



LIFE TOPICS

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ONE OF THE GREATEST OBSTACLES to maintaining a pro-life club is a lack of ideas for club meetings. To prevent this from happening to your club, we've included an extensive list of Life Topics to help make club meetings stimulating and educational. Aside from educating club members, it will draw new members into your club and encourage everyone to spread the pro-life message to the rest of your school and beyond. By exploring a variety of topics, your club members will be able to speak intelligently and comprehensively about life issues.

Where necessary, Life Topics are enhanced with supplements that will provide you with further information on a given topic. *See Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics* or the *GFL Pocket*, located in the back of this binder. *Chapter 9: Resources* is included for students who wish to delve more deeply into a particular topic or need resources for research projects or speeches.

Some Life Topics are packed with enough information to span the course of several meetings. In other cases, you may wish to combine several related Life Topics into a single club meeting. Feel free to tailor the topics to your needs or come up with your own.

NOTE: We have included an order form in the Appendix that you can use to order additional copies of any of the materials included in the *GFL Pocket*.

1. How Abortion Became Legal

Although some people know that abortion became legal in 1973, few realize what really happened on January 22.

ARTICLE: "*Roe v. Wade & Doe v. Bolton*" (see *Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

2. Fetal Development

One of the most important topics for a pro-lifer to know thoroughly is the development of the unborn child.

PAMPHLET: “The First Nine Months” (*see GFL Pocket*)

BOOK: *A Child Is Born* by Lennart Nilsson (*to order, see Chapter 9: Resources*)

VIDEO: *Ultrasound* by Shari Richard (*to order, see Chapter 9: Resources*)

3. Pregnancy Resource Centers

There are four times more Pregnancy Resource Centers in the United States than abortion clinics. These Pregnancy Resource Centers not only help a woman choose life for her baby, but support her emotionally and financially throughout her pregnancy and even after the baby is born.

ACTIVITY: Baby Shower

Invite a representative from a local Pregnancy Resource Center to talk about the services they offer. Bring donations (new or used) for babies or mothers to give to the representative to take back to the PRC. You may want to find out beforehand if there are particular items the PRC needs. If possible, have cake, party favors, and decorations.

In addition, you may want to:

- i. Open it up to the entire school by placing boxes throughout the school at least two weeks before the baby shower.
- ii. Invite the representative to speak to the entire school. (*see Chapter 9: Resources*)

4. Abortion Procedures

Many people who claim to be pro-choice and many well intentioned pro-lifers don't know how abortions are performed. Understanding and sharing this information can change minds and strengthen pro-life beliefs.

ARTICLE: “Common Methods of Abortion” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

PAMPHLET: “Life or Death” (*see GFL Pocket*)

PAMPHLET: “D & E Diagram” (*see GFL Pocket*)

VIDEO: *Hard Truth* (*to order, see Chapter 9: Resources*)

VIDEO: *A Doctor Explains Abortion* (*to order, see Chapter 9: Resources*)

5. Former Abortion Providers

Listen to those who once worked in the abortion industry tell you what it was really like.

ARTICLE: “A Former Abortionist Tells Her Story” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

VIDEO: *Abortion: The Inside Story* (to order, *see Chapter 9: Resources*)

VIDEO: *Meet the Abortion Providers* (*see GFL Pocket for order form*)

WEBSITE: www.prolifeaction.org/providers

6. After Abortion

Abortion can appear to be a solution to an untimely pregnancy, but many women suffer physically or emotionally after an abortion.

ARTICLE: “The Major Physical and Psychological Consequences of Abortion” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

ARTICLE: “Two Abortion Experiences”

PAMPHLET: “The Pain That Follows: Coping After an Abortion” (*see GFL Pocket*)

ACTIVITY: Invite a post-abortive woman to speak to your club or school (*see Chapter 9: Resources*)

7. Sidewalk Counseling

Trained counselors stand outside of an abortion clinic and offer women alternatives to abortion, informing them of the dangers abortion poses to them personally.

PAMPHLET: “Sidewalk Counseling” (*see GFL Pocket*)

VIDEO: *No Greater Joy* (*see GFL Pocket for order form*)

ACTIVITY: Sidewalk counseling training: contact the Pro-Life Action League (*see Chapter 9: Resources*)

8. Activism (*see also Chapter 4: Activism and Outreach*)

It is important to understand the purpose and effectiveness of activism. Here we will talk about why you should get active. Chapter 4 will tell you how.

ARTICLE: Excerpt from *Closed: 99 Ways to Stop Abortion* (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

VIDEO: *Face the Truth*—free from the Pro-Life Action League (*see Chapter 9: Resources*)

9. The Abortion–Breast Cancer Link

This Life Topic will explain the evidence of a connection between abortion and the risk of breast cancer.

ARTICLE: “How Induced Abortion Increases Breast Cancer Risk”
(see *Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

10. Contraception

Learn how contraceptives, usually aimed at women, are harmful to the body, detrimental to relationships, and may cause early abortions.

ARTICLE: “Methods of Contraception” (see *Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

ARTICLE: “The Connection Between Abortion and Contraception”
(see *Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

11. Defending Life

In order to stand up for life, we need to know how to defend the pro-life position with good, articulate arguments.

ARTICLE: “Tough Questions for the Opposition” (see *Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

PAMPHLET: “Language of Illusions” (see *GFL Pocket*)

ACTIVITY: “Hot Seat”

Place one person in the middle of the room, *i.e.*, the “hot seat.” Members of the group must challenge the person in the “hot seat” with pro-choice arguments. The person in the “hot seat” must defend his pro-life position.

12. Current Events

It is important to stay abreast of pro-life news. Presenting news articles is a good way to keep your club members informed and is a great discussion starter.

ACTIVITY: Request that members bring in articles from newspapers or magazines for discussion.

WEBSITES: www.lifesitenews.com & www.lifenews.com

13. Planned Parenthood

Planned Parenthood is one of the largest abortion providers in the world. Learn how it began and what it stands for today.

ARTICLE: “Planned Parenthood: The Facts” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

ARTICLE: “Margaret Sanger: An Admirable Social Reformer?” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

ARTICLE: “Margaret Sanger: In Her Own Words” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

WEBSITE: www.all.org/stopp

14. Book Discussion

Read and discuss an excerpt from a pro-life book (*see Chapter 9: Resources*)

15. Pro-Life Celebrities

It seems as if most famous people are either in favor of abortion or are totally silent on the issue. But there are a few who are vocally pro-life and use their fame to promote the sanctity of life.

PAMPHLET: “Lovematters.com” (*see GFL Pocket*)

WEBSITE: www.lifeathletes.org

16. Abortion: The Life of the Mother

In the political realm, we often hear about exceptions made for abortion when the life of the mother is at stake. However, the intentional killing of the unborn child is never necessary to save the life of the mother.

ARTICLE: “The Principle of Double Effect” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

17. Chastity

To be consistently pro-life, we must embrace a life of love and respect for ourselves and others.

ARTICLE: “Chastity is Essential to Marriage Preparation” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

18. Comparing Abortion with Slavery, War and the Holocaust

At different times in history, groups of people have been dehumanized and victimized in much the same way unborn children are today by abortion.

PAMPHLET: “From the Logic that Brought you Slavery” (*see GFL Pocket*)

PAMPHLET: “Abortion: The Hidden Holocaust” (*see GFL Pocket*)

PAMPHLET: “Sing A Little Louder” (*see GFL Pocket*)

PAMPHLET: “American War Casualties” (*see GFL Pocket*)

WEBSITE: www.lifedynamics.com (*see the Holocaust section at the American Death Camps page*)

19. Pro-Life Game—Who Wants to Be A Life Saver?

Take a break and enjoy a game that is both fun and educational!

ACTIVITY: Game Rules (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

20. Men & Abortion

Women are not the only ones who suffer from the repercussions of abortion. Many men feel grief and guilt from either participating in an abortion or being unable to prevent one since fathers have no legal rights before their children are born.

PAMPHLET: “Forgotten Fathers” (*see GFL Pocket*)

21. Overpopulation

We often hear that abortion and contraception must be accessible because the world is overpopulated. This is simply not true.

ARTICLE: “Exposing the Myths of Overpopulation” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

22. The Illegal Sale of Fetal Tissue

Learn what often happens to the bodies of babies after they have been aborted.

ARTICLE: “Aborted Babies Harvested for Research” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

23. The Adoption Option

Adoption is a courageous alternative to the destructive choice of abortion.

PAMPHLET: “Adoption vs. Abortion” (*see GFL Pocket*)

PAMPHLET: “Mom?!” (*see GFL Pocket*)

PAMPHLET: “10 Questions Most Birthmothers Ask About Adoption” (*see GFL Pocket*)

ACTIVITY: Invite a representative from a local adoption agency to speak to your group (*see Chapter 9: Resources*)

ACTIVITY: Encourage members to spiritually adopt an unborn child (*see Chapter 8: Prayers and Icebreakers*)

ACTIVITY: Invite a woman who adopted out her baby to tell about her experience (*see Chapter 9: Resources*)

24. The Hard Cases

Learn how to approach the tough issues of abortion in the cases of rape and incest or when the unborn child is diagnosed with a disability. Understand the dignity of each human life no matter how that life was conceived or what disabilities the child might have.

PAMPHLET: “The Abortion Experience for Victims of Rape and Incest” (*see GFL Pocket*)

PAMPHLET: “Hard Cases Make Good People” (*see GFL Pocket*)

ARTICLE: “Aborting the Handicapped” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

25. In Vitro Fertilization & Artificial Insemination

These methods of creating new life are becoming more and more prevalent. Learn why they do not respect human dignity and personhood.

ARTICLE: “Reproductive Technologies” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

26. Embryonic Stem Cell Research and Human Cloning

Creating children for experimental purposes is a direct attack on their humanity. As Dr. Seuss said, “A person’s a person no matter how small.”

ARTICLE: “Treating the Embryo with Dignity” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

27. “Back Alley” Abortions

Is abortion safer now that it is legal?

PAMPHLET: “Never Again? Never Was!” (*see GFL Pocket*)

WEBSITE: www.lifedynamics.com (*see “The Blackmun Wall,” a list of the women who have been killed by legal abortion and the circumstances surrounding their deaths.*)

BOOK: *Aborting America*, Bernard Nathanson, M.D.

28. Child Abuse

One of the original arguments in favor of abortion was that it would decrease the incidence of child abuse because it would prevent unwanted children from coming into the world. Since the legalization of abortion, just the opposite has happened.

ARTICLE: “How Abortion Affects Siblings” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

29. Suffering

To understand the meaning and dignity of human life, it is necessary to understand human suffering. Despite what our culture tells us, suffering does have meaning.

ARTICLE: “The Mystery of Suffering” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

30. Euthanasia

A pro-life ethic goes beyond the child in the womb to include concern for the aged, the infirm and those with disabilities whose lives are perceived by some as a burden to society.

ARTICLE: “Euthanasia & the Right to Die” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)

31. Feminism and Abortion

True feminism calls all women and men to affirm the dignity of women, recognize their role in public life and embrace their ability to bear children.

ARTICLE: “Pro-Life Feminism” (*see Chapter 10: Supplement to Life Topics*)

WEBSITE: www.feministsforlife.org

32. Know Your Facts Pro-Life Quiz

Test your knowledge of pro-life facts. This is also a good quiz to give to your members to see how much they know about the abortion issue.

ACTIVITY: “Know Your Facts Pro-Life Quiz” (*see Chapter 10: Supplements to Life Topics*)