# SHARING LIFE STORIES OF COMPASSION, HOPE, & HELP JUNE 2020 CARE-NET.ORG

CARE NET



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Isaiah\* loved Stephi\*. Most days, you could find them studying together or hanging out. They'd been dating for a while and things were great. He loved how she made him feel and he tried to spend every moment with her. They both had their lives ahead of them and they believed they'd be together forever. It all felt so right.

Then Stephi showed him a positive pregnancy test. A baby was not part of their plans. What would their parents say? How could she stay in school? While she cried, Isaiah felt helpless. He had no idea what say, so he repeated the line he'd heard Planned Parenthood tell men to say: "I will support you, whatever you decide."

Assuming she would want an abortion,

Isaiah found the number for the Pregnancy Decision Line and called to speak with a coach on Stephi's behalf. As the coach listened to their story, she realized that Isaiah was conflicted about abortion. When she asked what HE wanted, her question freed him to speak for the first time about *his feelings* for their baby. He confessed that he didn't want Stephi to have an abortion. He knew they were young and it would be difficult, but he wanted to step up to support her and be a father to their baby.

The more they spoke, the more Isaiah realized that he needed to tell Stephi how he felt. He needed to promise her that he would support her and their baby. He wouldn't abandon them.

Isaiah asked if his girlfriend could call and speak with the coach. He believed the information she gave him was important for Stephi to hear before making her decision.

Thanks to your support that coach could be there for Isaiah and Stephi. Because of you, a young man discovered the courage to be a dad.

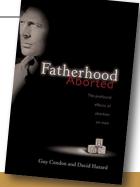
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#### **Fatherhood Aborted!**

Get your free digital copy online today!

The authors discuss the aftershocks of abortion, share personal accounts of post-abortive men's own experiences, and show that the path to forgiveness and healing is found in a vital relationship with Christ, the Life Giver.

Download your free eBook: www.care-net.org/download-fatherhood-aborted



# What Do Vasectomies and Abortion Have in Common?

Nothing in our culture today seems to cause otherwise logical people to act in such irrational and inconsistent ways as abortion.

I had a conversation with a gentleman recently who told me something that was so hard to believe that I had to Google it to see if it was true. He told me that he was considering getting a vasectomy, but that his doctor would not perform the procedure unless he had permission from his wife.

I looked this up, and it is apparently quite common. <u>Many doctors will not perform a vasectomy on a married man unless they have written permission from his wife</u>. And I am not talking about "letting her know about it." Doctors will simply *not perform the procedure* on the man without the wife's written consent.

But wait a second. In a culture whose favorite mantra is "my body, my choice," why would a doctor ever hesitate to perform any medical procedure on a willing, consenting, adult patient? Any suggestion that a woman should inform her husband about an abortion, let alone having to get his permission to have one, has been met with derision.

If our culture was logical and consistent, though, we would change at least one of these practices. We would either start getting husbands' consent to perform abortions on married women, or we would stop getting wives' consent to perform vasectomies on married men.

In our current confused cultural climate, it would seem that allowing men to get vasectomies without someone else's consent, would be the most "logical" step (putting aside our views of the morality of vasectomy). After all, a vasectomy really is just about the man's body, and no other body is physically affected nor existing human life ended by the procedure. That is certainly not the case with abortion, where the procedure is performed on a body that is not the patient's, and it ends a life – the unborn child's.

Obviously, the logic behind getting a wife's consent before her husband's vasectomy is that even though it is his "personal decision," <u>it affects other people</u>. Doesn't this logic apply even more to abortion? An abortion takes the life of a husband's child in the womb, something that a vasectomy doesn't do.

But because the pro-choice culture treats abortion like a "sacrament," all reason goes out the window and double standards abound. And I find this vasectomy example particularly ironic because men are so harshly scolded for saying anything about womens' decisions about their pregnancies, yet the same standard does not apply when it comes to their own medical decisions.

As Pro Abundant Life people, let us pray that reason eventually wins out and women and men, regardless of what our laws say, are encouraged to

make decisions together about the things that affect them together, in the light of Scripture and morality... especially the lives of their children, born and unborn.

Blessings to you,

Rola C. War

Roland C. Warren
Care Net President & CEO

Hear more from Roland on Twitter! @RolandCWarren



## **Saying Yes to Fatherhood!**

**Continued from page 1** 

Care Net's national survey of women who had abortions found that the father of the baby was the most influential voice in a woman's abortion decision. More than her parents, friends, or an abortion clinic.

It wasn't even close.

If we want to save more babies from abortion, we have to reach out to women *and men*. That's why Care Net includes men in our mission and vision statements. We also equip our affiliate pregnancy centers and partner churches to serve men and empower them to be husbands to their partners and fathers to their children.

Every day, 2,500 men like Isaiah need to be empowered to choose life for their unborn children and find abundant life in Christ. Thank you for reaching out to them with compassion, hope, and help through your giving.

## You Can Help TWICE as Many Parents Choose Life



## With a Gift Before Our Matching Challenge Deadline of June 30th!

Another friend of Care Net has given \$62,000 and challenged YOU to help match it! You can ensure that even more mothers and fathers hear the life-saving, life-changing message of the Gospel that will help them choose not only life for their unborn child, but Abundant Life in Christ with your gift today.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

### **OUR CARING PARTNERS:** HEROES SAVING LIVES 365 DAYS A YEAR!

Every single day, parents considering abortion find Care Net's national hotline, one of our affiliated pregnancy centers, or a church equipped for vibrant pro-life ministry through our church curriculum. You can help ensure they are able to find compassion, hope, and help 365 days a year by donating monthly to become a Caring Partner!

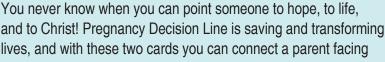
#### As a Caring Partner, you will also receive special benefits, including:

- A designated Care Net team member to serve you
- Updates on how your monthly support saves lives
- An exclusive monthly prayer devotional for your personal spiritual growth

#### **3 EASY WAYS TO ENROLL AS A CARING PARTNER:**

- 1. Select "Make My Gift Monthly" on the enclosed reply device and return it with your first monthly gift.
- 2. Visit us online at: care-net.org/give-monthly
- 3. Call us at 1-800-518-7909

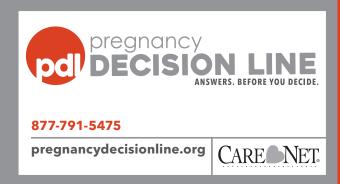




## and to Christ! Pregnancy Decision Line is saving and transforming lives, and with these two cards you can connect a parent facing

#### Steps to Help Save a Life

- 1. Cut out PDL cards
- **2.** Carry with you
- 3. Share with someone facing a pregnancy decision





## **You Helped Apryl Choose Life for Her Baby**

#### ...Even When Her Baby's Dad Abandoned Her

As she drove to her local pregnancy center, Apryl's\* hands were sweating while she feverishly thought back over the last few weeks. It seemed like only yesterday that she was staring at that pregnancy test. It seemed crazy to think back to that sharp sting of reality and knot of anxiety in her stomach that now felt like a distant dream.

She thought back to when she told Eric\* the news. His face went blank, and his eyes widened with surprise. When the shock passed, he made it clear that he did not want their

Apryl let out a breath through her teeth as she turned into the parking lot. The memory of her first abortion still haunted her; the numbness, the feeling of emptiness, and the guilt that followed her home leaving her with a scar that would be with her forever.

There was no way she could ever go through the agony of another abortion again.

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an unexpected or complicated pregnancy with the compassion, help, and hope they need to choose LIFE for their unborn child and ABUNDANT LIFE for their families!

#### **PREGNANCY DECISION LINE (PDL) is**

the nation's only hotline providing caring, confidential, and immediate support to women and men facing tough pregnancy decisions.

We are here for you at **877-791-5475** or pregnancydecisionline.org



## You Helped Apryl Choose Life for Her Baby

#### **Continued from page 3**

Stepping out of the car, she made her way to the front door. Her mom and dad were supportive of her decision to keep the baby, and were excited to meet their new grandchild. But Eric remained adamant in his position. He didn't want Apryl to carry this baby to term and he didn't really care what she wanted, or how much other support she had from her family.

Standing outside the pregnancy center, Apryl found herself asking that same question she'd asked herself as she walked away from that argument:

#### What hope did she have?

After speaking with our Pregnancy Decision Line coach, Apryl had hope. She now knew that she had more options than she realized, and that the pregnancy center and her parents would be there to support her life decision, no matter what.

Thanks to your faithful and generous support, young women like Apryl are finding compassion, hope, and help through the ministry of Care Net. Your help means the difference between lives transformed, and lives devastated.

Please pray for Apryl and other women like her, who find themselves forced to choose between what they know is right and keeping a relationship with their baby's father. And pleases, pray for the Holy Spirit to move in the hearts of these fathers to embrace the responsibility of fatherhood.

## **Wear Your Heart on Your Sleeve!**

Share your heart for the unborn and the hope available through the Gospel with Pro Abundant Life gear from the Care Net store! T-shirts, baby onesies, booklets, and so much more are available to help spread the Pro Abundant Life message everywhere you go!

See our collection at store.care-net.org/apparel





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