

My name is Mary Margaret Page and I am 15 years old and attend Montpelier High School. As a teen beginning to explore my interests and look at colleges and careers; it has dawned on me that I am experiencing things that others have never and will never be able to experience. Not because of my choices and personal ambitions, but because of the fact that I was born.

Our nation was founded on principles that the founding fathers deemed important and necessary to preserving democracy and the well being of all. Through this, they brought to light the fact that we have certain irrevocable rights. "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness" Life is listed as the first right we have. We are given the gift of life and it is a right of ours to be born into this world with a purpose. So many of us take life for granted until we realize the horrific truth that not all of us are given the opportunity to breathe or take our first steps.

Abortions happen, and that's a fact, but do we really know how many lives are lost? Every year in the world there are 40- 50 million abortions. This translates to 125,000 babies who are killed each day. These are 125,000 lives that will never be able to love, breathe, think, or lead. These are 125,000 babies whose parents must deal with this grief. This is at least 250,000 lives that are forever changed because of so-called "women's rights". And to make it worse, there are also live birth abortions. This means the baby is born into the world, and is either killed or left to die. In Vermont, there are about 4 abortions per day. And in 2014 there were 1,400 abortions.

Take a minute and think about this. How is this helping the mother and father? How is this helping the world? How does murder make the world better? Remember: the only reason we are all here able to talk about this is because we weren't aborted.

Lawmakers: you have the choice of life and death; a choice to choose between bringing the next generation of leaders into the world, or murdering them. Be heroes and choose what's right.

Bomberger, Ryan. "<http://www.theradiancefoundation.org/>." *The Radiance Foundation*, www.theradiancefoundation.org/justthefacts/. Accessed 6 Feb. 2019.

"<http://www.worldometers.info/>." *Worldometers*, www.worldometers.info/abortions/. Accessed 6 Feb. 2019.

"State Abortion Statistics." <https://abort73.com/>, abort73.com/abortion_facts/states/. Accessed 6 Feb. 2019.