





## Roe V. Wade and Viability

- In 1973, the court based the "state's interest" to be limited to the time where a fetus is considered viable (24-28 weeks, 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester)
- Today, 22 weeks (25%), 26 weeks (90%) survive
- Question: Is viability a legitimate way to distinguish between life and "potential life"?

## The unborn at 16 weeks gestation

- · Body fully formed with fingers and toes
- Unborn moves, sucks it's thumb, kicks
- Unborn inhales and exhales fluid in lungs
- Unborn can blink eyelids
- Genitals formed, (girl: uterus & ovaries in place)
- Purposeful movement seen among twins

## Viability - Inside and Outside the womb

- Alive; capable of living, developing, or reproducing; 2) Able to live on its own or outside the uterus, used of an embryo, fetus, or newborn.
- The womb is an aid to sustain life. Why distinguish between it, and other aids that are necessary to sustain life? (life versus potential?)

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## What happens at conception?

- At the instant of fertilization, your baby's genes and sex are set.
- The zygote (fertilized egg) begins to divide rapidly and exponentially into many cells.
- By the end of four days, the zygote implants into the wall of the uterus.



What does the Bible say about the Unborn?

"you shall give life for life"

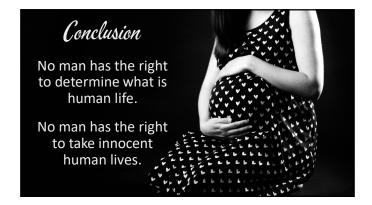
Exodus 21:22-25

"the babe leaped in her womb"

Luke 1:39-41

"how the bones grow in the womb of her who is with child"

Ecclesiastes 11:3-5



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