



## **Emergency Contraception it is NOT**

After sperm are deposited inside of a woman, they rapidly swim through the uterus, through the tubes, and out to the ovary. This passage takes as little as thirty minutes. If an egg awaits, fertilization then occurs immediately. One sperm enters the ovum and proceeds to unite its 23 chromosomes with the 23 female chromosomes in the nucleus of the ovum. Sperm entrance until the first cell division takes about one day. From then on, rapid cell division occurs.

For the first week of life, this new human embryo floats freely down his or her mother's tube, journeying to the womb. When one week old, he or she plants in the nutrient lining of the womb.

If fertilization has occurred, and if the woman takes the "morning-after" pill within a few hours or days after the "event", the hormones in the pill harden the lining of the womb. When this tiny human embryo reaches the womb, he or she cannot plant and dies. The effect of the pill, then, is to kill this tiny human at one week of life. The effect is a very early abortion.

Pro-abortion forces have labored mightily to claim that "pregnancy" does not begin until the embryo has attached to the uterus. It may well be that the mother's body is not directly affected until that time, but this human embryo is already one-week-old when this occurs. Reading and listening to the news accounts, you will hear the term "pregnancy" used interchangeably with "human life". They are not the same. It has long since been scientifically proven that human life begins at that first-cell stage. Whether you call her pregnant at conception or at implantation one week later is a mere matter of semantics. The fact of the matter is, a human life exists at the beginning and dies at one week from the effect of this pill. In fact, then, this pill is not emergency "contraception", but rather is emergency "abortion".

Reporting has correctly claimed that if the embryo has already attached, the pill apparently does no harm. It is true that the pill, then, would not cause an abortion, but it is not proven that it is harmless. Let's not forget the tragic harvest of genital deformity in girls and boys born to mothers who

were given an artificial estrogen compound, DES, back in the 1950s, while pregnant. In any case, since the baby is one week old when he or she plants, that is some days after she has taken the pills.

Spokeswomen for the National Right to Life Committee, among others, have made another claim, and that is that this pill stops ovulation and therefore is a contraceptive. This may be possible in a very few occasions. It would work this way: A woman has sex on Saturday night and takes the pills Sunday morning. She has sperm inside of her. She was programmed to ovulate Monday night. Without the pills, she could have conceived Monday night, because sperm can live and be active enough to fertilize for 24, and as long as 72 hours after entering her body. If she took the pills Sunday morning, it is theorized that this might block her Monday evening ovulation. If that were true, this would be a contraceptive effect. One problem here is that this mechanism has not been proven – it is only a theory. The major problem, however, is that it would occur in only a very small percentage of cases, and that in the overwhelming majority of times, she would have become pregnant within the hour after she had sex, and the pills would cause an abortion.

The reports have been correct in separating the effect of these pills from the French abortion pill, RU 486. The RU 486 is taken three weeks or more *after* conception and two weeks or more after implantation. Its effect is to kill a developing baby after his or her heart has begun to beat. It clearly is an abortion drug and operates quite differently from a "morning after" pill.

### **Conclusion:**

In all but a very few cases, this pill does not prevent human life from beginning. What it does is kill a new human life when he or she is one week old. Its advocates constantly confuse *their* definition of "pregnancy" with the public's understanding that what is being spoken of is when human life begins and whether human life is destroyed or not. □