

The Eye on Abortion

September 2005



COULD ABORTION LEAD TO THE MURDER OF SOME NEWBORNS?

Dear Pro-life Friends,

Satan hates unborn babies. Not only does he hate unborn babies, but he also hates humans at *any* stage of development. Why? Because Satan hates God and we are made in His image and likeness (Genesis 1:26).

Judging from the rate of abortion worldwide (46 million per year), I would say that Satan has a special hatred for the unborn. Just think of the possibilities. The next baby to be born might bring the gospel to an unreached people group or do some other great work for the sake of Christ. Surely, the devil must say to himself, "These lives must be stopped! Even if they don't come to know or serve God, all the better to snuff out the lives of humans made in His image! That will show Him!"

I see his evil handiwork in several news stories. The legalization of abortion has brought about a frightening disregard not only for life in the womb, but also for the lives of newborns.

ILLINOIS GIRL GETS 4 MONTHS PROBATION FOR KILLING NEWBORN

According to a World Net Daily article, on June 2, 2003:

19-year-old Jennifer Sotomayor of Streamwood, Ill., gave birth to a full-term, healthy baby girl in her parents' bathroom.

Unbelievably, Sotomayor had hidden her pregnancy from all but the baby's 29-year-old father, Steven Lemery, and an ex-boyfriend.



Sotomayor's attorneys later said her plan was to deliver her baby in secret and legally abandon her at a neighborhood firehouse according to Illinois' safe haven law. Sotomayor said although she took "great joy" at the prospect of becoming a "mommy," she was also fearful because she had just started college.

But instead of caring for her newborn, she delivered her baby into a toilet. Not only that, she left the baby partially submerged in toilet water while severing the umbilical cord with her bare hands.

Then, when Sotomayor's father knocked on the bathroom door because he heard a ruckus, Sotomayor cupped her hand over her baby's mouth to keep her from crying, still submerged.

Two minutes later, after Sotomayor's father walked away, Sotomayor took her hand off the baby's mouth and finally took her from the toilet and to the sink. It was then Sotomayor said she realized the infant was dead.

Washing her off, Sotomayor put both baby and placenta into a shoebox and hid it under her bed. She later said she stroked her dead baby's cheek and named her Crystal Gray.

Sotomayor's mother discovered the baby's body 14 hours later and took Sotomayor and the baby to the hospital. The hospital contacted police.

A medical examiner determined the baby's death was homicide by asphyxiation, testifying she found the lungs expanded. An ER doctor who assessed the baby also testified she was born alive. A radiologist testified that x-rays showed air in the baby's lungs and stomach.



Sotomayor was charged with first degree murder and concealing a homicide. For these charges she could have received life in prison.

Judge John Scotillo agreed the baby died of asphyxiation, but said prosecutors didn't prove Sotomayor intended to kill her.

So, on Nov. 17, 2004, Scotillo convicted Sotomayor of involuntary manslaughter and also found her not guilty of concealing a homicide. Still, for that crime Sotomayor could have gotten 14 years in prison. But last month, Scotillo handed down Sotomayor's sentence – four years probation.

This is the second time in less than a year, an Illinois court has refused to convict a mother for murdering her newborn.

In fact, Sotomayor's attorneys hearkened back to the Elizabeth Ehlert case in her defense. Last summer, the Illinois Supreme Court upheld an appellate court's decision to overturn Ehlert's two-time murder conviction in the 1990 killing of her newborn baby. Ehlert also delivered a daughter, alone, and smothered her. But Ehlert was eventually let off because the prosecution could not prove her baby was *completely separated from her when killed*. (Emphasis added)

What a confused legal system we have! The unborn have been dehumanized to the point that we are confused about whether a mother should be able to kill her newborn child just because it is still attached to her by the umbilical cord.

TEXAS TEENS KILL UNBORN TWINS BY STEPPING ON THEM

If unborn babies can be killed for a fee through legal abortion, then why not "abort" them at home for free?

If the teens in the story below weren't thinking that, then they at least had the mindset that their unborn babies didn't have enough value to allow them to live. Do you think that the acceptance and legalization of abortion in our culture has anything to do with that? There's no doubt in my mind.

The following is an article from the Associated Press, dateline March 5, 2005, Lufkin Texas:

The would-be teen mother arrived by ambulance last May, her belly bruised, the twin fetuses she had carried for five months gone, and her lips tightly sealed.

Authorities assumed 16-year-old Erica Basoria had been beaten and charged her boyfriend, 18-year-old Gerardo Flores, with murder under the state's new law protecting the unborn.



But it was not that simple. Basoria told authorities that she had been trying to kill the fetuses for weeks and finally asked Flores to help by stepping on her stomach.

"When I was four months pregnant, I began to show, and at that time I decided that I should have gotten an abortion," Basoria wrote in an affidavit.

Although Flores faces prosecution, Basoria cannot be charged because the new law, like many others across the nation, bans prosecution of mothers, on the grounds that they have a legal right to end pregnancies. The case has lawyers on both sides questioning the fairness of a statute that considers one person's crime another person's constitutional right.

"How can two people conspire to do something like this and only one of them be punished? How can that be fair?" defense attorney Ryan Deaton said.

Prosecutor Clyde Herrington said it was startling that "they completely leave the female out of the criminal penalty."

"It doesn't seem entirely fair," he said.

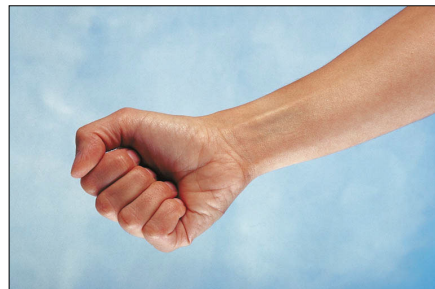
The couple had been dating more than a year when Basoria became pregnant in January 2004. They talked about the future, and Flores, a senior at Lufkin High School pursuing a soccer scholarship, said he offered to delay college a year until Basoria graduated.

At four months, when the mirror betrayed her first bulge, Basoria wanted out. She feigned taking prenatal vitamins and jogged although she was not supposed to.

"About two weeks before the miscarriage, I started hitting myself," Basoria wrote. "I would do this every other day and I would use both of my fists when I did this. I would hit myself 10 or more times."

Then she turned to her boyfriend.

"I said I didn't want to do it," he recalled. But she kept pleading, he said, until he agreed to step on her.



The night of the miscarriage, the couple fought and Flores acknowledged to police "accidentally, probably" hitting Basoria in the face, although Basoria said he was not regularly abusive.

Later, he awoke to Basoria's screams and found her crying, bleeding, and hunched on the toilet. Flores's mother and sister went to the hospital and Flores stayed behind, cleaning up the blood and returning to bed.

Flores has been charged with capital murder, although prosecutors are not seeking the death penalty. He remains in jail, awaiting a trial date.

His family learned of his arrest from television and expressed disbelief over the charge.

"Murder sounds like when you go out there and kill somebody. But the baby's unborn," said Flores' sister, Maira. *"It would have been different if they were born already and he killed them."* (Emphasis added)

Flores calls Basoria regularly, adorns her letters with roses and teddy bears, and says they may get back together if he gets out.

These stories disgust me to say the least. At times the task of restoring humanity to the unborn seems insurmountable, but with God all things are possible (Matt. 19:26).

I am thankful that no matter what wickedness the devil may hatch, in the end, it will only serve to accomplish *God's* purposes. He is the Sovereign One. He is the author of the Universe and His plans will not be thwarted (Job 42:2). Let's not faint in heart, but rather, *hope* in God. Let's also do all that we can to restore humanity to the unborn, and to protect these special creations of the Most High.

For the glory of Christ and the sake of the unborn,

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"I know that You can do all things, and that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted."

Job 42:2