Name: Sophia Loehr

Age:15

School: Saint Mary's Springs Academy

Grade Level: 10t

Let Them

Rushing towards the playground, Johnny laughs with joy. He wants to get there first to beat the other little boys. Smiling in excitement, Maliyah jumps and sings, Calling "Mommy, watch me!" as she soars up on the swings.

Johnny's friends race him with glee, Maliyah's mommy wears a smile, Passers-by look on and view the happy, carefree style.

But if they were not here today, what would it look like then? A silent path, an empty swing, a longing in Mom's heart, Endless smiles and memories lost, a wish for a new start.

Sam and Abby climb into Daddy and Mamma's laps, Wiggling and giggling, tickles making them collapse. When the kids are settled down, they fold their hands and pray, Thanking God for Dad and Mom, each other, and the day.

Daddy plays and prays with love, Mamma looks upon the two, The parents smile and think about the family ties they grew.

If Sam and Abby left the scene, what would we see there now? A quiet, restless, waiting house, no childish giggling joy, Regret and sorrow creeping in, no little girl and boy.

So for the mothers, for the fathers, For the little sons and daughters, For the friends who need them, too, For passers-by like me and you, Let the children live, I say, Let them see the light of day.

Give them the chance to swing and play, To run and giggle, sing, and pray. Ben Anderson Age 17

St. Mary's Springs Academy 11th Grade

Ever since I was little, I've been asked what it's like being adopted. A lot of kids don't know the true beauty in adoption and the opportunities it provides for young children to have a loving and caring family. My name is Ben Anderson, a junior at St. Mary's Springs Academy and I was adopted at birth by my parents. I've been raised in a Catholic household my whole life and have been taught the importance of the pro-life movement from a very young age.

Growing up I never understood the true nature of my adoption or what a blessing I had received from God. As I continued to grow I quickly learned that God granted me with the best gift ever. In my family we have adopted and biological children and there is no difference between me and my siblings at all, our parents love all of us with their whole hearts and for that I am greatly blessed by God. As I venture through life in high school I realize that the pro-life movement is like an outcast. Kids and teachers support abortion like it is nothing more than any other political belief. The truth is people do not understand the science and morality behind what is truly happening. Worldwide this past year there were about 44 million abortions. That means that innocent children are dying every day.

Now I'm lucky to say that I was saved from a terrible death like this and I have never been more blessed by God. It has given me a different perspective on what is happening and how truly lucky I was. When I grow old I know that I will be adopting children to save just like I was, but that is not enough. I personally understand that the pro-life movement is more than just a battle against abortion as well. The movement emphasizes the idea that every unborn child has the potential for a meaningful and impactful future. Being adopted, I am a living example of this potential. My birth mother's decision to choose life allowed me to be embraced by a loving family, granting me opportunities and experiences that have shaped the person I am today.

The pro-life movement is also more than just about saving the children. It is also a way to support the parents of the children who are in challenging situations and give them an escape from the battle. Supporting these parents encourages a happy and compassionate outcome to unplanned pregnancies. I am lucky enough to be a part of an open adoption. I have a loving relationship with my birth mother and her family. This has been another one of the many blessings I have received. This open relationship provides the opportunity for us to love and connect with each other regularly. This is important because it can help show my birth mother I am a part of a happy and loving family, and she does not have to live with lifelong guilt for taking the easier alternative. The movement can help provide helpful resources, counseling, and other alternatives than abortion.

Supporting the pro-life movement is a way to be a hero to these young children. These children are being able to experience beautiful life and happiness because of the alternatives provided. This is a great start to help these young children, but there is so much more to do. Understanding that any contribution can go such a long way is very important. I plan to educate myself even more to be able to express my love for the movement to my fellow classmates and families about the importance of providing relief to the people in unplanned pregnancy situations. Thank you for the chance to share my experience and beliefs.

Aiden Anderson 15 years old Fond du Lac High School Freshman

Hello, my name is Aiden Anderson. I'm 15 years old and I live in Fond du lac, Wisconsin. My family and I are pro-life and proadoption. My brother, Ben, and I were adopted at a very young age by our parents, Mike and Summer Anderson. We were raised in a Catholic community, attending Catholic schools and being active in our parish. My family and I have strong Catholic values.

I'm pro-life because I believe that every life is sacred. Every human on earth was created in God's image, and each person's life is just as valuable as anothers, even if they are still in the womb. I believe that a baby in the womb is a human being, and should be protected.

Not only am I pro-life because of my Catholic faith, but also because of my birth story. I was the result of a teenage pregnancy. My biological mother and father were in high school when I was conceived and when they discovered they were pregnant they very scared and confused on what to do. Despite all this, they reached out and got help from a pro-life adoption agency. They carefully selected my adoptive parents and choose them to raise me. It truly is a miracle that I am here today to write this essay. In truth, every life is a miracle, and should be treated as a miracle.

It is very important to give help to young mothers and soon to be mothers. If my bio mom couldn't get the help she needed, it would've been a very bad situation. There was an abortion clinic 45 minutes away from where she lived. Her "friends" tried to convince her to get an abortion done. They told her: "It'll only take a bit and the problem will be gone." But my mom knew better. She knew that I was not just a problem that could be solved with a quick 45- minute trip to the clinic. She knew the truth and by the

grace of God she ignored those people and continued on the right path toward giving me life and a future.

Mary's pregnancy with Jesus was unexpected and dangerous as she was unmarried. Back in the biblical times, becoming pregnant before being married was almost a guaranteed death sentence, as the penalty for this crime was death. However, Mary stayed faithful and continued with God's plan, giving birth to the son of God.

In the year 2021, there was a total of 625,978 reported abortions in the US alone. That's 56,648 more people than the population of Milwaukee. Imagine what we could have if abortion was never a reality. Maybe someone with the intelligence to find a cure for cancer or even a way to achieve world peace would be here instead of aborted. So much was wasted because women were misled into a deadly sin of taking a life.

Women all over the world are misled into thinking that being pregnant unexpectedly is an inconvenience, or a \$300 problem that can be solved by going to a clinic and getting a quick procedure done. This is the world's lie and we all have to face it. An abortion isn't a quick medical procedure, it's the taking of a human life. Mother's have to live with this guilt, shame and destruction for the rest of their lives and so do the fathers that are aware. In the future, I want to got to Washington DC with my mom and her campus ministry group to protest abortion. I figure that I can speak out against this evil even now. Writing this essay inspired me to talk to my friends about the pro-life movement, and maybe even speak out against it in school. I believe that based on my life story and beliefs that I could be a powerful witness to the pro-life movement. Thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Pro-life essay Ayda Colwin Age: 15 School: Saint Mary's Springs Academy Grade: 9

Pro-life essay

Ever since I became a part of the Catholic community, my pro-life belief has been very important to me. Abortion is the stopping of a pregnancy by getting the embryo or fetus removed. I do not believe in abortion mainly because of my Catholic faith, but also because I want to help protect the innocent, unborn children in our world today.

Pro-choice advocates argue that The fetus is not alive, therefore it is not murder. As a Catholic who has researched this topic, I believe that God knows us and has our life planned out for us before he even forms us in the womb. Also, Many studies show that human life begins right away during the fertilization process when the sperm and egg meet together to start the process of forming human life.

Another argument that pro-choice advocates make is that abortion should be okay, especially for those who had been raped. Rape is a tragic thing to happen to a person but an abortion won't take away this pain and suffering. It might cause more hurt mentally—about three million women experience rape-related pregnancy in the United States. Sandra Mahkorn, who is a counselor for sexual assault victims set up a survey and found out that two-thirds of women with rape-related pregnancies felt much better about their pregnancies getting better as it progressed. Keeping a baby that was due to rape might be scary and confusing, but it is always good to have people that care about you on your side. Also, remember that God is on your side and will help you through anything.

Abortion can result in some long-term medical risks. Having an abortion can lead to different types of cancers like breast, ovarian, and endometrial cancer. There are also a few other risks like blood clots in the uterus, heavy bleeding, incomplete abortions, and more. Every year about twenty million women choose to have an unsafe abortion. Out of those twenty million people, about sixty-eight thousand die, and five million suffer from long-term

Pro-life essay

health problems. The main causes of death from unsafe abortions are sepsis, hemorrhage, and many other types of diseases and infections.

Many arguments state that abortion should be okay if the mother's life is at risk. Well, abortions that are performed to save the mother's life are extremely rare. Not only that but in 2019, medical leaders who spoke for many doctors stated that "intentionally killing a late-term unborn baby in an abortion is never necessary to save a mother's life" If you are a Catholic like me, I know that God will always be on my side no matter what I am going through. The Lord is a great God and a God of miracles, his power is greater than any medical issue.

What does the bible say about abortion? Even though the bible never mentions the word abortion, many parts of the bible show that God views all human life as sacred, including unborn children. Some examples would be verses like Psalm 139:16, "Your eyes even saw me as an embryo." This shows that God saw David as a person before he was even born. Another good example would be Jerimiah 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I sanctified you. I made you a prophet to the nations." Both of these verses are really good examples that prove God knows a human before they are born.

Anyone who has had an abortion convinced someone to get an abortion was a doctor who has performed abortions, can always be forgiven by God. God loves you and if you are truly sorry for your sins, he will forgive you.

Human life is a very beautiful thing. I feel like it is such a great blessing to be able to have a child of your own. You can teach them, watch them grow, congratulate them on their accomplishments, watch them fall in love, and so much more. Children help us experience things we have never felt before, like how to love and learn. I feel like the greatest part is that their innocence reminds us that the world isn't only filled with hate and sin.

Pro-life essay

Even though I do not believe in abortions, does not mean I will ever bring anybody down if I knew someone planning on having an abortion. I would pray for them and ask God to guide them through their decisions. It is essential to pray for people who are planning to have an abortion. You never know if they could be feeling any kind of guilt or stress because of the abortion.

In conclusion, all of these scientific and religious facts are the reason why I and so many other people are pro-life advocates. I hope that maybe one day I can help convince someone who needs help to change their mind and hopefully save a life. Abortions are not going to go away anytime soon, but I'm going to keep praying so God can guide women to understand how important human life is.