

Thesis Title: Catholic Doctrines and the Abortion Controversy:
A Critical and Creative Analysis

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ABSTRACT

Due to the influences in the changes in the outworks of the society in the world under the affects of material consumerism, the inviolable value and the meaningfulness of prenatal human life as well as ethical principles and religious teachings concerned are ignored. Freedom of choice and personal liberty of individual as well as right to life modified by selfishness are blossoming amongst societies in Thailand. The phenomenon is worldwide as rational and intelligent substance gradually been covered philosophically by emotional and irrational mask through legal approval deviated by subjective justification under the influence of personal benefits through materialism. Consequently, they affect the ethical justification on the status of prenatal being in a mother's womb whose essential status is innocence which has to be naturally protected and nurtured with care rather than being aborted for emotional avoidance of possible difficulties that have not come yet. It is more controversial when its mother is challenged by the dilemma of choice on nurturing or terminating the pregnancy under the influence of prochoice trend proponent by human UN announcement of rights to freedom since 1948 and prolife one supported by ethics and religion among traumatic conditions of worldly living in either societal and economical or ethical dimension.

Considering in the religious trends of Catholic doctrines whose premises are based on natural law obviously related to the dogmatic belief that God created all forms in nature in order to promote the significance and value of human life. Biologically proven, there is no any other resource from which human life can be created. It is acknowledgeable that the equality of prenatal and postnatal status of human being is to be respected as a human person. There is no any legal enforcement or approval enacted by any institute which can change the substantial status as a human person in order to violate the law of human nature for any personal purpose. Hence, voluntarily induced abortion which is an offense of killing an innocent's life whose right to life has to be protected is not permissible due to the fact the prenatal human being both could not and did not come into being of its own choice and had not committed any grave crime sufficient for the penalty of death but the fault is on the side of the parents.

To solve the problem that affects human societies nowadays, the researcher suggests particularly that in case of confronting unwanted pregnancy, sincere familial relationship with the respect to human dignity and confidence on providence of God that always provides appropriate ways to help human beings who love Him must be established. For the prevention of unwanted pregnancy, appropriate teaching of sexual ethics must be unceasingly effective.