Jessica, P.A., S.B., Loretta, Jillian, C.J., Barbara, Stephanie, Felicia Leija, Rita Vehon, Christina, Sandra, Cynthia Chinn, Barbara Miller, Renee Villani, Margaret Cavolina, Mayen Handy, Sally Swanson, Mary Anne Sambo, L.P., Barbara L. Cox, Glenda Day, Tanya, Lynda, Danette Nadine Martin, Hanya Wren Townes, Darlene M. Turner, Laurie Wright, Lisa, J.B., Sandra West, S.M., M.A., Lisa, V., Taylor Orona, Christine Peterson, Susan Page, Charlene Hoyer, Elizabeth, Joyce Crommett, Bonnie Leverson, Maralyn Smith, Marie Knapp, N.R., Angela Sisneroz, S.J.P., Gail Levin, Michelle Ciotta, Chrissy Helmer, Debbie Pennington, Janice Jackson, Consuelo Shurtleff, Donna, Terri Blackburn, Jennifer Trier, Kelley, Heather Sparks, Sarah

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Walker, C.P., Barbara, Ruthann Doyle, D.L., K.A., Barbara Riggs, Heather Rivera, P.P., Cyndy Melnyk, M.A., Lisa, P.M., M.E., Jeanne Scott, Elizabeth, Judy Bowles, Lorraine Johnson, Sylvia Nickelson, Roberta, G.B., Denise, Carlene Pearson, Cindy Broese Van Groenou, K.M., Debbie Woods, Merlyn Cruz, Barbara Hume, Nicki Swendeman, Donna Warford, D.R., Diana, Vickie Edwards, Keri Newton, Sharon, Z.N., Michelle Greco, Kathy Jones, Antoinette, Susan Ritter, Donna Koch, Scot, Diane Sillstrop, Regina Cook, Holly, M.W., Tammy, M.W., M.H., Ronda, Dwan Rager, Susan, Jill Norman, Connie, Barbara Kaper, Susan Karbach, Pamela Free, Martha Huber, K.J., Leslie Chambers, Deborah, Carol Bracken, Kate, Suzanne, Jeri, B.J., Teresa A. Bolden, Colleen Cooper, Hilary Megan Taylor, Zorica, Rachel M. Caruso, Maria Angelica Correa, K.D., Bianca Devilme, Angela Gwen Ferguson, Suzanne Killion, Claudia, Maureen G. Osterhaut, Karen Snyder, Jessica, Christine Williams, Cecilia Sullivan, Muriel Ramos, Sara Flynn, Kathleen Weissinger, Sonia Velasquez, D.R., Kathelen, Viviane, Heidi Messina, Karen Leone, Sonja Lonadier, Ashley Koubek, Traci Licht, Teresa O'Brian, Janet Darrah, Suzanne Edens, Tara Bounds, Bonnie, Angel Hill, Elizabeth Gamble, Daria Monroe, Lesley May, Jaime, Mandi Massenburg, Cheryl Carey, Catherine, Kathleen Weissinger, Maura Lanz, M.A.C., Margo, Barbara Randolph, Carol Thomas, Constance, Tracy Robertson, D.P., Elaine, M.S., Ana Lopez, Karina Stong, M.B., Melissa Brusoe, D.P.H., Michelle Geraci, Patti, Y.M., Ann Berglund, D.J., Deborah Flowers, Marie Smith, Katherine Adinolf, Marcia Gray, C.R., Rosalie, Sandra, Jackie, Lisa, Theresa Hughes, S.B., Stephanie

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Sparks, Melanie Carter, Kim, Deidra Paulk, R.O., Sandra, Sherri Nelson, J.F., D.D., Monika Woods, Patty, Karen, Gloria Kite, V.W., Kelli Combs, Cindy Wright, Terri, J.C., T.B., Maria Rice, L.A., Patricia, Nancy Fabbri, Cindy, G.M., A.R.H., Jama Ann Cagle, Carrie Ehrgott, Janet Eisenbach, Pam Luders, Angela Wyatt, Susan Heinle, Shawn Lohry, C.K., Carrie Pauley, Erin Brandt, C.S., Suzanne Hall, Mary, Aishaq Mefford, J.W., K.C., B.R., Dawn, Diane Rittenberry, Lianne, Wendy Morrow, A.S., Anette Rodriguez, M.O., Christie Duffy, Phyllis, Crystal, Barbara, Sarah, Amina Rivera, Melanie, Dena, M.H., Elizabeth Kane, Eve Johnson, P.C., Bonita, Shanna, Holly Maxwell, Sarah, Marsha Yeary, Christine Harrington, Leslie Kraus, Peg, Sandra, Shannon Hoy, Rhonda Smith, Julie McMillan, C.K., Rakisha Davis, Virginia Mahoney, Yvonne, LaVeta Wheeler, Q.M., Carol, Marcia, Anne, Stephanie Thomas, C.R., Nancy, Linda, K.T., Erin, Bridget Richardson, J.J., Brenda Fogle, Deidre Edwards, Lisa, J.D., Rebecca Barnes, Melinda, Virginia, Kathleen O'Donnell, Jennifer, S.K., Veronica, Tina Fontenot, E.P., Brandi, Kay Murphy, Catherine Husband, Roni, Sharon, Jeanine Mcandrew Holmes, S.S., Melinda Franz, Marcia Schexnider, Erin Pleune, Tina Lord Beasley, S.O., Kathleen, Madeline Fiorino, Sharon Lynch, Lori Tanner, Kathleen Stepherson, Gwendolyn D'Aguiar, Lisa Pugh, Janet, Denise Douglas, Cindy Riley, Jessica, Melissa Garman, Maria Grace, Colleen Copeland, Jill, Jennifer, Sherry Stine, Theresa, Suzzanne, Laurie, Susan Rowland, Leslie Sneddon, Jacqueline E. Coal, Debra W. Johnson, M.K.G., Barbara Yagley, Connie Mossner, Denise, Shelia Sibilsky, Jenny, Teresa

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Hathaway, Julia, Becky Boyer, Shelly Stone, Debra  
Brunsberg, Mary Norgren, Christina Soleta, Judy  
Rademacher, Deb, Deanna Carlson, Janet, Laura An-  
derson, Charlene Simon-Hunt, Julia Gall, Janene Per-  
illo, K.S.C., Christine Puetz, Nicole Trujillo, Georgia,  
Erika, Denise, Sarah Krieg, Rebecca Hipkins, S.L.,  
Janice Post, Tracy Lustick, Kayla McDaniel, M.W.,  
Brenda Redman, Kelly, Marie Wakefield, D.S., K.F.,  
Stephanie Allestad, Megan Petty, Susan, Beverly V.  
Hall, Teresa, Cheryl, Kathryn Berkowitz, Brenda For-  
ester, Debbie Martindale, Gwen Smith, Jane Thomas,  
Regina, Annie Perry, Regina Priester, Donna Ginn,  
Stacey Pinkham, Desirae Burton, Samantha Dalrym-  
ple, Kristi Craig, M.K., Mary Sue Glazier, Sandra  
Gleason, C.J., J.L., Luana, Cheryl, Suzanne Lawrence,  
Tammy Litchfield, Suzy, I.R., K.G., Ina Glenn, K.M.,  
Melissa, Irene Lagios, Starr, Cindy Giaquinto, Kendra  
Gorzynski, Ethel Hermenau, Gail Scandell, M.W.,  
Mary MacNeill, Alfreda Baker, Marie, Karen, Janet,  
T.C., Aundrea Connolly, Tracy Gorenz, Michele Beglau,  
K.B., Lauren Dumale, Shirley Smith, M.S., Jacqueline,  
K.P., Doria Zeiter, Kelly Vargas, Katherine Clyde,  
Vicki, J.P., J.D., Bonnie DiGeronimo, Kerry Starng, Re-  
becca Lee, Dorina Hayes, Maria Rice, Kathy, K.T.,  
Cherri, S.C., Ebi Ogbu, T.B., Mary, Christine Bridges,  
Joy Gossett Leach, Kathleen, Christina Singletary-  
Nkounkou, Holly Haas, Janie, Emma, Anna Jacobs,  
M.A., Linda Lamb, Melissa Morris, Lisa, Stacy Boyd,  
Jane Pennington, Cynthia Caillouet, Melody, P.S.J.M.,  
Mandy, Kathy Mitchell, Sandra, L.G., Denise Brown,  
J.S., Krista Willertz, R.C., Samantha, K.J., Karen Lin-  
ton, Carol, Vickie Edwards, Patricia Perkins, Karen,

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Evelyn, Linda Stocker, L.P., Deborah Mace, Karen Hopman, Tracy, Skye, Yvonne Mutch, Teresa Ortiz, Melissa Marshall, Michelle, Jean, Anne, Lynda, L.N., Patricia LaRue, Deborah Martin, Sharon Blankenship, S.J., Susan Dule, Tricia Thomas, C.S., Candace Pavese, Karmen Kennedy, Sharon, Christine McCauley, T.T., Louise Gialanella, Debra, Denise Tierney, Kathy Raudabaugh, S.N., Barbara, Theresa Bach, Kristine Meyer, Karen, LaVonne Ackerman, M.D., Victoria L. Kilroy, Wilma Sanchez, Connie G. Ellerson, Janet, Deborah Wood, Stephanie Cole, Frances Allen, Cynthia Blackwell, Nancy Borrett, Pam Caymol Badger, Lynda Doty, C.B., Reyna Cordero, Jane Sanders, Frances Carrasquillo, Indi, C.L., L.R., Dianne Heynen, Kim Houchens, Sandi Nanette Gray, Eugenia Appleman-Black, Andy, Penney, Cynthia, C.D., Lisa Morris, Laurie, T.O., V.N., Kody Guinn, Barbara, Judy Charest, Judy, Stephanie, Julie Shockley, Becky Wehrle, Linda, Patricia A. Thomas, Ellen Philpot, Angela Thompson, A.F., Donna Jollay, Jennifer, Lisa Marie Diaz, Tana Hawkins, Eva Joy, Patricia White, Susan Adams Wicklander, Rhonda Simmons Willis, Sheryl Lynn Young, Meg Valentino, Andrea Christopher, Katherine Hermann, Jolean, Loretta, D.J., J.T., Marga, X.K., Suzanne, Mary Collier, Amy, Alison, Mary Guzman, Donna, Jackie, J.W., Rhonda Rhodes, N.C., Kay Archer, L.C., Jeri, E.R., Thon, Aimee McGinnis, Elizabeth Douglas, T. Antoinette Wilson, Julie Dinkins-Borkowski, Kate, L.S., Jane Hatcher, Lynne, Deanna Suarez, K.B., Megan, Stacey, Katherine Keeney, Anne, Linda Austin, Melanie Morgan, Lynn Hoyt, Arcilla Richards, Lynne, Tammie, Stella Taylor, Debra, Penny, Beatrice, Janet

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Conway, Mary, Celinda Frost, R.D., R.S., Kellie Roenker, Karen, Mary, Leella Cherry, Betsy DiGiacinto, M.M., Dayna DeBin, Sue Lassiter, P.O., Yvonne Moore, Cathy Young, Debra Marrinan, Jill, Ruth McLemore, J.D., Janet Kunkel, Rochelle, Mary Lee Mason, Amy Dean, P.D., Claudia Madrid, Lelar Phoenix, Judy, Annette, Betty Martinez Rivera, A.G., Tina, K.F., Sandra Hernandez, R.V., Christine Kasper, Misty Black, Lynne, M.M., Penne Logan, Kathi Hall, M.W., Tina, R.C.S., Lynne, B.B.M., Teri Lloyd, Pat Simpson, Sheila Kelsey, Heather, Amanda Oparanozie, Cynthia Leonard, Lisa, Jennifer Daniels, Nancy Louise DeBond, Connie, Linda Lee Jones, Nancy, C.C., Amy Young, Joyce, R.A., V.M., Natalee McRoberts, Janet Wimmer, Robin, Tracy Nudelman, Stacey Chapman, Sherri, Lori, L.N., Michelle Haley, Janice, S.C., Renae Erskine, K.M., Debra Skeens, L.H.G., Marla Peterson, S.A., Steph Worley, Tiffany Frye, Michelle Ziter, P.M., Barbara Wolfe, Tori B. Helberg, Patricia Krank, Carol Schuette, Nanette Harder, Susan, Denay Silva, S.E., Lynnlee, Lois Ellen Edwards, P.T., Nancy Roa, Cherie Crettol, Sanon Harrell, Janet Bruyette, Traci, Mary, Theresa, T.J., T.M., Nina Elliott, Melinda Miller, Linda Muto, Lana Horton, Kelly Murray, Darlene Soule.

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**APPENDIX B – Excerpts of Testimony From  
Operation Outcry Amici Women Hurt  
By Second and Third Trimester Late Term  
Abortion (some bold emphasis added)**

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**Answers Primarily To  
“How Has Abortion Affected You?”<sup>1</sup>**

**Alaska**

**Jannis** – 20 weeks

It’s just a piece of tissue . . . My doctor’s comment de-humanized my child and removed the right to grieve. This unhappy event was exasperated when I found out that my doctor was an abortionist who did elective abortions from time to time. I still wonder if he had two patients (the unborn child and I) rather than one, would there have been other things he would have tried earlier when I wasn’t bleeding as much?

**Arizona**

**Cynthia** – 18 weeks

I had no idea my life would go in the direction that it did. I did not feel “emotionally” for a long time. I was angry all the time. I had subsequent abortions, as a result, because I thought it was okay. If my parents would subject me to such a thing . . . it must be okay . . . right? WRONG!

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<sup>1</sup> Dropbox For 425 Late Term Abortions, including 375 Amici: [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/6cd5rbeuu1m4h74/AACSX-sSWi\\_1L3C1rwb3bFjja?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/6cd5rbeuu1m4h74/AACSX-sSWi_1L3C1rwb3bFjja?dl=0)

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I began to drink excessively and was unable to develop a close bond with my other children. I've been divorced twice and had two other children out of wedlock

### **Jennifer** – 14 weeks

How hasn't it? Severe depression, nightmares where I see my child dragging its mangling limbs behind it as it walks towards me, knowing I've killed my own child, feelings of inadequacy as a mother to my children born afterwards. My resulting depression has had negative effects on everyone in my life.

## Arkansas

### **Lisa** – 14 weeks

**I was awake the whole time. They numbed me. I felt no physical pain . . . but I will never forget the tugging and the pulling . . . the sound of the vacuum. After the abortion, I was shuffled out the back way.** I sat alone on the curb outside, waiting for my mother to come pick me up. She was an hour late. **They told me I would forget about the “mass of tissue” and be able to go on with my life, but I was having nightmares every night. For many years, a day did not go by that I did not contemplate suicide.** Guilt, sorrow, loss of dignity and deep shame are the most felt responses after an abortion. I experienced deep despair and lonely scars of regret. Though forgiven, I will never forget.

### **Loretta** – 14 weeks

I spent many years in a deep depression. **I considered committing suicide many times.** I was unaware of



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the affects. I went to counselors; I became a sex addict. For 15 years, I was full of shame and anger, but didn't know why. I stayed in an abusive relationship because I thought no one would want to be with a girl who had multiple abortions. I stayed even after being raped. I was unable to have true relationships with friends and family. I isolated myself from everyone. I acted like everything was perfect, meanwhile I fell into a deeper depression. I pushed my husband away and my kids because I was not able to handle being close to them. Loving and being loved was painful and scary.

### California

**Lisa** – 16 weeks

**Due to the size of the baby at 16 weeks gestation I experienced pain very similar to giving birth . . . afterwards I was warned that if all the 'tissue' had not been removed I could develop blood clots, which did occur. I was not informed that I would pass clots the size of a large navel orange and that this would cause extreme pain as well.** The emotional consequences, which were much more severe, were not even vaguely implied.

**Elizabeth** – 16 weeks

I was very depressed after the procedure and it remained an empty hole inside me, I was overwhelmed with guilt and they don't tell you that your body will think that you have given birth and you will produce breast milk but no Baby to nurse, that was very hard the ache and emptiness I felt was indescribable, I wish

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I knew more and had been informed step by step what happens during after and so on, that is a part of my life I have had to try to forget but it haunted me until God set me free.

**P.P.** – 16 weeks

Afterwards I bled profusely. **I could not stop crying. I was overcome with grief. I was inconsolable.** When I got home, I finally called my internist who was totally disgusted with me and no longer wanted to be my doctor. More shame. He referred me to an ob-gyn. I was still bleeding. He treated me and gave me anti-depressants. It took me over 3 months to be able to even smile. **I went thru a depression after I was married and had my son, thinking of the baby I had murdered.**

### Colorado

**M.H.** – 16 weeks

**They performed an ultrasound and I asked if I could see it, but they refused.** 17 years of shame, guilt and grief, severe emotional trauma, nightmares.

**Martha** – 16 weeks

Isn't the law supposed to protect women from harm? It has been 20 years since I've had an abortion and it is still causing me emotional distress.

**M.W.** – 16 weeks

My heart is broken and longs for my child. I am ashamed of what I did. **It is hard raising my children to have morals and integrity when I feel I have committed the most heinous act against my**

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**own flesh and blood.** It's not easy living and working and trying to do what's right everyday while knowing that I had committed murder.

### **Connecticut**

**Carol** – 14 Weeks

I have had 2 more abortions after that one and I had 3 miscarriages because of one Dr. ruining my cervix. I had to lie down for 7 months to carry my son to term. It has caused me to suffer depression, Post-Traumatic Stress symptoms, very low self-esteem, poor relationships and the inability to parent in a healthy way.

### **Delaware**

**Hilary** – 13 Weeks

Broke my heart. I have cried many nights for my children.

### **District of Columbia**

**B.J.** – 22 Weeks

I have been PROFOUNDLY affected, didn't expect any effect, as I was so numb to life at the time, abused as a child, deeply depressed and fighting my way through by my own efforts. I have LONGED for those two children almost every day since the second abortion.

**Jeri** – 13 Weeks (second abortion)

I started having severe migraines following the second abortion; at each monthly cycle. My life rapidly deteriorated from these 2 choices.

**Florida**

**Constance – 16 Weeks**

I have felt nothing but guilt and suffered from depression since I had my abortion. Time helps but very little. I was unable to have children as a result of my abortion and almost hemorrhaged to death.

**Maura – 17 Weeks**

**After the abortion I got very ill due to fetal tissue that was left in my uterus and was admitted to the hospital for ten days. I almost died from a severe infection. I had bad depression, guilt and shame for many years. I also experienced a huge sense of loss, and mourning for the child that I had allowed to be killed.**

**Georgia**

**Stephanie – 16 Weeks**

The guilt I felt was quite extreme and I still deal with it sometimes. My periods became much worse (very heavy bleeding and cramping that I have had to have surgery for) My next pregnancy was not able to come to full term due to the placenta not staying attached to the uterus. If it were illegal I never would have done it.

**Deidra – 20 Weeks**

**I have had serious physical and emotional problems for thirty years.** I had several miscarriages and one very difficult full term birth. I have been devastated because I did not have information about the overwhelming effects of abortion.

**Hawaii**

**Carrie – 14 weeks**

I feel upset that I felt like Planned Parenthood just pushed their agenda on me. I feel so remorseful and I pray to God to forgive me. Not one day goes by when I do not think about that terrible decision I made under duress. It is unfathomable that the Government allows a doctor to squeeze a baby's head inside of a woman's birth canal and kill the child and it's OK? This is murder! There should be no more than 10 weeks for abortion, no 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 month partial birth abortions.

**Idaho**

**Tracy – 16 weeks**

The nurse suggested I have an abortion and even did the necessary paperwork so it was paid for in full. I went to the hospital and was put out completely. **It crushed me for many years and the medical community made it way too easy for me to make the wrong decision.**

**J.W. – 13 Weeks**

**It is tremendously painful to my soul when I think about them. (I have had three); I used to blame the father's to try to comfort myself, it doesn't work very well . . .** I still signed the papers and laid on the table, and allowed it. I had to fight my conscience really hard not to stop it. I hated myself and quit caring about others, including my own children. I have three living children and came to Christ 14 years ago; it is still sometimes a struggle to know that I am

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forgiven, even for murder. These babies did nothing wrong to me; it would be easier to cope with if I were to have killed an adult and yet I would have gone to prison for that; but it is legal to kill the ones who have never done any wrong to anyone. It makes no sense that we have better standards for the already hurtful people than we do for the actual innocent. We think of ourselves as more important, than our children.

### **Illinois**

**M.O.** – 18 Weeks

I have experienced multiple pregnancy losses. I have undergone 6 years of counseling for depression at two different times in my life.

**Sarah** – 18 Weeks

**I've had severe grief, stress, depression, for three years. I developed a problem with alcohol shortly after the abortion because of my depression.**

### **Indiana**

**Aishaq** – 16 weeks

I was raped when I was 13 resulting in this pregnancy. My parents felt it in my best interest given my age and the nature of how the pregnancy occurred to be in my best interest. I will tell you that the vast opposite to be the truth. I hated my parents for making that decision for me. At 13 I knew a lot more than they gave me credit for. I would have rather had the baby and given that baby a chance at life. I hated myself for not

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speaking up and defying my parent's decision. I felt as though I was a murderer. That having the abortion was far worse than being raped. I became horribly depressed, had suicidal thoughts, and felt a hole in my life. I used drugs and alcohol to forget about how I felt about myself. I was promiscuous throughout high school. Eventually became pregnant at 17 with my daughter whom I kept. As an adult I have never filled that void in my life. I have had 4 children, mentally trying to fill that void. I have NEVER stopped wondering what the child was. Boy or girl. What would he/she have looked like. Would she/he have had my nose, or my toes. Would he/she look like my children. I still think how old he/she would have been today. I'm tortured by it. I'm almost 30 years old. It has been 16 years and I am still affected by it. I felt guilty when I had my children. My postpartum was horrible. I was terrified my children would die because of what I had done. I felt I would pay for it someday.

**B.R.** – 20 weeks

**I thought I was only a few weeks pregnant. They asked me repeatedly if I was sure I was only a few weeks along. But the baby fought very hard and I begged them to stop.** But they wouldn't. And afterwards, they asked me whether I wanted to know whether it was a boy or a girl. And they had a hard time "getting everything". **So, I was somewhere in my second trimester.** I have struggled with guilt, sorrow, loss, depression and anxiety these last 21 years because of the horrible thing that I have done to my baby.

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### **Iowa**

**K.B.** – 14 weeks

I thought that having an abortion would allow me to do more things with my life, but I ended up messing it up miserably. The guilt eats me alive some days.

### **Kansas**

**Marcia** – 16 weeks

I was barely 16 years old and I asked for a saline abortion, at taxpayers' expense, and they gave it to me with no discussion about the procedure. I spent a couple of days in the hospital waiting for my dead baby to pass out of me. I have been and remain extremely sad that I made such a choice!

**K.T.** – 14 weeks, saline injected, 12 hours later a birth I was told it will soon be over, and you can resume a normal life. No big deal. It was not a real baby anyway. It has been 36 years and I have NEVER gotten over "it". I have been haunted by what I had done every year when they bring up Roe-v-Wade because I had this done just mos. after abortions became legal. I was 17, and at the time I was heartbroken, but my husband, yes I was married, & my parents had insisted it was for the best. Best for whom? Certainly not the poor little baby, I was told over and over it was not a baby yet. HA every year, in my head he has grown from a ghost child into a ghost young man and he would be 36 years old now.



**Kentucky**

**Deirdre** – 18 weeks

I have felt shame, guilt, bouts of depression, many years ago I cut my wrists, have had a hard time connecting in relationships, and I have felt alone and unlovable, I have felt lied to about the facts about abortion, I have been angry at the government for allowing this . . . so many, many things . . .

**Rebecca** – 13 weeks

Drug abuse, alcohol abuse, depression, hyper sexuality, constant crying, flashbacks, being able to connect with my own children, being able to love others the same way as before, thoughts of suicide. . . . I was not able to connect with my family like I was before the abortion. I had to move away from where I lived at that time and I am in the process of getting a divorce.<sup>11</sup> Based upon your experience, what would you tell a woman considering abortion? It is not worth the emotional and physical pain. Life is never the same. Forgiveness may take years or for the rest of your lives. I can no longer have children due to the abortion.

**Louisiana**

**Veronica** – 14 weeks

**For me personally, I still break down and drop to my knees, crying in anguish, even inconsolably begging for another chance. I was 24 then and am now 47 years old.** Though I am forgiven, the forgetting never comes, but the Lord carries me through . . . This is not like smoking, drinking, doing drugs, etc.

. . . where you can be healed and glorify in some powerful testimony that will help others. **This is a living nightmare, or should I put it more clearly, living a nightmare.**

### Maine

**Suzanne** – 16 Weeks

I am ashamed of and guilty about what I did. I was a Christian and I was too proud to face the consequences of my sexual promiscuity. Now, 30 + years later, I still have a hard time being emotionally intimate with others because of my guilt.

### Maryland

**Tammy** – 16 Weeks

**It would take a week to tell the devastating effects that it has had on my life. It changed the entire direction of my life.**

**Colleen** – 24 Weeks

I have had two miscarriages. I later suffered from infertility and never had another child. I was depressed and contemplated suicide after the abortion. I battled clinical depression later in life. I've had cervical cancer, fibrocystic breast disease, substance abuse. I've had deep shame which remains.

**Massachusetts**

**Lisa** – 19 Weeks

**Severely depressed, medication did not work.**

Made life altering decisions when I was in no shape to. For example . . . sterilization so that I would never have to do that to another child. My self is destroyed. I still hold a lot of guilt. I do not function as effectively as I once did. I tried to return to work following but was unable to perform my nursing duties. I have not returned nursing since. It has been over 3 years.

**Lori** – 22 Weeks

Disgust. Can't believe that a hospital as reputable as Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston could take a couple who is losing a child to renal agenesis and put them in the same facility with women who don't care about life, who just want to "get rid of it". Made me feel dirty and cheap. My husband and I have been pregnant six times. We have lost two boys to renal agenesis and had a miscarriage. We have three daughters. To top it all off, when the funeral home went to pick up the remains for burial, the funeral director had to make the disturbing call to us to let us know that the hospital had misplaced the remains. I have been on an antidepressant since 1994.

**Michigan**

**Shelia** – 24 weeks

. . . Before this I was talked to privately by a woman who looked as though she was in charge. I was taken into her office and she told me how they normally don't

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do abortions this late in the pregnancy because it is illegal & because I kept calling & asking questions they would do me a favor. I had to never speak of it though. After the ultrasound thing I was taken to a room & laid on a table. I did not look around. I was just going through the motions. I did not see what they were doing, I just looked up & **when the procedure started I started to scream. I felt horrible & immediately I felt the ripping & tearing of my child. I wanted to die & even now I can feel the ripping & tearing. They never told me what was going to happen & never explained if they were going to do this or that.** It was come in here, talk to me, look at this, sit by yourself & think, Give us the credit card number, lay here & good luck & good bye.

### Minnesota

#### **Becky** – 16 weeks

I had no idea the emotional and spiritual trauma it would cause. I became alcoholic, emotionally unstable, and lived in constant grief for years. I had many failed marriages after and exhibited symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder. I now know I am forgiven and can go on with my life, but abortion brought me to the brink of depression and almost suicide. I will always miss my baby and never forget what I allowed to happen to my body and my baby.

#### **Christina** – 16 weeks

I was terribly depressed after my abortion. I hated myself for doing what I had done. I started having pain all

over my body and was diagnosed with fibromyalgia. **I thought I deserved to suffer because my baby suffered.** I was in a bad relationship, my boyfriend was constantly cheating on me. I didn't leave him for almost four years because I thought I couldn't find anyone better. No decent man would want a woman like me who had her own child killed. I finally realized my repentance was worth something, and I left my boyfriend.<sup>10</sup> How has your abortion affected others in your life? I don't share it with others. I did share it with my husband after we were married and started talking about having children. He accepted that I was sorry for doing it and would never want to do it again. Someday I will have to tell my children that I had an abortion, and I hope they will be understanding.

### **Missouri**

**Georgia** – 32 weeks (saline abortion)

For many years I felt that God could not forgive me as I could not forgive myself. I had a 2 year bout of depression. I had years of infertility and felt this was a punishment from God due to this abortion. I have continued to feel shame and loss in my life. I have often sat and wondered how much different my life would have been if I had not done this. I would have had a 37 year old daughter. No doubt I would have had grandchildren to this lost child. I wouldn't have had to feel I need to hide this ugly scar from my children.

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### **Erika – 28 weeks**

For years I had carried shame and guilt from killing my children. I look at my children today and cannot imagine life without them and I think about the two that I never will have the chance to know, to hold, to touch or to love and it shakes me on the inside.

### **Nevada**

#### **Shirley – 15 weeks**

**Planned Parenthood counselor focused on the relief & benefit of being burdened by a child/ couldn't afford or raise by myself. I was left to suffer from depression and suicide for years.**

#### **Doria – 17 weeks**

I didn't know there were risks to my life or my ability to have children. I didn't know anything. I was very confused and walking in a haze. I was in shock by the whole thing. There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think about my daughter. I still have nightmares. I feel inadequate as a parent, unworthy, because I feel I don't deserve my children because of what I did. I feel loss every day and part of me will always feel dead inside because of it.

### **New Hampshire**

#### **Irene – 13 Weeks**

Physically – I had a very difficult time giving birth and required C-section Emotionally – lived in shame and immorality and descended to a life of drugs and alcohol

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Spiritually – destroyed me until I was born again and received forgiveness

### New Jersey

**Cindy** – 24 Weeks

**I always feel that I am a serial killer.** I feel as though my life is not worth living anymore and often times thought of suicide.

### New Mexico

**Lauren** – 17 weeks

**I was told that I was 17 weeks pregnant, and that it was only legal to abort up to 16 weeks, but that they would go ahead and perform it anyway since I'd paid in cash and since I'd driven so far (90 miles, from New Mexico).** I was told that the doctor would do a short procedure to open 'the cervix' & simply remove the 'mass', & then I could go home. **Afterward, the nurse casually remarked that it was a girl, about the size of a grapefruit. Understanding I'd just murdered my daughter, I was devastated.**

**Severe chronic depression, self-hatred, suicidal thoughts, inability to hold a job,** failed first marriage (to the boyfriend who pushed me to abort), severe dysmenorrhea to the point of having to have my uterus removed when I was only 35. The grief, remorse, regret have been unbearable. I had a promising life ahead of me, intelligent, straight-A student, plans & dreams to be a productive member of society. Instead I drank

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myself out of college after the abortion, and have never been able to fulfill my potentials. I wonder what my daughter would be like if I'd allowed her to live & fulfill HER potentials. I miss her. It's been 29 years and I still grieve my actions and the loss of my child. I murdered my daughter.

### New York

**Kathy** – 20 Weeks

I became deeply depressed. **I drank heavily to suppress the pain and attempted suicide a few months later by cutting my wrist.** Thirty three years have passed and I still mourn the loss.

**Maria** – 18 Weeks

Suffer from Post Abortion Stress Syndrome Post Traumatic Stress Disorder with Anxiety Isolated from others Every year my Aborted Child get older and older. I believe he was a male child and he would had been 30 years old this year.

### North Carolina

**Desirae** – 27 Weeks

In ways so deep I can hardly say. Dissociation, deep shame, hemorrhaging, inability to connect on a deep level with my son. For years I was in a state of self-loathing.



**Ohio**

**Anna** – 13 weeks

I killed my child. . . . depressed, no self-worth, Its always in my heart and thoughts. And some day I have to face my child and answer why I killed her. If I knew the whole story behind the abortion I NEVEREVER would of done it. **The only thing I was told is that it was only a blob not a baby, they LIED. The guilt I have eats me alive !!!!!!! How could I have killed my child.**

**Oklahoma**

**Carolyn** – 16 weeks

My husband had to deal with a wife that was severely depressed and suicidal for many years. Divorced. My oldest son had to deal with a mother that was overprotective yet took him with me often when I would go to a bar and would wake up many mornings with a stranger in the house that I decided to bring home with me. My youngest son had to deal with a mother that was afraid to get too close to him. And people I worked with hated working with me as I would do anything to hurt them and treat them terrible, now realizing that I wanted others to hurt like I hurt.

**Oregon**

**Karen** – 20 weeks

**The two interns made a joke of it, trying to ease me. no questions asked of me, no info given at all. Much depression for many, many years; when**

**subsequent children were born, I was haunted by such guilt, that I never felt like a good mother. that affected all my children.** if I think about it now, almost 40 years later, it is like it was yesterday, and my heart is crushed, knowing that I was responsible for killing my very own little baby!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I can one ever get over such an awful thing. and am I even supposed to? I am a believer in the total forgiveness of Jesus Christ and His finished work. . . . but when you can recall something like it was yesterday, just like all the births of your children, how does that stop. NOONE can help that.

**Skye** – 16 weeks

They did not even ask me how many weeks I was. **I felt despair and that I was a murderer.** everybody said oh you are young you have plenty of time to have other children. **Turns out, that was my only chance to have a baby.** I became sterile at age 24. I HAD A HARD CHILDHOOD, BUT AFTER THE ABORTION, THINGS GOT WORSE. (HOW I FELT ABOUT MYSELF). I FELT I WAS WORTHLESS. I BECAME VERY PROMISCUOUS. I BEGAN NOT CARING IF I LIVED OR DIED. I LET VERY ABUSIVE MEN INTO MY LIFE WHO BEAT ME AND TORMENTED ME. I BEGAN USING DRUGS AND OVERDOSED MANY TIMES. IT IS A MIRACLE OF GOD I AM NOT DEAD. I had the abortion at 23. Finally, at age 47, I met Jesus and received His forgiveness. It still took me about 4 more years to forgive myself.

**South Carolina**

**Reyna** – 14 Weeks

It has affected me emotionally, it caused me a **great depression and almost lead me to suicide**. It was a great challenge to deal with such pain because I didn't expect this to end like this it was supposed to be something easily done and forgotten but it wasn't that way.

**Pam** – 14 Weeks

It had a profound effect on my life – I was severely depressed, put in psychiatric wards – many stays, and also state mental institutions. Many dr.'s and drug usage- pot. drinking, promiscuity- to name a few. **I had nightmares** of giving a child up for adoption, etc.

**South Dakota**

**Kim** – 15 weeks

I was not informed of consequences other than minor bleeding could occur. I was very surprised to develop an infection. **The day I went to the Family Planning clinic to have the seaweed inserted in my cervix, to begin the abortion process, they did an ultrasound to confirm the gestation age, and when I asked to see the baby I was shown a “blur” on the screen. Now, with two kids, I know at 15 wks. the baby is not a “blur”. I have pics of my boys at 10 wks. in the uterus and I have plainly seen the outline of their bodies and little hearts beating. It is murder and wrong. It is an immoral practice and a shame.**

**Dianne** – 13 weeks

I was told it was a “clump of tissue” being removed. I had no idea it would still be haunting me now after twenty-nine years. **Even last night I had an abortion related nightmare.** I did it thinking it would be the easy way out. By choosing abortion, I thought could run away from my problem. It would all be behind me. In reality, the guilt, shame, depression, suicidality, anxiety, nightmares, drinking, drugging, etc. were all devastating. Abortion has brought deep sadness and regret for the baby’s father, grandparents, aunts and uncle.

**Tennessee**

**Eugenia** – 13 weeks

I was forced by my husband (ex-Husband now) into going to the clinic and was trying to tell the nurses and the doctor in the back of the clinic I didn’t want the abortion but no one was willing to listen to me. He was standing in the front of the clinic with me when the paper work was done but I was too upset and scared to tell anyone while he was there so I waited until I got to the back and they wouldn’t take the time to hear what I had to say. I suffered from severe depression, anger and guilt as well as had a prolapsed uterus occur and my bladder fell. I had to have surgery to repair this and still suffer from a bladder defect. I was hospitalized for severe depression twice and had to undergo outpatient therapy as well. I have since remarried and have been unable to have children and have even miscarried.

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### **Penny – 16 weeks**

I suffered greatly from my abortion. I went into a deep depression, considered suicide. My marriage ended within a year. I slept around after that, which was not acceptable to me in the past. I had nightmares. I felt I would never be able to be around children. I could not even watch children on TV. I had trouble being around my parents, I had allowed their first grandchild to be killed. I felt I did not deserve to have any children now. My self-esteem diminished. I hated myself. I began drinking to escape the emotional pain I was suffering as a result of my abortion. A part of me died that day along with my baby! When I got help some 7 years later from a Christian post abortion counseling center, I was able to experience the anger and hatred towards the father of my baby that had been stuffed down, that I literally planned how to kill him. I did not care what would happen to me I just wanted him to know how much he had done to me. Thankfully I was remarried by then and actually had 2 children. They are the only reason I did not carry out my plans. I had trouble enjoying my babies as babies because they reminded me of my abortion. If not for the grace of God, and the forgiveness when I accepted Jesus I honestly do not know if I would be here today.

### **Texas**

#### **Loretta – 15 weeks**

I was a military dependent in Germany. The baby I was carrying had a severe birth defect and would not have survived after delivery. The doctor said it was best to

terminate right away so we did. The depression was horrible! I grew up in a family where abortion was considered wrong in any circumstance. By the end of a week I had my suicide all planned out. Only my husband knowing me so well stopped me because he realized how depressed I was and refused to leave me alone in the house. **It has been 15 years and I still cry.** Every time I go to a new doctor and have to fill out those history forms I get another reminder. I think going full term and then having a funeral would have been better for me. I think grief is easier to work through than guilt.

### Utah

#### **Cynthia** – 13 weeks

No one told me the effects it would have on my ability to conceive again. The abortion was traumatic, half way through the procedure the doctor said we would be done in normal cases but it seems that you were carrying twins!! I would NOT have aborted them had I known!!

I will never forget the day it happened; I will never forget their birthday. I have gone through many years of depression, guilt, anger, physical ailments from the stress of it. I have had a VERY difficult time conceiving, and have been diagnosed with secondary infertility. One pregnancy I had bleeding with placenta previa because of the placenta's attachment. Second pregnancy took 4 years. Fourth pregnancy was miscarried. I have always wanted a large family. I am almost

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40 and have two children. My current husband & father of my two kids has been affected by it because he also wanted a big family too. And he mourns when I mourn, He hurts when I hurt.

**Jennifer – 13 weeks**

**I now can identify specifically the emotion of loneliness I have felt for years many times I see a mother with a baby. My ability to form close connections with people and build relationships with people has been hard, though I remember in my teenage years as well as when I was a child being able to do this very easily.** Menstrual periods ever since have been extremely painful. In fact, during the abortion, and following immediately afterwards, I couldn't stop the tear from running from my eyes. **I didn't think I had bonded with the baby in any way, but in those moments, I knew that something in me was gone. It was a different kind of crying. This was not sobbing, but rather free flowing tears, quiet tears, that I tried to stop, but couldn't.**

**Vermont**

**P.M. – 13 Weeks**

Guilt, shame and a lot of grief locked inside for years.

**Virginia**

**L.H.G. – 16 Weeks**

It has affected me deeply and profoundly. I stand here today, nearly 31 years later, knowing beyond knowing,

that I made the BIGGEST MISTAKE of my life. Yet, even as of this morning, I sat on my bed crying uncontrollably – my chest heaving with heavy sobs, the clenching spasms of my vacant, empty abdomen aching a near-torrent flood of unrelenting sorrow for the one I let go. I know now, that I have missed out. And my husband missed out. And our other three adult children missed out. But more importantly, my child, who would now be a grown man if I had allowed him to live, would have, in all likelihood, been married with children of his own.

**L.N.** – 28 Weeks

I have lived with the guilt of murdering my own child every day of every year. **I never chose to get pregnant again as I felt I didn't deserve the opportunity to be a mother after killing my own baby.** I believe it is the worst mistake I ever made in my life.

### West Virginia

**Linda** – 16 weeks

**For a long time I couldn't be around babies and did not want to look at the pictures of embryo's.**

I have felt guilty and used alcohol in the past to numb me. I have been too ashamed to tell anyone what I did, and still nobody knows. I have not dealt with what I did. I have tried to hide it away and it has affected me mentally, spiritually and emotionally. I feel I have become joyless, with little emotion except for pain, guilt and shame. I am not the person I was before the abortion.



**Wisconsin**

**Mary** – 20 weeks (saline)

I was clinically depressed for several years, not knowing why. When I finally realized my guilt, I was able to seek forgiveness through Jesus Christ, but even with God's grace and forgiveness, I still struggle with many ramifications from my decision. I have used alcohol and drugs for almost the entire period since then and still have not conquered alcohol even though I am a committed Christian and very involved with my church and the family of believers. Since the abortion prevented me from being able to carry a pregnancy to term, I had 5? miscarriages during my married years and so have no children now. **Each Mother's Day is a vivid reminder of the whole thing.**

**T.M.** – 13 weeks

The aspect of regret and emotional pain were not discussed (nor can I remember any discussion of physical consequences. but I did not experience any of those besides severe cramping for a week). **After realizing that the doctor had looked for body parts, every time I saw a baby I had emotional pain.** That lasted intensely for 7 years. I have experienced a level of healing but tears fall every now and then over having killed my own child.

**Wyoming**

**Kelly** – 16 weeks

**I did not know that ten years after the abortion I would still feel guilty.** That I'd have problems in

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my marriage to a man whom I didn't even know at the time of the abortion. That **I'd feel like wrapping barbed wire around my neck or jumping into the creek by my house in sub-zero temperatures. Or that when I look into my baby's eyes and ache for those eyes I never saw.**

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