

DISCUSSION GUIDE

“Pro-Life Millennial Women Speak Out”

Release Date: January 2017

Length: 5 minutes

Producer: [America Magazine](#)

Synopsis:

The belief in the life and dignity of the human person is an essential element of the Catholic faith. However, conversations around what it means to be pro-life have become polarizing and are often associated with partisan allegiances in society.

In this short video, hear from seven pro-life millennial women from across the political spectrum as they share what it means for them to be pro-life, experiences they've had expressing their pro-life views in a variety of political and social spaces, and where they see the pro-life movement headed in the Catholic Church.

For your consideration as you watch the video:

- How do views expressed in the video uphold the CST principle of the Life and Dignity of the Human Person?
- What role do political identities play in the conversation around pro-life issues?
- How can we better engage in conversation and respectful dialogue when talking about difficult issues such as abortion?
- What is one statement that you agree with from the video? What is one statement that challenged your thinking on pro-life issues?



Catholic Social Teaching Themes

- Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Solidarity

Video Link: <http://bit.ly/2nkMVat>

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Engaging the Pastoral Circle

❖ EXPERIENCE

- What does being pro-life mean to you?
- Have you previously engaged in discussions about pro-life issues? If so, what was your experience in having those conversations? Were they difficult? Why?
- What perspectives from the individuals in the video stand out to you? What surprised you or challenged you?

❖ ANALYSIS

- According to the video, “Women and families who feel like there is no other choice but abortion do so because they’re facing a whole host of issues in their lives and structural problems that they did not create.” What issues and structural problems can make it difficult to choose life?
- Why is it important to listen to women’s voices and stories when discussing pro-life issues?

≡ REFLECTION

- One of the women states, “Being pro-life for me is more of an all-encompassing ethic. It’s not just being pro-life in terms of abortion. It’s about the death penalty, it’s about helping poor people. It’s a lot about single-motherhood.” How do the gospel, our faith tradition, and Catholic Social Teaching support this statement?
- What does our faith tradition have to say about pro-life issues? Give examples from scripture and Catholic Social Teaching.

≡ ACTION

- The video states that, “Not ascribing the worst possible and least charitable motives” to people as we talk about life issues is essential to open up productive dialogue. How can you find ways to create this type of space in your personal conversation and wider community?
- Use the [USCCB’s resources](#) to promote Respect Life month in your community.

Prayer

Loving Creator, help us to respect life
In all of its forms
Throughout every season of life.
As we engage in conversation about what it means to be pro-life,
Help us to do so
With open ears, with open hearts,
And with a spirit of charity.
In the same way, may we always uplift the voices and experiences
of women,
Just as Jesus did in the gospel. Amen.

