

Life Shines in Children

LIFE ISSUES



THE UNBORN

- The heart begins beating at 3 weeks and 1 day after fertilization and will beat 54 million times before the baby is born.
- At 13 weeks, the baby has his or her own unique fingerprints.
- Babies are able to hear noises in the womb, especially their mother's heartbeat. The baby may move or kick in time with the beat in response to the noise.

ADVERSE PRENATAL DIAGNOSIS

- The most common congenital disorders are heart defects, neural tube defects, and Down syndrome.
- In a study of 44,750 deliveries, 67% of mothers chose to terminate their pregnancies following an adverse diagnosis.
- When given perinatal palliative care for an adverse prenatal diagnosis, parents avoid the effects of abortion.



IVF

- On average, it takes 2.5 cycles for a woman to become pregnant using IVF.
- About 5% of couples experiencing infertility try IVF.
- Since 1991, 3.5 million embryos have been created, and only 235,480 had been successfully implanted. 1.7 million embryos were discarded, and 23,480 were destroyed after being removed from storage.

SURROGACY

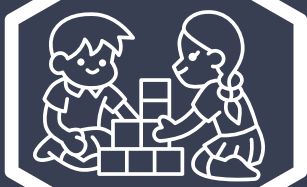
- Surrogacy is legal in the United States but not federally regulated. Laws vary from state to state.
- Surrogacy fees in the U.S. range from \$120,000 to \$200,000, depending on the state.
- From 1999 - 2013, about 2% of all assisted reproductive technology cycles used a surrogate, resulting in 13,380 deliveries and birth of 18,400 babies.





"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change."
James 1:17

CHRISTIAN RESPONSE



Thank God for the gift of children.
Affirm the vocations of child and parent.

Pray with those who desire children.
Ask for God's will to be done.



Pray for families who have received an adverse prenatal diagnosis. Affirm and uphold the lives of mom, dad, and baby.

Life Charity - 10 astounding facts about the development of the unborn baby
Bounty Parents - 21 amazing facts about pregnancy and your unborn baby
Queen's Gynecology - 8 surprising things unborn babies usually do in the womb
WHO - Congenital disorders

NIH - Palliative care for prenatally diagnosed lethal fetal abnormality
U.S. DHHS - Fact Sheet: in vitro fertilization (IVF) use across the United States
Cleveland Clinic - IVF (in vitro fertilization)

Them Before Us - IVF Harms to Children
PBS - Surrogacy facts and myths: how much do you know?
CDC - ART and gestational carriers

