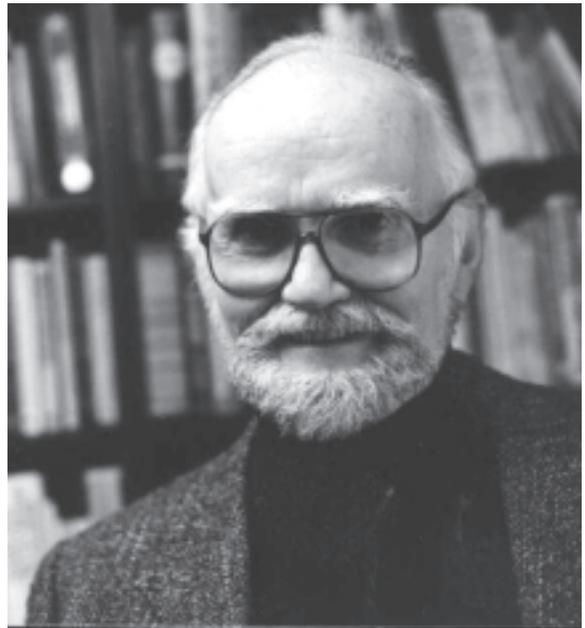


# *Abortion: How many is too many?*



By Dennis Howard  
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It's amazing how people react when they hear the latest abortion toll, which has just hit 53,495,167 as of October 31, 2010.

Some get angry. Others yawn. Still others react in horror and breathe a silent prayer. Then there are those who recognize an overwhelming tragedy that will decide the future of our nation, the church, and the world.

They are the folks who quickly understand the math. Fifty-three and a half million is more than the population of America's 70 largest cities – from New York all the way down to cities the size of Plano, TX. It's as if we had a nuclear war and no one survived in all those cities.

What we have had for more than a generation is a declared war against the young driven by population scaremongers committed to exploiting the fears and vulnerability of ordinary women struggling to survive. The U.S. Supreme Court was just the propagandists' patsy.

Their message: "You can avoid the responsibilities of living by letting us kill your babies."

It's a pitch no different than the Nazi pitch to all of those "good Germans" before and during World War II. "We'll see that you have the good life as long as you look the other way while we exterminate a few Jews."

What Hitler delivered instead was hell on earth for Europe and the world.

What the eugenicists have given us is the slaughter of 31.7% of the generation under 40. Fifty-three and a half million is more than all the casualties from all the major powers in World War II, including the Holocaust.

Indeed, it is 46.7 times more people than we have lost in all the wars we have ever fought. We can't help losing this one because it is our own next generation that we are killing.

That's why I get little chills up my spine whenever I hear otherwise well-informed people underestimate what has hit us.

If every human life is precious, it's urgent that we get the numbers – and their significance — as right as we can. It doesn't help our cause if leaders are content with 5-year-old estimates like 48 million, which I keep hearing from people who should be better informed.

Some make the mistake of counting only those lives lost since *Roe v. Wade*. That leaves out some 1.8 million aborted earlier in states like Colorado, California, and New York where abortion was legalized in 1967, 1968 and 1970.

California and New York are high abortion states anyway, and were doing a land office business in abortions from other states years before *Roe v. Wade*.

By reviewing earlier sources, we now know that there were at least 1,816,520 abortions in these three states before 1973. These early abortions were a forewarning of the slaughter that was to come after *Roe*.

It turned out to be a slaughter that will eventually bring America more shame than slavery. Most slaves got to live. These babies didn't.

Which is worse? A slave population that grew by 466% in the 70 years between 1790 and 1860, or the genocidal slaughter of 4.67 times as many blacks in the last 40 years as lived in these United States in 1860. Surely, that wasn't what Abraham Lincoln had in mind.

The ethnic breakdown of this total includes: 34,085,480 whites, 17,183,630 African Americans, and 2,562,490 "Hispanic or other." Previously, the last two categories were combined under "black and other," leading to an overestimate of black abortions.

However, that doesn't change the genocidal aspect of black abortions, especially when you look at abortions by race as a percentage of the total population, and as a share of the vulnerable "under-40" generation.

The total of 17,183,630 black abortions is 69.7% of the under-40 black population and 43.1% of the total black population. Both are devastating percentages, especially when you realize that 61.8% of all blacks are under 40. No doubt about it, this is a younger population that is being devastated by abortion.

For comparison, white abortions account for 26.25% of the under-40 white population and just 13.8% of the total white population. These are devastating numbers, too. But no matter how you look at it, blacks are still three times more likely to be aborted than whites.

For blacks, this is "a war against the young" in which many of their leaders are complicit. It is astonishing that young blacks are still willing to support liberal black politicians who have sold out their race to the pro-abortion political clique that gives them money and power.

I should emphasize that we are only talking about abortions that are both "legal" and reported. For that reason, these statistics remain very conservative. The actual numbers may well be 20 to 30 per cent higher – and possibly more. Here's why.

For starters, the published numbers are derived from a survey of abortion providers taken by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, a subsidiary of Planned Parenthood, every 3 or 4 years. Between surveys, Guttmacher interpolates the numbers for intervening years. That amounts to

a mathematical guess for the non-survey years. No doubt that saves money.

We also need to caution that Guttmacher is essentially a public relations arm of its parent, Planned Parenthood. That makes them about as objective as a partisan political pollster with a pseudo-scientific cover. The last thing they'd want to do is to scare the public with alarming numbers, or needlessly arouse the ire of church-going pro-lifers. The fox doesn't want to alarm the chickens anymore than he has to.

Further, why would typical abortion providers give totally honest answers to a survey?

It is common knowledge that many abortions are performed for cash – for people without insurance, for those who want no financial record, and those who want no record at all.

Examples abound: An older boyfriend who has impregnated an underage girl. A teacher taking a student across state lines. Couples involved in illicit affairs. "Super-parents" trying to clean up a teenager's act. Or a woman who just wants to keep her abortion secret.

And don't forget the abortionist who wants to hide cash transactions from IRS, or who is performing procedures that push the limits of legality. The last people these guys want to mess with is the local prosecutor or IRS.

Still another incentive to under-report is to beat strictures against federal funding of abortions. If waste, fraud, and abuse are a major problem in programs like Medicaid, this is surely something that deserves scrutiny. Nevertheless many prosecutors won't investigate abortion clinics because it's a political hot potato. Women have died having abortions while prosecutors looked the other way. Why would they pursue a little fraud and abuse?

Typically, high volume abortion facilities are part of the urban ring around our major cities, which is coincident with high density minority populations. From its beginning, Planned Parenthood deliberately targeted such areas. Yet we know from the ACORN scandal that these are the same areas where regulations are often conveniently disregarded.

In a word, the temptation level is high for clinics serving minorities to fudge their billing to agencies like Medicaid. If abortion isn't covered, just call it something else. In short, there are many reasons for abortion providers to

under-report generally, and very few reasons for them to report accurately. Major hospitals that perform abortions are a possible exception.

The racial composition of the abortion data is another concern. Formerly, minority abortions were reported under “blacks and others.” This served to inflate the numbers for blacks, since both were lumped together.

More recent data shows both black and “other” abortions (mainly Hispanic) as rising percentages of total abortions. Currently, blacks are estimated to make up 38.8% of all abortions, but early in the abortion era, they comprised as few as 24%.

This increase reflects the continuing breakdown of the African-American family and the commonplace reality of youthful promiscuity. Currently, 82.8% of all abortions occur to single women. Pre-marital sex and abortion are inextricably linked, and nowhere more so than in the black community. Jerry Springer would be out of business without black “baby Dads.”

Hispanic abortions are a rising percentage of all abortions, too, reflecting their growing population, relative youth, and rapid acculturation. That should disappoint Catholic bishops who are depending on Hispanic growth for the future of the church. It took three generations for the Irish and Italians to become secularized. Hispanics are doing it in two.

The other side of the racial picture is the apparent decline in white abortions both as a percentage of all abortions and in total numbers. Early on, 75% of all reported abortions were among whites, That has fallen to 52.4% — a decline of 30%. In addition, the yearly number of white abortions has declined from a peak of 1.1 million in 1981 to a projected 635,000 in 2010 — a drop of 42.2%. That is remarkable.

However, one must ask whether these numbers are believable in view of the growing number of medical abortions using drugs like RU-486 and “morning after” abortifacients. If these are included, unreported abortions should be much higher than 30%.

Over the years, the variation between Guttmacher data and data from the Center for Disease Control has ranged from a low of 10% to a high of 35%, with a 35-year average difference of 18.61%. True, some jurisdictions do not legally require abortions to be reported, but that

can't explain it all. Wide variations in reporting is far more likely. If you're running a controversial business, why invite unwanted scrutiny with glowing numbers?

Political motivation is also a factor. During the Clinton years, the number of reported abortions went into steady decline — from a peak of 1.6 million in 1990 to 1.29 million in 2000, a drop of 20% during an avowedly pro-choice administration. That compares to a decline of just 3.33% during the succeeding Bush years. Coincidental? Or deliberate?

Some pro-lifers have tried to use this data to claim success in their efforts to reduce abortion. However, Clinton could also claim success of his policy to make abortion “safe, legal and rare.” Realists take a more cynical view: Both may very well hide a rise in unreported abortions. The rise in the gap between CDC and Guttmacher reporting supports that view.

In short, the actual number of abortions may very well be at least 30 per cent higher than reported. Instead of 1,206,000 for 2005, for example, there could be as many as 1,570,000.

Unfortunately, we'll never know with any certainty. That's because the pro-life movement and groups like the Catholic Church lack the resources, the money or the will to do their own corroborating research.

Some claim that the cost of such research would be astronomical. That would be true if we tried to duplicate the Guttmacher studies. However, far less costly studies could be done that would serve as a cross-check on abortion industry data and help keep their reporting honest. Today, we're not even in the game.

Even more important, we also need better motivational and other research as a basis for developing new strategies against abortion. Scholars like David Reardon, Ph.D., and Joel Brind, Ph.D., have demonstrated the power of such research, and so have our opponents.

It was a motivational study in the early '80's that came up with the concept of “choice” that saved the day for the abortion industry. If not for that study, the cultural war over abortion might already be over. “Choice” remains a powerful, but misleading code word for abortion.

Planned Parenthood has a 25-year plan, but pro-life planning is often “by guess and by gosh.” If something works, do more of it. If it doesn't, try

something else. Yet I know, from my long experience in marketing, that both innovation and creative research can make all the difference in the world. Prayer alone won't produce major changes in public attitudes. Good research can.

St. Paul wisely said: "Faith without works is dead." In other words, you can say you believe in life all you want, but unless you are willing to put some serious money and creative effort behind it, don't expect any great changes.

For the pro-life movement to forego its own research is, in effect, a kind of unilateral disarmament in today's cultural war. We are left with all the slogans of years gone by that have been seen and heard a thousand times, and with other methods whose effectiveness remains unproven until adequately tested. Yet the stakes are awesomely high – not just in terms of lives that will be needlessly lost if we fail, but involving the very future of major institutions like the church, our economy, and the nation.

When I look at the declining numbers for the Catholic Church, for example, there appears no way short of a miracle to save it from the fate of the old mainline churches. Half the congregation at most Sunday Masses is white-haired. Young adults and families with children are in the minority. True, there are signs of a youthful awakening, but nothing that promises to revive the growth rates of the 1950's. That can't happen without an end to abortion.

The "practicing Catholic" population is now in decline. Barely half still marry in the church, a key indicator of future practice. Losses from abortion total 10 million or more, and there have

been many fewer births because of contraception. I would estimate total demographic loss to the Catholic Church of at least 20 million. Meanwhile, the crisis in faith that is a byproduct of the sexual revolution has cost it millions more.

In short, if the Church were a business, it would be spending far more on pro-life research and education than the reported \$2.5 million budget for pro-life activities at the USCCB.

Organizations like Priests for Life report that they function without church support. Lay groups like our own can confirm similar lack of support from churches. All the prayers in the world won't help us without active support from the Christian community. Here is an area for real lay apostolic effort. Apathy is public enemy number 1.

The question remains: If numbers and trends like these won't wake up a majority of Catholics or other Americans, what will?

The Tea Party movement is focused on big government, taxes and spending, and far less on the social changes wrought by abortion and the sexual revolution. Yet the economic loss from 53.5 million abortions to date is at least \$35 trillion in lost GDP. It remains the fundamental reality behind the current economic crisis. It is also the reason why full recovery will be both slower and weaker than expected.

It's time we all became fully aware that what's killing America is what America is killing.

*For more information, go to:*

<http://www.movementforabetteramerica.org>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/mbaforlife>

*email: [mbaforlife@gmail.com](mailto:mbaforlife@gmail.com)*

***Movement for a Better America, Inc., PO Box 472, Mt. Freedom, NJ 07970***

*Yes, I support your campaign to awaken America to the terrible toll being taken by abortion. Please enroll me as a member and send me regular bulletins on developing more effective pro-life communications strategies for the critical period ahead between now and 2012.*

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