

# PRO-LIFE WORDS AND PHRASES

(From Feb. 2014 Connector Article: *How Our Words Shape the Debate* by J.C. Willke, MD)

You Should Say	You Should Not Say	Why
Abortion-on-demand	Reproductive choice, Reproductive rights, “Safe, legal and rare”	This is their attempt to politicize rather than admit their pro-abortion agenda. Pro-abortion advocates want to increase access to abortion.
Pro-abortion	Pro-choice, Reproductive justice	Using the word “choice” or “reproductive justice” distracts from the true issue, abortion.
Pro-life/Right to Life	Anti-abortion/Anti-choice	This is their effort to reframe our position as a negative. We must affirm we stand for life.
Abortionist	Abortion doctor	These hired killers do not deserve the dignity of the title doctor. Call them abortionists.
Abortion mill/Chamber/Killing center	Abortion clinic	A “clinic” calls up an image of a place of healing, which it is not.
Abortion	Procedure	Using the word, procedure, is an attempt to diminish that abortion is killing.
Abortions committed	Abortions done	Committed carries a very specific judgment.
Fertilization	Conception	Fertilization is an exact biologic term. The term conception has been changed in many peoples’ minds to be after implantation at one week of life.
Living human embryo implants	Fertilized egg implants	The fertilized egg stage lasts one day. Using this term dehumanizes this single cell human being. On day two, cell division occurs, and the proper term is “embryo” or best of all “living human embryo.”
Kill an unborn baby	Destroy/Terminate a pregnancy	We destroy things. When you say kill, you emphasize humanity.
Baby/Unborn Baby/Preborn	Fetus/Embryo/Potential Life	Our choice of words should always affirm the baby’s life and humanity.
Human life	Person	Human life is definitive—this is human, this is alive. Person can be defined in 14 different ways and a government, by its laws, can define who is a person.
Mother	Pregnant woman	Mother is a much softer word, calling for love and compassion by the reader.
She is carrying a child	She is expecting a child	She’s not expecting, she is already carrying the child in her womb.
Womb	Uterus	Womb is a warmer, maternal term. Uterus is coldly medical.
Abortifacient pills	Emergency contraceptives	Call them what they are. They are abortive.

Chemical abortion	Medical abortion	Chemical abortion, i.e. RU 486, is accurate and has a negative connotation. Medical abortion insinuates healing, which it is not.
Protective legislation	Anti-abortion laws/Restrictive laws	Pro-life people aren't against anything; they are for the life of the mother and the child, so protective is proper.
Permissive/Radical abortion laws	Liberal abortion laws	Liberal originally meant concern for the poor person. Permissive abortion does not care for the baby.
Fetal disability	Fetal deformity	Disability brings to mind, "I want to help." Deformity calls forth revulsion, turn away, "I don't want to look."
Make a loving adoption plan/ Place baby into loving arms	Give up for adoption	To "give her baby away" sounds negative, almost calloused.
Assault rape, forcible rape	Rape	Using the word rape alone includes statutory rape, which is intercourse, consensual or otherwise, with a minor. To use assault or forcible also separates it from more vague terms.
Research cloning/Clone and kill	Therapeutic cloning	Cloning is cloning. In this case, a living human is experimented upon and then killed. It is certainly not therapeutic.
Brain injured	Persistent Vegetative State	We don't dehumanize people by referring to them as vegetables.
When a doctor kills the patient	Death with dignity	There's nothing dignified about killing a patient through euthanasia or assisted-suicide. Call it what it is—a doctor killing a patient.



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