a cannula. A cannula is an instrument that was developed by the abortion industry. But actually, this [it is a thin, eight-or-so inch tube that has sharp, curved edges at one end and another opening at the other] will go into the top of the uterus so it won't puncture it, and these little edges scrape the sides of the uterus, while the opening pulls the baby out and it's all in one move. The suction removes the baby all in one motion [she demonstrates the up-and-down motion].

This is a first trimester abortion?

This is a first trimester abortion, and it's very quickly over.

Is this painful?

Yes, it hurts. Because the only thing that's been numbed is the mouth of the uterus, and she feels the sensation of the scraping, and then, of course, the pulling as the baby is ripped out.

What do you call this procedure?

This one is called vacuum suction, vacuum aspiration.

Does it always work?

No, no, no, it doesn't always work. As a matter of fact, we had a woman come in at twenty weeks that called us and told us on the phone that she had a foot in her vagina. And we told her to come in, and we pulled her chart and she had come in at six weeks for an abortion and had not come back for her check-up. This was fourteen weeks later, and her baby was now twenty weeks, and the little baby's foot was pushing out through the mother's cervix, and there was a baby's foot in her vagina.

So was the baby dead?

No, the baby was very much alive. It had continued to grow, and so we had to do then a D&E, which is a dilation and evacuation, but we had to remove that baby. With a D&E they dilate the mother's cervix and use big forceps and pull the baby out in pieces.

What about complications? How often does something go wrong, and what is usually the problem?

John, we had one out of every 500 women either die or have major, life changing surgery. The last eighteen months, twenty women either died or had a hysterectomy, a colostomy, urinary tract repair...major surgery. But you see, our deaths were never reported. Our medical director used to laugh and say, "A complication? What is your definition of a complication? We don't have a definition of a complication, so we've never had any complications."

We had a woman die, a thirty-two-year-old woman whose cervix, the mouth of the uterus, was torn, and she bled to death from that tear. The doctor had a date and didn't have time to check her, and let her bleed to death. We kept her in recovery. That's a terrible thing. It never appeared in the newspapers. It never appeared anywhere. As a matter of fact. I recently tried to secure a copy of her death certificate which is public record, and it was never even filed.

What do you mean it was never filed?

The coroner never filed her death certificate.

So she's not dead according to legal records?

She's dead, but the cause of death was hemorrhaging from a cervical tear, and it was not filed. So it probably means that no one ever asked for a copy of the death certificate such as an insurance company, and they didn't have to file it, so they didn't.

There's a big cover-up with complications, too. But we would see women have hysterectomies but their uterus was perforated. We had a twenty-one-year-old from Oklahoma who was on the table and the doctor decided she had a polyp in the back of her uterus, and he decided to pull it out. And he told me about this for some strange reason. And he pulled and he pulled and he couldn't get it out, and so he called a doctor from across the hall who came over and they together pulled and pulled, and finally pulled her uterus wrong side out on the table. Twenty-one years old and she had a hysterectomy. And then the colostomy, you know, the twenty-one-year-old, and I had my hand on this woman's stomach, on the baby, holding the baby still. And the doctor went in the uterus and pulled out the placenta, which is normal. And then the second time he went in, he pulled her bowel out through her vagina. Now, I don't know if you know what that means, but it means that the surgery is technically over in the clinic because when you injure a bowel, you have got to do a colostomy. You and I know a colostomy is when the bowel opens out into an opening on the outside of the abdomen.

Was this permanent condition?

Well, this particular one was eventually reversed, but it was very traumatic for a long time. But what happened was that baby was still alive. She had to be transported to a hospital for a colostomy. Well, you know, I could just see the attorneys coming out of the woodwork on that one, but the doctor called in all of his forces, and all of those doctors said that woman had not had a pregnancy in her uterus, that she had had an abdominal pregnancy. And so there was no law suit filed. She couldn't file a law suit. She would have had that problem anyway. But the truth of the matter is, no doctor would have started an abortion if that baby had not been in her uterus. We had a picture on the sonogram of it in her uterus. There's no way. But they lied.

The youngest girl I ever saw in an abortion clinic was eleven years of age. She and her boyfriend that got her pregnant paid for and signed for her own abortion.

Returning to the girl, you mentioned that after a successful abortion, you would begin the process of reselling abortions. How did you do that?

Normally, we'd talk to them and tell them, "Look,you've come in here once; you don't want to come in here again." We would say, "Look, why don't you take these birth control pills?" Many of the girls would say, "I will never have sex again." And we said, "Hey, you got here once, you'll be back. Now take these pills." We would hand them to her and say, "Start taking them on Sunday, that way you'll never have a period on the weekend. Won't that be convenient?" And she did take them home. And she did start thinking about it. And she did start taking them on Sunday. And we gave her a low dose pill with a high rate of pregnancy, because we knew that her mother wouldn't nag her to take her birth control pill. She would forget it, and she would come back pregnant. We actually had an agenda, I'm sorry to say. It was three to five abortions out of every young woman between the ages of thirteen and eighteen. And we knew we could do it if we could get her involved sexually and get her involved taking birth control pills. We knew Planned Parenthood's own statistics on birth control. They go in and say, "Look, let time help you be sexually active. Let time help you be responsible." And those statistics showed that they were failing miserably, and we knew that birth control sold abortions.

Because it encourages sex?

Well, a girl who is having intercourse once a week when she goes on birth control will go to five to seven times a week. And if she's not responsible enough to take her pills accurately, she's going to get pregnant. And we knew we could get them.

To digress for a moment, how prevalent is it for an abortion clinic to perform an abortion on a woman who is not pregnant?

We don't have good statistics on abortion clinics doing abortions on woman that are not pregnant. But I think about five percent of the abortions in this nation are done on women that are not pregnant.

Did you do this yourself?

We did abortions and were caught by Channel 4, the CBS affiliate here in town.

Tell me a little bit about that.

Well, they just started doing an expose, and sent their reporters into the clinic wired for sound to see if we would do abortions on women that were not pregnant and caught us red-handed doing it. That was in July of 1983.

Laura Randall is their reporter. [She] came in, [and] said she was pregnant. And we tried to sell her an abortion even though she had been to a physician and just been told she was not pregnant. And we tried to sell her an abortion. We found someone doing that again this last year in Houston. And all across the nation they're caught doing it all the time.

Why don't we hear about this?

I don't know why you don't hear about it. I don't know why more people didn't hear more about the Channel 4 thing. But very few do. Take the *Chicago Sun-Times* report where they sent reporters in the abortion clinics and found them routinely [performing abortions on women who were not pregnant]. This case in the *Chicago Sun-Times* was like '83, '84, somewhere in there, maybe '85.

Anyway, the suit that was supposed to be heard by the Supreme Court a year ago, **Turnock v Ragsdale**, actually came out of this because they found them doing abortions on women that were not pregnant, uncovered twelve unreported abortion deaths, found them re-using instruments that were designed for one-time use without even cleaning them, much less sterilizing them. All sorts of horrible things. And they filed this lawsuit. All this lawsuit did was demand that the abortion clinics in Illinois come in line with the standards of any hospital. That meant that all they'd do is protect women, right?

Last year, this case was supposed to have been heard December the second. The Attorney General, Neil Hartigan, was running for Governor, and he found it politically expedient to settle this case out of court, to the tune of costing the state of Illinois $800,000 in attorney's fees to the ACLU, and all sorts of other things. Well, as it's worked, the Supreme Court kicked it back down to them, and they're having to hear it now. There were 254 abortion clinics in the state of Illinois, and had those regulations gone into effect, only three would have been allowed to continue operation. Only three came in line with any sort of surgical standard that protected women, and that case was settled out of court. Well, now it's come back and it may not work that way.

I don't understand it either. Why wouldn't they protect women? Why wouldn't they do something to demand that abortion clinics, if nothing else, have whole blood? You can't have your tonsils out at a facility that doesn't have whole blood! I mean, what if you need a transfusion? They don't have any level of resuscitation or cardiac arrest equipment, standards...you know, all those things. And we couldn't do any other surgical procedure in that sort of environment. But you can do an abortion. The sad thing is, literally, this office, just an office, we can do abortions in here. No standards in the state of Texas about the kind of facility...just that they be licensed.

One last question. Making that kind of money, why did you get out? You mentioned to me that people tended to either not last long in the business or just become hardened to it. After five years in the business, why did you suddenly become convicted about what you were doing?

Well, it was a...people ask me this all the time, and I have an answer, but sometimes it doesn't wow them enough. But you know, the truth of the matter is, that I met Jesus Christ, and he became very real to me. He became so real to me that I decided I did need a savior, and I wanted to be saved. And I accepted him as my personal savior. And that really made a change in my life. People say things don't make changes in your life, but I knew I was killing babies. I knew I was killing babies; I knew I was hurting women. And I knew I couldn't go on. And I prayed a prayer and said, "Lord, if this is not where you want me, hit me over the head with a two-by-four." And that two-by-four was a Channel 4 expose showing us doing abortions on women who were not pregnant. I had already started telling women they didn't have to have abortions. I'd stopped selling abortions. I was helping women. But when that happened, that was the end for me. It was my answer to prayer. And I left.

Sometimes I get a little sick of telling people that I've killed babies because, you know, that's not real easy to say, because my heart's very different now. I wouldn't kill babies, but I did it, and I want people to know the truth, so that maybe they won't make the same mistake I did and have an abortion. And maybe they won't let their daughter have an abortion. Abortion's not about anything but money, that's it.

Adam's Lonely Death

Last September, a teen-age girl checked into Humana Hospital Sunrise in Las Vegas, Nevada, for a prostaglandin abortion—a procedure which induces violent labor. Her fetus was in its second trimester, between 21 and 24 weeks.

Trouble began when the first dose of prostaglandin failed; a second dose was given.

"Later, nurses heard a shriek, entered the room and found the girl screaming. She had given birth to 'Adam,' a l-pound, 4-ounce, crying, arm-waving fetus-baby," reported Sherman R. Frederick, editor of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal,* who first publicized the case.

The attending physician was not present, so nurses rushed the baby to a neonatal intensive care unit.

"Returning, the doctor discovered what had happened and, according to witnesses, turned pale," Frederick wrote last Oct. 28. "He left the floor and a short time later, nurses received a call from neonatal telling them that 'doctor's orders' were to remove Adam from specialized care, take him off oxygen and send him back to his original ward."

One nurse tearfully refused to follow orders, but another complied, taking Adam off oxygen and leaving him to die. Adam lay for an hour before expiring, 3 hours and 25 minutes after his birth; he was issued both a birth certificate and a death certificate.

Nevada law permits abortions at any time during pregnancy, for any reason, but it also requires doctors to try to save any newborn infant that shows signs of life outside the womb. The Clark County (Nevada.) district attorney's office conducted an official investigation late last year, and then called a grand jury to consider indictments. At press time, no indictments had been issued.

"This case is not about abortion," Frederick says. "It's about civil rights. Do civil rights extend to all Americans—including Adam? Or are the rights of the handicapped, the poor, the old, the unwanted or even the medically doomed somehow limited or absent?"