

OPINIONS

Roe v. Wade: Why We Don't Need It

BY ANNE THORNTON

IN 1973, OUR COUNTRY debated when life begins, what life is, and it was successful in concluding it was relative to each person. Roe v. Wade is a case we all know. I am not writing this article to debate or convince anyone that abortion is wrong, for I am strong in my conviction. I know each generation has good, but also must have its own evil. Am I pro-life? Well, the simple answer would be that as a Catholic I adhere to Church teachings, and the Church clearly states that life begins at conception. Therefore, I am pro-life as I am in communion with the Church teachings.

Life is full of complexities but why must life itself be complex? If it is a clump of cells that is in the womb of a woman, then are we not simply larger clumps of cells? Humans are made up of cells. If it is a matter of size, does the larger one determine how human one is or make one more of a person? If it's a matter of development, I myself am still developing. Development is continuous outside of the womb as well. If it's a matter of seeing, well you can only see me if I leave my house, if not, does this mean I don't exist as a person? A house in many ways is like a mother's womb. It provides protection, and vital resources, such as water, comfort, and so on, or so it should. If it's a matter of inconvenience, well all I

can say is if I were allowed to "terminate" all those who I find inconvenient, should I? Well, I suppose it is considered illegal since they would be outside of the womb. Should I take one's own life into my own hands? No. But I should take responsibility. If it's a matter or a result of harm done, is it still my choice to take action on someone else? This is not to sound unsympathetic, because I do sympathize as we all have our own sufferings. It is fitting that I am writing this on the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. We all have our own cross to bear, and, in our humanity, we wish it to cease in existence. The truth is it's this great mystery that, as people, we have to have a cross in our life that forces us to look to Jesus Christ. So, if you find yourself wishing you had anything but this suffering in your life, you can be assured that another suffering would take its place.

We find it hard to think of the suffering of the innocents, those suffering out of no cause of their own. An example would be all the aborted. Are there no moral absolutes or have we resulted in moral relativism? Does each person decide for themselves what is morally right and morally wrong? There are many things we all share a belief in without being able to prove it. For example, does Sri Lanka exist?

Yes. How do you know? Well, I know because I have been told that it does, and I have seen it on a map. Have you ever been there? No. So how do you know it truly exists? Trust plays an essential role. We put trust into things that are not tangible to us, things we have not seen, and that science cannot always explain. My mother was born to a teen mother. Her mom had the choice to abort her, yet instead chose to put her up for adoption. My mom is forever grateful as am I. You see, I and my nine other siblings would not exist if my mom was aborted. My two nephews would also not exist. Each person is a generation. Take away that person, and you have the power to erase a whole generation. Look at my family and choose for yourself who should not exist. Many argue that large families are an inconvenience and often comment on the cost each child adds. People are not price tags.

There is so much more to life than seeing the world as a giant dollar bill. I am a nursing student, and I am pursuing this vocation to protect life. In the future, I will take a pledge to do no harm and I will take that responsibility. I love life, I love my life, and I want others to have at least a fighting chance.

Little Library Edina Thefts

BY FAITH FITZHUGH

HAVE YOU EVER seen a stand on the sidewalk with a wooden box neatly filled with books? That's what a Little Library looks like. They are books for the community to borrow and return to the box or keep. Most of these books are donated, and the little libraries are usually built by the homeowners of the property.

These Libraries are starting to become more and more popular. There is a website named "The Little Free Library Map" where you can see where all the Little Libraries are located. This project has inspired reading and community between neighbors and strangers alike. The interest in reading books and the sense of a traditional community are slowly fading, but projects like the Little Libraries help keep these fading concepts a reality still. Sadly, it appears that someone is being a little too greedy, and it has been deemed that someone is stealing all the books from these Little Libraries in Edina, Minnesota.

People in the community are hoping it's just someone who really likes books and couldn't pick one or two of them. Some people suspect it is a group of teens just messing around. Jill Kacheroski is one of the Little Library homeowners in Edina. In a statement to Fox 9 News, she says: "Hopefully they'll stop and get bored, and move on to do something else. Honestly, when I heard about this, it just made me sad and frustrated that there is even the implication

that someone may be stealing and taking advantage of the Little Libraries."

These Little Libraries are inspiring children and even adults to read again. With how addicting technology is, these Little Libraries have brought the fun back into reading for everyone, especially the children. The best part is that these books are free, and some parents, or even people in general, really depend on this project. There is not much information about the culprits, though if it isn't just a mega book lover choosing to take all the books, I hope these teenagers or even adults stop with the petty thefts. If it is a book-lover, I hope they become more considerate to the people in their community and leave some books for them. I hope the people clearing out these Little Libraries realize they are ruining the purpose of them, and could destroy this project if behavior like this continues in Edina, or any of the other communities that have Little Libraries.

I hope this article inspires everyone to read and/or donate a book they have. I also hope this inspires you to share this project to help it continue to grow and bring back reading. The website URL for the locations of the Little Libraries is <https://littlefreelibrary.org/map/v>.



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