Jalen Powell

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Is fetus a person?

Throughout the past decade or so many people have debated whether a fetus is a person. People have also debated whether abortion should be legal or not, and whether it is the morally right thing to do. In the Roe v. Wade case, it ruled in favor of abortions and allowed women to have the right to abortions without extreme government restrictions. This case was eventually overturned, and the debate continues as to if abortions should be legal and if it is morally and ethically right or not. One major argument for why abortions may not be morally or ethically correct is due to the fact that people argue that fetuses are people. Fetuses, in my opinion, are not people, at least until a certain point.

Fetuses, if you are to compare them to plants, would be the seed of a plant. A seed is not a plant yet. Many people enjoy seeds such as sunflower seeds. Each seed has the potential to become a plant, but in fact is not a plant yet. This is much like a fetus. A fetus has the potential to become a human but has not yet become one yet. Hypothetically speaking the eggs in a woman’s uterus and the sperm within a male have the potential to become a person as well. People continue to dispose of these specimens as well though. So with this logic, anyone who disposes of any sperm and/or egg is “killing a person.” But a sperm nor an egg is a living thing and is not considered to be a person, so why would a fetus be considered a person?

To add on to this argument fetuses, like any living, take time to develop and grow. In the beginning stages a fetus is nothing but a sperm attached to an egg that causes a woman’s hormones to change. This fetus does not yet have bones, a brain, or even a heartbeat. It is not until after multiple weeks that a fetus has a heartbeat. In order to consider a person to be living they must have a heartbeat. Many people are considered dead or not living if they do not have a heartbeat. With this information why would a fetus be considered to be a living person without a heartbeat?

I think whether or not a fetus is a person or not should not affect whether or not an abortion should be morally or ethically correct or not. I think this because there are other factors that go into choosing whether abortion is the correct option or not. Someone should not be punished or told it against their morals if it is a decision that is best for them and their family.

Some things that can be considered that may be more important that the morality of an abortion is the health of the mother and even the morality of whether or not the child will be born into a good life or not. For starters someone may have an internal conflict regarding whether a child would have a good life after being born. For some they may have to give up the child or may not be able to afford the child. Some people may go into the extreme of wanting to keep the child but not being able to feed it or be able to care for any medical attention the child may need. This can be a challenging decision for a mother being pressured to choose between “killing a living human” and deciding whether or not a child will live a happy life once being born. I think by taking away this pressure of telling a mother she is killing a child by having an abortion will allow the mother to really focus on her options of whether or not this child will be able to live with a roof over their head and with food on their plate once they are born. To add it may be against a person’s morals to give up a child once they are born but may not be against their morals to have an abortion. With this there may be an extra burden placed on the mother by being pressured or forced to keep a child and then end up giving the child up. To add on, having a child could be detrimental to the mother’s health. This raises the question of whether or not a mother should risk her own health and well being in order to be morally correct.

All in all, I do not think that whether a fetus is considered a person or not should or would affect whether or not it is morally correct to have an abortion. Nor do I consider a fetus, up until a certain point, to be a person. There is more to consider while debating having an abortion than whether or not a fetus is a person or not. It also makes the process less stressful and allows for a thought-out response and decision of whether keeping a child is the correct thing to do or not. It is also unfair to the mother to make her choose between her life and the life of another, considering the other life she would be choosing between is one that is not yet a person.

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