## Christian Medical & Dental Associations University of Texas Health Sciences San Antonio. February 24, 2025

<u>Introduction</u>: Doctor Fred Brown is a retired OB/Gyn whose career was segmented into military medicine, mainstream private practice, and medical education.

He is a both a member of the Christian Medical & Dental Associations and First Presbyterian Church San Antonio.

He has lectured on the spiritual aspects of medicine at the local, regional, and national levels.

He is a recognized spokesperson on the topics of Ultrasound, Sexual Health, Breast Cancer, Hormone Therapy, Life Expectancy, and The Sanctity of Life.

Prologue: Today I am representing First Presbyterian Church San Antonio.

In the past 15 years First Pres has experienced profound growth since its separation from Presbyterian Church USA.

It is a member of the ECO - A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians.

The name ECO is not an acronym. It is similar to a religious order like the Franciscans or Dominicans in the Roman Catholic Church.

ECO is committed to cultivating a healthy, diverse, resource-rich ecosystem where pastors and congregations can flourish — First Presbyterian Church San Antonio is flourishing.

It is Christ centered, Bible based, and Spirit filled with dynamic programs and opportunities for every age group.

First Pres Church is a local mission partner with CMDA San Antonio to show the love of Jesus Christ and to support God's healing in our community. It is an honor and a privilege for me today to represent the Christian Medical & Dental Associations. I testify that of all of the endeavors in my life, I have received the best return on the investment of my time, energy, and money through my involvement in CMDA.

CMDA assists in changing the heart of healthcare by changing the hearts of doctors. I am proof of their success — an example of the fruit of their labors for the glory of the kingdom as CMDA practices 'eternal medicine'. CMDA changed my heart.

I am a late arrival as CMDA notes that 85% of Christian physicians and dentists were raised in the church.

In April 1993, 32 years ago, when I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior, a CMDA member and his wife were by my side. They had invited me to worship with them that wonderful Sunday. I had a new faith and needed knowledge, guidance, and nurturing. I developed an appetite – actually a strong hunger – for all that CMDA provided.

It is important to share with you a perspective into CMDA. For years I admired and appreciated the remarkable dedication and exceptional efficiency of the CMDA staff at the local, regional, and national levels.

It finally dawned on me that I was blessed to be collaborating with a remarkable team of missionaries.

I came to understand that Mitzi Roberts was a seminary trained missionary and we in the health care professions are blessed to be in her mission field.

I will now share with you the inspiration for this presentation.

Today is the premiere.

Since 2009 I have presented the sanctity of life message over thirty times to CMDA medical school audiences, residency programs, church programs, and pregnancy care center galas.

I have been blessed to be the featured speaker at Pregnancy Care Center Galas ten times in Texas and in Colorado. It is deeply meaningful to see what God is doing with these powerful grassroots ministries.

I share with you also that based on my transparency, there are numerous opportunities in the healing process of women, men, families, and others in medicine in dealing with their participation in abortion.

The last gala prior to Covid was titled "A Celebration of Life" at Bulverde Baptist Church. The venue was overflowing with greater than 500 in the audience. At the end of the presentation, I was available to meet and greet people.

Over 50 individuals waited patiently to visit with me. I was impacted by the high number of males and females in their 60s and 70s who would have been in their teens and twenties prior to the impact of ultrasound ~1980.

The genuine gratitude and intimate sharing of their burdens was truly amazing — examples of confessions — the 70-year-old woman who tearfully thanked me for providing clarity to the tumultuous years of her early 20s when she had an abortion and the 65-year-old male lawyer who confessed that in law school he impregnated his girlfriend and insisted and paid for the abortion. He confessed that the memory haunted him and that he had never told anyone.

I came to understand that those in my generation (early Boomers) and younger had limited understanding of the history, cultural conflicts, and medical issues regarding abortion. It was my intention to create a presentation specifically for them.

This Spring there was a sudden need for a speaker to the Senior Luncheon at First Pres. When asked if I was available, I accepted the invitation and created the presentation on the history of abortion in the US based on my experiences and on the recently published book by Marvin Olasky: "The Story of Abortion in America – A Street Level history from 1652 – 2022". Today I am gifting a copy of this masterpiece to CMDA library.

Two months later I was invited to present it to the largest Sunday School class at First Pres, ~75 in attendance in the over 50 years old age group. The presentation was modified today for an audience who would have relatives and friends in the target age range.

Odds are you may have friends or relatives that were impacted by the sexual revolution and may harbor grief or guilt regarding abortion.

## Roe v Wade: Perspectives CMDA luncheon UT Health February 24, 2025

The Lord placed me at ground zero in the cultural war regarding abortion.

I am here today to thank the Lord for where he placed me and to share with you my observations and experiences over the past six and a half decades.

Four types of experiences will be interwoven in the message: historical, personal, medical, and spiritual.

Abortion is defined as the intentional termination of healthy pregnancy.

Four important questions regarding abortion will be addressed:

- 1) What is necessary to believe to make abortion rational and ethical?
- 2) Is abortion medical care? (Does abortion promote health or prevent disease?)
- 3) When does life begin?
- 4) What point is a baby entitled to human rights?

I stand before you today, a Christian physician - a sinner saved by grace.

I will share with you my journey from a Roman Catholic altar boy to an abortionist to a follower of Jesus Christ & an advocate for life.

I am the second oldest child in a Catholic family with eight children where Catholicism had significant ritual and cultural importance. However, no mention was made of a loving God or of a personal relationship with Jesus. In junior high school I was an altar boy and assisted the Mass in Latin.

At the age of fifteen my medical career commenced as an orderly at the city hospital in my hometown of Woonsocket, R.I. Over the next six years I progressed from orderly to phlebotomist to laboratory technician.

The foundation of my social awareness developed through my being imbedded in this small, dynamic hospital community. Ninety percent of my coworkers were females. Their open adult conversations in my presence did not take into consideration my young age and naivete.

I overheard individual and family dysfunctions that were shocking. I also became aware of unintended pregnancies that were safely aborted in nearby NY state where the 1830 prohibition of abortion was not enforced.

My pre-med education was at the University of Vermont. I was an active Catholic throughout college and the first part of medical school. My experience in Vermont was productive, rewarding, and remarkably peaceful in an idyllic location.

The sexual revolution was well underway. The birth control pill had been approved by the FDA in 1960. It was common knowledge that safe abortions could be obtained in nearby New York state.

My tranquil life ceased in early September 1967 when I enrolled in Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington, D.C. Although it was a Catholic institution, I did not meet Jesus there.

Our country was in chaos with the raging issues of the Vietnam War and racial tensions.

On Thursday April 4, 1968, Martin Luther King Jr was assassinated in Memphis and riots erupted in central Washington, DC. The city was a war zone for four days.

Simultaneously, the Catholic church implemented changes from the Second Vatican Council, also known as Vatican 2, which turned the Catholic world upside down. It is not that I had a crisis of faith or that I walked away. With the Vatican 2 changes, the Catholic church left me.

Radical second-wave feminism was cresting where sexuality and reproductive rights were dominant issues.

The medical practice of obstetrics was in the dark ages. I was blessed to perform my first delivery in July 1969 at which time there were no pregnancy tests, ultrasound, or fetal monitors.

The diagnosis of an early pregnancy was based solely on menstrual history, symptoms of pregnancy, and physical examination.

There was an absence of assurance of a viable pregnancy from conception until the middle of the pregnancy at 20-weeks gestation (four and a half months) when the mother could feel the baby move and the preborn baby's heartbeat could be heard with a stethoscope.

In the midst of the profound dissonance, the controversy of abortion was intentionally ever present in the mainstream media.

The media consisted of three major television networks, AM radio, a few major newspapers to include the New York Times and the Washington Post, and major magazines to include Time and Life.

The modus operandi was the same as today: to control the narrative of what was reported as well as of what was not reported.

The pro-abortion forces engaged in well-coordinated propaganda, spreading biased and misleading information to promote legalized abortion.

In 1962 a highly publicized prolonged medical drama was used to support legal abortion in the state of Arizona. A children's television personality had inadvertently taken the tranquilizer thalidomide for morning sickness. It had been recently discovered that thalidomide caused complications in pregnancy to include pregnancy loss and severe congenital anomalies. The laws of Arizona allowed abortion only if the mother's life was in danger.

The abortion advocates and the complicit media committed egregious violations of confidentiality and manipulation of the circumstances to maximize the clarion calls for legalized abortion.

A viral disease played a prominent role in changing the conversation about abortion. Between 1964 and 1965 the German measles (rubella) epidemic in the United States posed significant dangers to unborn children. The vaccine for prevention was not yet available.

During that short period there were 12.5 million cases of German measles and 20,000 pregnancies were exposed in the first trimester. There was a prolonged outcry to have legal abortion available to every woman who contracted the disease in the first trimester.

Examples of deaths from illegal abortions were prominently publicized.

Starting in 1967 there was a parade of headlines of both major and minor changes in state laws to decriminalize abortion.

In 1970, Hawaii became the first state to legalize abortion.

The State of Washington passed a referendum legalizing early pregnancy abortions, becoming the first state to legalize abortion through a vote of the people.

The prevailing message in the media <u>without opposition</u> was that an early pregnancy was "A clump of cells", "Just tissue", or "Nothing more than a blob of flesh".

Tragically, I saw an 18-year-old from the suburbs die in DC General Hospital from complications of an illegal abortion. DC General was the government or charity hospital in the worst part of the District of Columbia. When complications occurred, she was so ashamed about the abortion that she went to DC General without telling her parents and died of sepsis.

On the other hand, it was common knowledge where safe, illegal first trimester abortions could be obtained at upscale OB-Gyn practices.

In May 1971, I graduated from Georgetown and moved to Hawaii where I was an intern at Tripler Army Medical Center. Abortion was no longer illegal in Hawaii and abortions were performed when requested.

I was young and impressionable — a captive of the culture — a sign of the times.

I had been "Drinking the Kool-Aid" — believing that abortion was acceptable based primarily upon the overpowering coaxing of the narratives of the culture and the media — and I readily participated performing abortions. I did what I thought was right in my own eyes.

In July 1972, I was an OB/Gyn resident for three years at Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington. As abortion was no longer illegal in Washington, I continued to perform abortions.

On January 22, 1973, there was a transition from abortion laws in each state to the Supreme Court Roe v Wade decision which elevated abortion law to the national level through case law.

The Supreme Court ruling of Roe versus Wade stated:

"We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins. When those trained in the respective disciplines of medicine, philosophy and theology are unable to arrive at any consensus, the judiciary, at this point in the development in man's knowledge, is not in a position to speculate as to the answer."

The Supreme Court would not speculate as to the beginning of life, due to a lack of consensus. This is an example of moral, philosophical, and medical manipulation. Instead, they decreed that abortion was not against the law. Rather it was a private matter between the pregnant woman and her physician.

They should have "followed the long-established sciences of embryology and reproductive physiology" that life begins at conception.

The physical beginning of human life is when the sperm and egg unite at conception. The complete, unique functional DNA of every human being is present at conception. The scientific observation of a human being from conception through birth reveals seamless human development.

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century (1916!) before the days of slide projectors and PowerPoint, anatomical medical charts were a mainstay in medical lectures. Doctor Gustave H. Michel, M.D., B.Sc. was a French scientist born around 1850. He was a man of many talents: physician, anatomist, medical illustrator, bacteriologist, physiologist, chemist, and inventor.

The title of this masterpiece is: Intra-Uterine Life — showing the phenomenon of reproduction and the progress of growth from conception to birth. The top third of the chart covers from isolated ova and sperm to conception to an 8-week embryo. The bottom two thirds displays the entire pregnancy.

After my residency I was stationed at Fort Carson, Colorado in Colorado Springs where abortion on demand in the first trimester of pregnancy was the standard of care. I also worked for Planned Parenthood performing abortions for additional income.

The turning point for me was when Congress passed a law in 1976 that prohibited abortions in government hospitals or at government expense. The hospital commander also directed that I no longer had permission to work for Planned Parenthood. At the time I was unaware that this would mark the end of my role as an abortionist.

Almost 20 years later, at a church here in San Antonio, a pastor preached on the sanctity of life Sunday. He shared that abortion effects all of us in one way or another. He said that if you have ever been involved with an abortion to "confess your sin and God is faithful and just and will forgive you your sin and protect you from all unrighteousness."

I was immediately whelmed with the stark reality of my past as an abortionist. At that instant, I felt that blood was still on my hands. I had developed a selective memory deficit. I had psychologically suppressed the memory of my role as an abortionist. I had proudly kept track of every delivery in my career. However, if you asked me how many babies I had aborted, I would not have a specific number. It was in the hundreds.

By that time, I was aware of three pertinent passages from my study of the Bible:

- 1) In the Old Testament books of Exodus and Deuteronomy, one of the Ten Commandments is "Thou shalt not murder".
- 2) In Proverbs 6 there is a list of things that the Lord hates. One of which, in the Message by Eugene Peterson, is "hands that murder the innocent."
- 3) In Deuteronomy 30:19 "This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings, and curses. Now choose life so that you and your children may live".

The pastor also directed to "confess your sin to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed". My community of faith rose to the occasion and helped me navigate the turbulent emotional and spiritual consequences.

On the one hand, I am ashamed of the man and the doctor that I once was. On the other hand, confessing sin brings glory to God and brings us closer to Him. I am so blessed to be where the Lord has led me, assured of His forgiveness through the blood of Jesus. I am so grateful that "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus!" Truly — Amazing Grace!

I share from my heart that I know that the process of confession and the assurance of forgiveness of my sins through the blood of Jesus is real. However, it has taken years to emotionally appropriate that reality. I will never forget my history as an abortionist. As time goes by, the memory is less prominent.

The Lord is still with me in the healing process. A few years ago, I heard a sermon on the 51<sup>st</sup> Psalm. Later that week during my daily devotions, while meditating on the psalm, I was specifically impacted by verse 14:

Deliver me from the guilt of bloodshed, O God, you who are God my Savior, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness.

Precisely, the Lord has delivered me from the guilt of my past and I am using my tongue today to proclaim His righteousness. This has taken me to a higher level of peace.

It took over a decade after my salvation before I revealed my abortionist past in academic medicine and in the sanctity of life mission field. In a lecture on abortion into the ultrasound lecture series, I shared my dark past towards the end of the lecture.

The history of ultrasound in obstetrics where significant improvements occurred roughly every 10 years.

In the late 1970s the display was like an etch-a-sketch and did not show movement.

In the early 1980s Real-Time ultrasound showed movement in the second and third trimesters.

However, it was not until the 1990s, 20 years after Roe v Wade that the ultimate improvement with the transvaginal transducer opened the window into life in the womb in the first trimester revealing a heartbeat around six weeks gestation and precisely detailing the growth and development of preborn babies.

This coincided with the introduction of Doppler devices that transmit the baby's heartbeat audibly around 6 weeks gestation.

When it became known outside of academic medicine that I was an abortionist in the past, I was encouraged by the Christian Medical & Dental Associations and by Focus on the Family, to share the transformation in my life and in my heart and in my soul.

The first public presentation was at the Gala for the San Antonio Pregnancy Care Center with 900 in attendance at the new Grand Hyatt where I was a local speaker prior to the featured speaker, Governor Mike Huckabee.

The title of the ten-minute presentation was "Matters of the Heart" where I confirmed that ultrasound demonstrates a beating heart at 6-weeks and that abortion stops a beating heart and that we are called upon to protect the precious preborn babies, to prevent broken hearts, and to change the hearts of individuals as my heart had been changed.

Later in my research of changes of heart through the science of ultrasound, I found the ultimate change of heart in Doctor Bernard Nathanson who was an OB/Gyn in New York City. He was a co-founder in 1969 of the National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL). He was for a time the director of the Center for Reproductive and Sexual Health (CRASH) in New York, then the largest freestanding abortion facility in the world.

The scientific and technologic breakthrough in diagnostic ultrasound in pregnancy led him to a dramatic 180-degree change. His journey was from an observant Jew to an atheist high-profile abortionist to a devoted follower of Christ.

Doctor Nathanson wrote: "I am deeply troubled by my own increasing certainty that I had in fact presided over 60,000 deaths."

He went on to produce two documentaries and to write two books on his dramatic journey. He wrote the book *Aborting America* in which he confessed to "the dishonest beginnings of the abortion movement" with blatant lies and massive propaganda.

Ever since I am an advocate for the sanctity of life while extending the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. I interact with others — patients, their families, colleagues, residents, medical students, church members, neighbors, and whomever the Lord brings across my path or sits next to me on an airplane.

I share with you also that based on my transparency of having been an abortionist, the Lord has provided numerous opportunities in the healing process of women, men, families, and others in medicine in dealing with guilt regarding their participation in abortion.

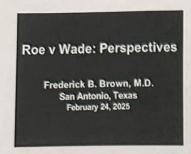
I emphasize what we know now through the science of procreation and ultrasound.

The answers to the 4 important questions regarding abortion:

- 1) What is necessary to believe to make abortion rational and ethical? That life is meaningless
- 2) Is abortion medical care? Namely, does abortion promote health or prevent disease? No abortion stops a beating heart
- 3) When does life begin? at conception
- 4) What point is a baby entitled to human rights? At conception

In the years leading up to Roe versus Wade, the Christian church, the general public, and the world of medicine were either unaware or intentionally passive to the coordinated onslaught of those that were determined to have unrestricted legal abortion.

Interestingly, the announcement of the Roe versus Wade decision in the third week of January 1973 attracted minimal attention. It was noted deep in the pages of the New York Times. I share with you the amazing headline that day: LBJ Dead! Thank you for your time and attention. God bless you.





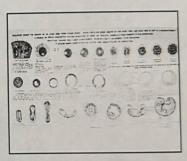




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