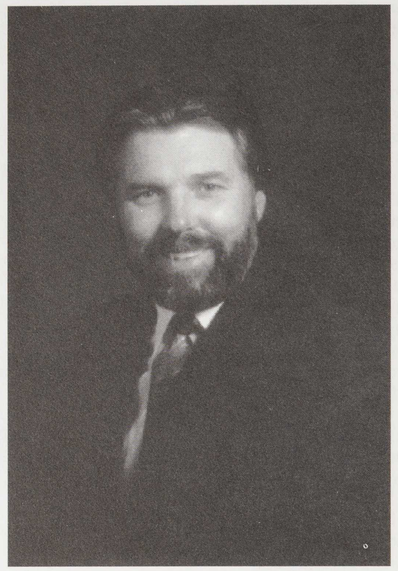

Ron Suton

were many pro-choice people who didn't own slaves but did not protest the right of others to own them. There were many slave owners who took the position that opposing slavery on moral grounds was all right, as long as that morality was not imposed on them.

A comparison in *Handbook on Abortion* says: "The unborn baby is now the modern Dred Scott. As with a black slave then, the unborn baby now has no legal rights, is the 'property' of the owner (mother), and can be killed if the owner wishes, at any time before birth."[9] Given the similarities is it not rational to at least consider the possibility, as numerous legal scholars on the left and the right have already done, that "Roe v. Wade" is as much a travesty of justice as the "Dred Scott" case? Both cases demonstrate that Thomas Jefferson was certainly right when he stated, "The Constitution is a thing of wax in the hands of the Judiciary."

We know the Supreme Court erred in its rulings on slavery. A majority of Americans believe the Court also erred in its ruling on abortion in "Roe v. Wade." Columnist George Will says, "'Roe' is bad constitutional reasoning (really an unconstitutional non-reasoning) and has resulted in dismaying practices. 'Roe' should be reversed."

Some leaders on both sides of the issue, including President Clinton, who are concerned about the escalating tension have called for compromise — for a meeting in the middle between pro-life and pro-choice advocates. Some are suggesting that protests are only adding to the problem by further dividing society. There is mounting pressure to *leave women alone* and let them make personal and private decisions about abortion.

The truth is, there is no room for compromise on abortion, just as there was no room for compromise on slavery. Abortion is a horrible moral and social evil which must be resisted by everyone who believes that the unborn baby is a living person with a right to life. How can a person with strong moral convictions on the sanctity of life strike a compromise with those who demand the legal right to kill unborn babies?

One day we will all stand before God to answer for our actions on earth: on that day, vast multitudes will regret their compromises with the perpetrators of evil; on that day, those who protested Hitler's holocaust, slavery and abortion will be proud that they refused to compromise; on that day, those who remained silent, or who hid behind irrational pro-choice arguments, will hang their heads in shame and wonder that they could have been party to such horrible evil; on that day, multitudes will tremble before the clear biblical truths they ignored or scorned in this life. ■

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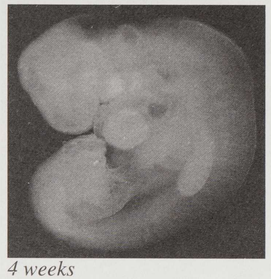
9. Willke, John. **Handbook on Abortion.** Cincinnati: Hayes Publishing Company.

Ron Sutton is the founder of Project Life in Jefferson County, Missouri, and has published numerous articles on pro-life issues. Copies of this article in brochure form may be obtained by writing LifeLine Literature, PO Box 22, Crystal City, MO 63019

LIFE BEFORE BIRTH

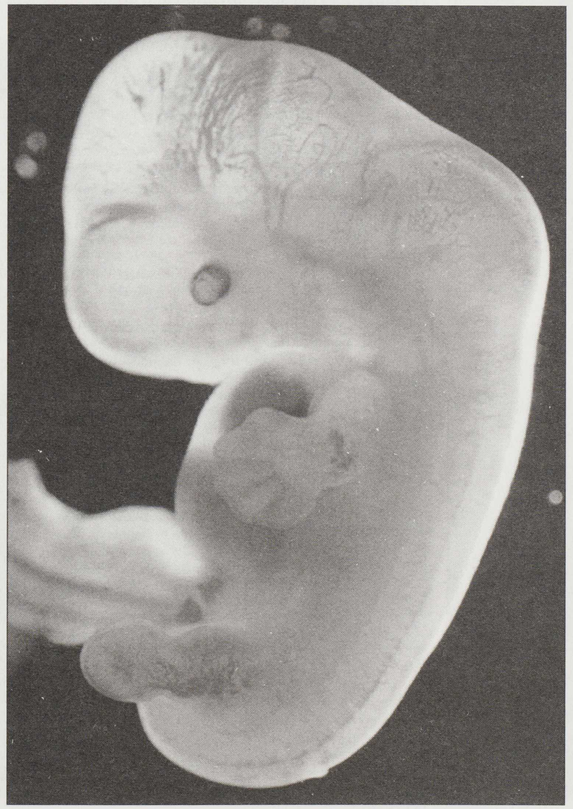
by Michael Forrester, M.D.



4 weeks

"Since World War II, and especially during the last two decades, our knowledge of fetal development, function, and environment has increased remarkably. As an important consequence, the status of the fetus has been elevated to that of a patient who should be given the same meticulous care by the physician that we long have given the pregnant woman. Investigations of the nature of human life in utero have been and will continue to be among the most rewarding in all of biology, and these are of great clinical importance as well." (*Williams Obstetrics,* 1985, p. 139)

The above quotation is from one of the most popular OB-GYN medical textbooks, which also has chapters instructing its readers in techniques to exterminate these in utero patients. Such "civilized," scientific discussions about killing "fetuses" (don't say "babies" because of negative implications), reminds me of similar medical discussions fifty years ago. Several hundred German physicians gathered yearly for a national conference. At least publicly, not an eyebrow was raised as some doctors presented their data on freezing subjects to death (the screams and movements of some subjects were so bothersome, they had to be sedated by general anesthesia so the experiments could be concluded at the subjects' death); on injecting lethal doses of infectious diseases into unknowing subjects; on harvesting limbs for tranplantations from healthy, unwilling donors; etc. The subjects used in these medical procedures were identified as "Jews" and "Bolsheviks" primarily, (not "people," because of negative implications, although "subhuman" was an acceptable reference). You would think medical doctors today would have learned from the past: Political correctness does not change biologic facts about who's "human."



5 weeks

A CONTINUUM OF DEVELOPMENT

What are the scientific facts regarding the "fetus" inside a pregnant woman? Why is it a living, individual human being, rather than "subhuman" or merely a "product of conception" or a "blob of tissue"? "Fetus" is of Latin origin and means "offspring." It is one of several descriptions applied to the stages of development and maturation of a human being, in order to help us more easily understand these incredibly complex biological processes. "Embryo," "fetus," "infant," "child," "adolescent," and "adult" are the main terms used to describe the *continuum of development* of a human being from conception to senescence. They are artificial distinctions, superimposed by science, delineating changes in the forms of the human organism, not in its essence—which is always "human."

The same, human DNA present at conception gives the instructions and timetable for the various changes expressed in the developing human being throughout his or her lifetime, whether in utero, during childhood, through the teen years, or as an adult. In many forms

THE UP SIDE