

Tips for Pro-Life Apologetics

Speaking about abortion, advocating for the rights of the unborn, trying to change hearts and minds, these are not the easiest things to do. Whether it's out on the streets doing Pro-Life activism or simply a conversation with someone, below are some practical tips to aid you all in defending the truth, goodness and beauty of life in its most vulnerable stage. Above all, be confident in the truth and keep persevering!

Speak with Charity

- Always embrace every conversation from a point of humility, empathising with the person you are speaking with. Remember that the point of the conversation is to shed light on the beauty of life, it is not about winning an argument. You can have all the facts and reason in the world, but if you do not speak respectfully and with kindness, people will immediately be put off from your message.



Be prepared

- Do your research on abortion, the development of the unborn, relevant laws and common arguments given by Pro-Choicers. Stay up to date on Pro-Life news and try to have some practical information for women in a crisis situation.

The more knowledge you have, the better equipped you will be to encounter a variety of people and respond to different points of views. If you don't know something, be honest with the person you're speaking to, it's ok to admit you have to get back to them on something.



Look for common ground

- It can be very helpful to try and find a common ground between yourself and the person who you are speaking with. This way you can find something you both agree on and follow the logical steps that lead to the Pro-Life position. For example, you might try to begin with the notion that all humans should have rights or that innocent people should not be killed. You could also start with the idea that we should not be allowed to kill newborns, *few people will argue against this*, and then ask people why we should protect newborns but not babies still in the womb.

It's always easiest to start on common ground rather than at opposition. Once you have found a common belief you share, you can use this to build on it and help show why the unborn deserve the right to live.



Share stories

- Any particular experiences or encounters that have impacted you with regards to abortion or the Pro-Life movement might be very compelling in spreading the pro-life message. It might be an encounter with a pregnant woman or someone else who changed their mind on the issue, whatever it is, giving anecdotes helps bring the issue you are discussing to a personal level.

Sharing stories can help make your interaction a memorable conversation, where you can affect someone's heart, as well as their head.



Visuals can help

- Sometimes having photos of the unborn, such as a 4D ultrasound image, can be just what causes a shift in someone's mind, simply put, you cannot argue with a photo. The evidence is there, we have the technology to see within the womb, to see the little fingers and toes of the babies, let's show people!



Keep your cool & smile!

- Speaking about abortion is often not easy and it can get heated. But try to always remain calm and collected. We might not be able to convince everyone, but they still deserve to be treated with respect. If we want to change hearts and minds, we need to be approachable, so have open body language, smile and be positive! We want people to remember the encounter positively even if we disagree.



Challenge people

- It is not uncommon to meet Pro-Choice people who will rattle off the usual "it's a woman's right" without *actually knowing* what an abortion is, and what it entails. It can be helpful for such people to be challenged. For example you might say, "What do you think should happen to babies if the termination is unsuccessful?" or "Do you know what a D & E abortion involves?" or "If babies can feel pain at 20 weeks, should it still be legal to kill them?". Of course, these would not be appropriate for every person you encounter, but for some, they just need to be woken up to the realities and horrors of what an abortion is, and challenging them to think seriously about what it is they are advocating for, could be the reality check they need to spur a radical change within them.



Don't be disheartened

- Despite all the evidence and reasoning in the world, some people still may not be convinced of the Pro-Life position, or at least not from the encounter you have with them. This is ok. Speaking to people about abortion might be the only time they have ever had to *really* think about their position and been asked difficult questions. Often our conversations plants a seed that will later grow.

Some people may mock or laugh at you for defending the unborn and they may even have such radical views that talking to them will be achieve little. Just do the best you can, stay confident in your beliefs and be encouraged! You never know what a conversation will do down the track for someone!

