



Pro-Life Bulletin Board

A project of American Life League, Inc.

Volume 12, Number 3

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The birth control pill: More reasons to just say no

Scripture is full of references that artificial birth control is ungodly. From the command to “be fruitful and multiply” to the consequences of the sin of Onan, the Lord has made his intentions clear. Sadly, many people claim they may overlook these clear instructions about God’s will for human sexuality. Use of the birth control pill is widespread among people of all faiths, and Christians are no exception.

But what do you say to those whose minds are closed to these teachings? If these people won’t listen to theological reasons for rejecting the pill, perhaps some scientific information could sway them.

How the pill works

The primary way the pill works is to prevent ovulation (the release of an egg from the ovary ovulation). However, women who are on the pill can experience breakthrough ovulation, meaning that an egg is released despite the chemical interference of the pill. The pill also causes cervical mucus to thicken, making it difficult for the sperm to reach the egg—difficult, but not impossible.

The pill also changes the lining of the uterus. This makes it nearly impossible for the five- to seven-day-old baby to attach to the lining of the uterus, where it would receive the nourishment needed to grow. If the baby does not successfully attach to the lining of the uterus, the child dies. This process is known as a chemical abortion and is why the pill is referred to as an abortifacient.

The lower the dosage of the pill, the more likely it is to work by causing a chemical abortion. Other

birth control methods can also cause chemical abortions: Depo-Provera, the IUD, the patch and “emergency” contraception.

What they don’t tell you

Although the pill can abort, many in the medical community deny this. For political reasons, the working definition of pregnancy has changed over the years from “beginning at fertilization” to “beginning at implantation.” Therefore, a doctor may say the pill never aborts a “pregnancy.” But science tells us that a human being begins at fertilization. So if the pill prevents a developing baby from implanting in the lining of the uterus, an innocent human being has been terminated—and that is in fact abortion.

The pill also carries significant health risks. Pill use can increase the incidence of breast and cervical cancer, plus the risk of tubal (or ectopic) pregnancies and even infertility.

Help spread the truth

If someone you know has rejected the Scriptural message about birth control, please share these facts with them. For many years, the entire Christian Church taught that for just reasons, a husband and wife may postpone pregnancy, but may employ only natural means of doing so. Those teachings refer to following God’s will in matters of human sexuality. In this case, science backs up God’s wisdom. Artificial birth control is not only harmful to the couple spiritually; it can have adverse physical consequences for the mother and it can be deadly for preborn children.

Information taken from: *1999 Physicians Desk Reference and A Consumers Guide to the Pill and Other Drugs*, by John Wilks, B.Pharm., M.P.S.

Pregnant and in need of help? Birthright: 1-800-550-4900



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The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that artificial birth control is “intrinsically evil.” Sadly, many people—including many Catholics—claim they may overlook these clear instructions about God’s will for human sexuality. Use of the birth control pill is widespread among people of all faiths, and Catholics are no exception.

But what do you say to those whose minds are closed to the teachings of the Church? If these people won’t listen to theological reasons for rejecting the pill, perhaps some scientific information could sway them.

How the pill works

The primary way the pill works is to prevent ovulation (the release of an egg from the ovary ovulation). However, women who are on the pill can experience breakthrough ovulation, meaning that an egg is released despite the chemical interference of the pill. The pill also causes cervical mucus to thicken, making it difficult for the sperm to reach the egg—difficult, but not impossible.

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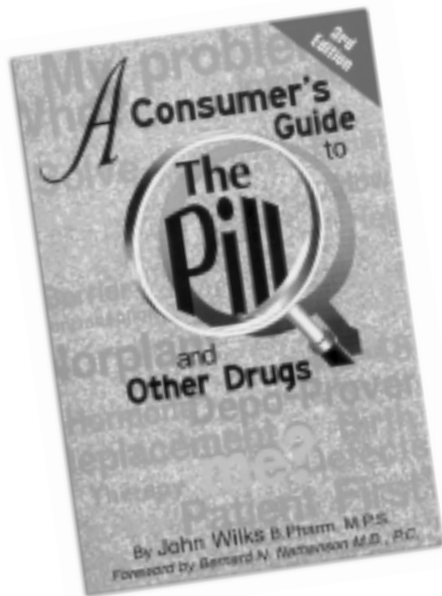
The pill also carries significant health risks. Pill use can increase the incidence of breast and cervical cancer, plus the risk of tubal (or ectopic) pregnancies and even infertility.

Help spread the truth

If someone you know has rejected the Church’s teachings about birth control, please share these facts with them. The Church teaches that for just reasons, a husband and wife may postpone pregnancy, but may employ only natural means of doing so. Catholic teachings refer to following God’s will in matters of human sexuality. In this case, science backs up God’s wisdom. Artificial birth control is not only harmful to the couple spiritually; it can have adverse physical consequences for the mother and it can be deadly for preborn children.

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A Consumer's Guide to the Pill and Other Drugs, 3rd Ed.

by John Wilks, B.Pharm. M.P.S.

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