

Inbred Value

Petter-pat. Petter-pat.

Her little feet scurry across the linoleum floor.

Petter-pat. Petter-pat.

Giggles fill the air, immediately lifting the mood in the room from stale to full excitement.

“Boo!” She peeks around the corner and lively shouts in a feeble attempt to scare me, smiling as wide as she can to reveal her little baby teeth.

Why would anyone want to take this from her?

About a year ago, my dad and stepmother adopted my baby sister from an impoverished mother. Prior, we waited six long years to be chosen by a birthmom and spent thousands of dollars to maintain the chance to be chosen. Often, we’d consider cancelling our scripion because it was becoming too much to pay. A few days before father’s day, however, my dad and stepmom got a call. Six years of waiting, hoping, paying the agency, and praying had finally paid off. The time we waited, the money we spent, and the grief we felt while waiting is nothing compared to the joy she brings to our home. When I look at her, I wonder: *How many children are as lucky as her?* But also I think: *How many children would be loved and valued by another family but never get the chance?*

In 2008, more than 135,000 children in the United States were adopted (Child Welfare Information Gateway). That means about 135,000 United States homes are filled with the petter-patter of little baby feet, or even grown ones, and giggles that light up the room. About 135,000 families saved about 135,000 children from horrible situations that they would’ve been

born into. About 135,000 children were given a better home, where they can grow and succeed like a normal child, and maybe even exceed and becomes the person that solves pollution, the toxic waste problems, or world hunger. They could be among the many influential people in history were adopted and have influenced society in one way or another. Steve Jobs, for example, revolutionized the way people communicate between one another. His technology is valued so highly that the company he co-founded, Apple Inc., is now almost worth a trillion dollars, making Apple Inc. the world's most valuable company (Monica). Babe Ruth, iconic for his numerous baseball records and induction into the Hall of Fame, was sent to an orphanage at a young age. If he had never gone, he may not have found that he was naturally gifted in baseball. Ellas McDaniel, better known as Bo Diddy, was adopted by his cousin who introduced him to music. Through this he was able to pave and influence the revolutionary rock and roll sound of The Beatles, The Who, and The Rolling Stones. This is only three people of many more who have been adopted and have had great influences on history and society. Humans have innate value. It is established before birth and lived out in life. Why would anyone want to deprive any human, no matter the age, of this elemental value?

Unfortunately, the amount of abortions in 2008 is over six times larger than that years adoption rate (Pazol). Among the estimated 825,000 babies aborted in 2008 could have been the scientist that revolutionized the way we travel, the scholar who changed teaching processes for the disabled, or even the activist that won rights for mistreated citizens. The mistreated citizens are really these children. They are deprived of their right to life because of a choice. A choice that could have given the child life, just with another family, but was instead a choice that brings disaster. It's impossible to imagine what the world would be like had those children, and the

hundreds of thousands of children before them in 2007, 2006, 2005 and so on. What would the world look like if those aborted last year, in 2015, were still alive?

Humans are naturally made with value and passion. From day one, cells are feverishly trying to duplicate, weaving in what fate has in store. Yes, it is easy to just end the pregnancy but the life that a woman carries inside of her can have an impact like no other. Humans are the only species gifted with such high intelligence. The process of ending a pregnancy is a process that removes a valuable human life from society. It ends the chance of a family being completed, a great scientific study to be discovered, and deprives the world of the kind, compassionate people those children would grow up to be. No longer is the pitter-patter of little feet heard on the floor or are giggles that give jubilation to all that hear it echoing down the halls, but rather hope is depleted and society is forced to wait for the next Steve Jobs or Ellas McDaniel to help further humanity.

Works Cited

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