

Abortion: Position Paper

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What is bioethics? As defined by our book, it is “life ethics”. The specific bioethics topic I would like to cover has to deal with abortion. There are many important social and ethical questions surrounding abortion, thus over time has formed large, opposing groups with valid arguments on both sides. The two main forces at work here are pro-life and pro-choice, and if I had to choose one or the other, I would choose pro-choice. The pro-choice position is the definitive statement that it is a woman’s decision and her choice of whether to have an abortion or not, and that no one should be able to take that power from her. I believe in many scenarios that ethical egoism and utilitarianism could be fulfilled by allowing women to have one hundred percent control over their own bodies. Ethical egoism seeks after self-interest, and for those that chose to have an abortion, the self-interest variable will have been met. In the way of utilitarianism (those that would seek what is best for everyone involved), take under consideration that unwanted children heavily burden the education system, our healthcare system, as well as can contribute to overall poverty, crime, and violence in the long term; it would be better for everyone if abortions were accepted as a common resolution of personal choice. There are also women’s rights and privacy to be factored into the pro-choice equation. I believe if we are to maintain freedom, privacy, and sensitivity to the bioethical issue of abortion, along with supporting the uniqueness of each abortion itself, pro-choice is the only choice.

Thiroux, J, & Krasemann, K. (2009). *Ethics: Theory and Practice*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.