

## The Common Sense Citizen

A long time ago, a very wise man told me that in conflict there are two components:

1. When communicating, each party has a **Need** to relay to the other. This is true even in the simplest conversations (This may become open communication and may lead to collaboration).
2. One party has a **Need to be RIGHT** which becomes their stand and escalates the conversation into conflict. If neither side is willing to give up the NEED TO BE RIGHT, then the conflict cannot be resolved.

I have often used this to sort through conflict in my personal life, business profession and to identify political issues. Because I am so frustrated with the entire political system of the government, I have decided to write some articles called the Common Sense Citizen – not because I have all the answers but because sometimes the solution to the most complex issue can be the simplest solution. Too often the complex becomes clouded and there are many distractions. Breaking it down to *the Need* and *the Need to be Right* is the starting point.

First and foremost of issues dividing our nation is abortion. The focus, to this point, has only been on two facets of the four facets of abortion. One can never be resolved. The other three require a change of perspective, education, and commitment of at least 3% of the population. (Statistically and historically 97% of any population are followers. Only 3% are leaders. Theoretically, if you can move that 3% in a given direction, the rest will follow). This requires leaders who are trusted, who can speak persuasively and understand the true NEEDS of any issue.

## The Four Facets of Abortion

### 1. The Child

The first facet of abortion is the most debated of all and is the greatest area of controversy. The conflict centers around this question: at what point does a fertilized egg become a person?

**View 1:** At conception (usually based on religious beliefs that life begins at the moment the male sperm impregnates a female's egg)

**View 2:** When a fetus can survive outside the womb (usually about 6 months gestation)

**View 3:** About 7 months gestation (lifetime of the fetus/child may still be burden on society due to medical, educational and psychological needs)

**View 4:** Abortion on demand at any time up to 8 months – Extremists views (used for stem cell research and/or organ transplant. Justification: the end justifies the means – the number of people who can be saved not the one who is destroyed)

**View 5:** The woman has the sole right to decide if she wants a child even up and after birth

**Question:** Why is the government so set on funding abortions or population control?

**Thoughts:** This issue cannot be resolved and will continue to plague our society. It is the fundamental difference that exist between people who have a God's world view or a Man's world view.

The Need: Define when life begins

The Need to be Right: Is not based on fact but emotion and control

## 2. The Mother

Generally, the decision to have an abortion (either legal or illegally-as in the past) is based on a number of reasons but most commonly out of concern for the mother. Because we love the mother, we want what is best for her. We do not love the child she is carrying because we do not know **it**. The support is for the mother to have an abortion. For some, it is the need to preserve family honor or physical appearance or it may be an inconvenience or interruption of a career goal or brighter future. Other more emotional issues are conception resulting from incest or rape or endangering the mother's life.

**Question:** Where is the research (I have done informal) on the honest/true effects of an abortion on the long term mental health of the mother?

**Thoughts:** In the informal research, a woman never forgets the projected birth day of her baby. As the birth date approaches every year, the woman suffers depression, anxiety, and guilt for what she has done. Even in the case of rape and incest, the woman knows she has destroyed half of herself. Regardless of whom the father is, part of that child was of her and she never, never forgets. Of course, there will always be a small portion that will not feel this way. The research should be a large sampling, not 400 or even 4000 but many, many more.

**The Need:** Take care of the mother or do what is best for the mother/family

**The Need to be Right:** "I know the best way to do this" – abortion – the other side is easier adoption process and societal support for mother and child.

**NOTE:** The problem now seems to be that LGBT (27 genders to date), be allowed to adopt and adoption agencies with religious ties refuse.

## 3. Society

This facet is seldom discussed because we tend not to think of long term, generational effects of a culture that accepts the destruction of the next generation. Additionally, what talent do we lose – another great leader, scientist, doctor, teacher, or committed worker or the parent of one of these people.

**Question:** Where is the research, the education, the stats or the humanitarian outcry?

**Thoughts:** Our society has become one of permissiveness. Leaders, role models, and ordinary people have become complacent and indifferent of one of the basic values of any society – *personal responsibility*. Whether it is allowing the tossing of trash on public roadways, making wise choices in personal and educational decisions, or holding leaders to moral values, we have become a "mediocre is okay" society. Until a majority of us return to our core values and/or speak out in every forum, our nation will continue to spiral down to the fate of the ancient Greeks – extinction.

**The Need:** Continuance of a society (**Control, Power**)

**The Need to be Right:** Relativism?

## 4. Government

This facet is possibly only viewed by economists because again, we tend NOT to think of the long term effects of these types of decisions. Short term politicians and governmentst choose not to think in terms of the next generation except in the area of saying what needs to be said to gain re-election.

**Question:** Why can't the educated elite think this far in advance? (\*See comments on Economic Collapse)

Thoughts: If the population of any culture drops below a certain percentage, then it can no longer sustain itself. In this country, we are piling such debt onto the future that we can never, never get out of the red. Additionally, approximately 10,000 abortions a day is the equivalent of cultural genocide. The government cannot be sustained and will no longer exist. We are now at less than 2% growth rate. That is at critical point of un-sustainability and will take almost 30 yrs to recapture. THAT is scary.

**The Need:** Sustain a population growth rate to continue our culture for the next generation.

**The Need to be Right:** Government knows what is best for its citizens

**Final Thoughts:** As the President of the United States wants religious institutions to provide free abortion and birth control coverage, my thoughts are:

Why?

Doesn't the government already offer this through planned parenthood, Medicaid, and other means?

Perhaps we should be offering ways to help women who become pregnant and need supportive services during and after her delivery as well as creating a *culture* where the female body is NOT what defines her value. (See chastity.com; *Theology of the Body*: <https://www.nfpoutreach.org/47/>)

## Final Thoughts

I believe we should refocus on teaching and modeling something called ***personal responsibility***. If a man and woman are both capable of having children and they decide to have sex, then they **MUST** also be prepared **AND** held accountable to care for the results of that decision. We truly do make it too easy for people to be irresponsible in many ways. I truly believe we have lost our moral compass.