



abortion

Abortion is never an act of little moral consequence. The dual responsibility of protecting prenatal human life while also preserving a woman's freedom of choice is not easy.

What position does the Seventh-day Adventist Church take on this issue?

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Adventists do not condone abortions for birth control, gender selection or convenience. And we do not believe those with a religious or ethical objection to abortions should have to participate in them.

But when a woman faces exceptional circumstances of serious moral or medical dilemmas, she has the final decision whether to terminate the pregnancy or not. Attitudes of condemnation are inappropriate.

The church does not serve as a conscience for individuals, but it does provide moral guidance. It:

1. Supports women who choose to complete crisis pregnancies
2. Creates a safe climate for ongoing discussion of the moral questions associated with abortion
3. Provides sex education
4. Emphasises responsibility for family planning
5. Encourages fathers to participate responsibly in the parenting of their children
6. Assists in alleviating the social, economic and psychological factors that add to abortion

Adventists encourage people to make decisions about prenatal human life in the context of healthy family relationships.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church released guidelines on abortion in 1992. Visit www.adventist.org.au to read the full document.



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