

20-minute heated debate on the Texas Heartbeat Law on  
**Russian television network (RTVI) February 7, 2022**

**John Pisciotta** (Pro-Life Waco ) versus **Marina Sokolovskaya** (senior editor of “Vinograd for U. S.). Pisciotta participated through simultaneous translation.

**Host:**

The state of Texas has enacted very restrictive abortion laws. We hear about crazy numbers such as a 60% reduction in abortions in Texas. We are going to talk about these numbers with our guests. We have **John Pisciotta**, an anti-abortion activist. He is the founder of the organization *Pro-Life Waco and* speaks against abortion. We also have **Marina Sokolovskaya** an abortion supporter. She is senior editor of “Vinograd for U. S.” It will be very hard for me to remain impartial in this discussion. My first question is for John: When we see the 60% reduction and you talk about it as an accomplishment, do you also understand that this number has another side – a dark side?

**John:**

A dark side? The true side is of light and beauty! The dark side is every abortion performed causes death. Abortions harm innocent children, and women. Abortions harm the mental health of those women that go through this experience. That is the dark side that we are managing to escape with Texas laws. Abortion supporters on the left may see a dark side to the Texas Heartbeat Law. However, most in Texas see abortions in a different light. We believe abortions are evil and devastating and we will continue to fight against abortions. We celebrate the big decline in abortion numbers.

**Host:**

When I speak about the dark side, I speak about the women that were forced to get abortions outside of Texas, or within the state but “underground” (secretly/illegally). This is of course harmful to health, can lead to loss of health, and even death in extreme cases. When we talk about the dark side, I think that these particular consequences are very obvious.

**John:**

Well, in every abortion is death with a 100% probability of death. An unborn baby boy or baby girl dies. The mission of Pro-Life Waco to not make abortions easier. To the contrary, we want to restrict abortions, and of course, this will have are certain consequences. Women and their boyfriends that thought that having sex is okay and that there would be no consequences are having to rethink their realities. This is a positive change from mostly unrestricted abortion.

**Host:**

Truthfully speaking, it sounds like you believe sex has had no consequences. No! Completely wrong. Sex has the consequence of pregnancy, which is a punishment. Let’s connect Maria to the dialogue. I think it’ll bring some harmony into our discussion. Marina, we have 60% of decreased abortions in Texas, so many in American are enthusiastic. They think this is positive and similar laws should be implemented everywhere. Do you agree?

**Marina:**

Good day I smile because, even though the topic is so serious, it is funny to me to listen to John and everything he has said. I would love to see what happened in other states and all the clinics that are located on the borders of Texas. The number of women that came to other states to get rid of unwanted pregnancies has tremendously increased. I don't want to sound rude to my opponent. He is wise due to his years and life experiences. However, even with all of his wisdom and knowledge, it isn't enough for him to understand that restrictions do have a dark side. Women's deaths due to illegal abortions will increase and the number of abortions will not decrease. I'm just listening here and the phrase 'our mission, our mission!' My God, I need to do something. I need to become a member of a pro-life organization and just look from the inside at what they are doing. They are doing nothing to help women! Absolutely nothing, except make some arguments to support their thinking. I can see that my opponent has all kinds of resources behind him. I'm sure that except for standing once a year with a little poster, there is nothing. I open American news every day and I read that there hasn't been a day that there wasn't a killed child. There hasn't been a day. I am a mother of three children. I don't deliberately search for the scariest news. No. It's just the news every day, that this kid gone missing. It's obvious what happened to the kid, right? 'They find some kind of remains... etc., etc.

**John:**

I would like to speak to her challenge.

**Host:**

Yes, I understand you want to respond. Tell us what exactly your organization will do to help pregnant women

**John:**

Sadly, in Waco, we have an abortion center. And directly across the street from this Planned Parenthood, we had Care Net Pregnancy Care of Central Texas that offers support to pregnancy moms and even support to women who have had abortions. Care Net has specialists support and encouragement for the mothers that choose life rather than abortion. My colleagues talk to mothers at the entrance to Planned Parenthood every day they are open and encourage mothers to seek the support of Care Net. Please write to me at [prolifewaco@gmail.com](mailto:prolifewaco@gmail.com) and I will respond to any question. There is too much to talk about all of it here. We have a monthly newsletter that contains reports of all of our accomplishments. You will see that over the 25 years we have done an incredible job in helping women to change their views and allow their babies to live and give them love and support. We think this is very important. Another great service of Care Net is abortion pill reversal that can work for moms who have started an abortion pill abortion at from 6 to 12 weeks of pregnancy. This reversal is so amazing. There are so many little boys and girls who are playing with their parents right now instead of lying in a grave or as disposed medical waste.

**Host:**

Question: Is there some kind of help for women that were in, for example, “on the sidelines of life” and who can’t even support themselves let alone support a child. Is there help for these types of situations?

**John:**

Care Net provides housing for moms and born children and a lot of other support. You know, it is true that in this life we should always think about ourselves first. I want to tell you a story about a young woman who graduated from Yale with a child in her arms. She said that her child was unplanned but not unwanted. There is a big difference between ‘unplanned’ and ‘unwanted’. She said that her child was her motivation to get her degree. And if not for her child, she couldn’t have done it. I want to note that abortion supporters often tell women to get rid of their child to avoid challenges and problems they will be incapable of handling. We say the opposite, we tell women that they are more than capable and can let the preborn baby live and prove what they can achieve.

**Host:**

I have another question for John and then we’ll return to Marina. We understand there are pregnancies with fetal pathology. Even in these situations, you would leave the woman with no choice even though there is an obvious alternative. She will either go to have a child that’s going to rely on her his whole life or have an abortion. Why can’t she decide for herself?

**John:**

We don’t believe that any situation in life is a justification for murder. If you abort the child, your life problems will not immediately be resolved. There are institutions in our country, in Texas, that help with these types of situations. You describe a difficult circumstance. That pregnant woman is already a mother and not a “future’ mother”. If there is a fetus, she is already a mother. In Iceland, they say they have almost cured the Down Syndrome condition. The method they used in Iceland to diagnose and kill preborn babies with Down Syndrome. This contradicts every sense of health care. Don’t you think? Having choices is good, but the choice that ends a child’s life is not a rightful choice at all.

**Host:**

You say that when a woman is pregnant, she is already a mother. I cannot agree with that. The woman can decide if she is a mother or not.

**John:**

I’m sorry, but this is science. If there is a child in the womb, the woman is a mother to a distinct human person. When a woman becomes pregnant and wants the child, she shouts with joy that she has a baby within her. You know the majority of people say that they are so happy to have a child. And you know as soon as conception begins a human being begins to live.

**Host:**

It's hard for me to remain objective here. I am completely pro-choice, and I always have a question if before 6 weeks the fetus is already a human then maybe someone can take that human and raise him? Marina, are there any organizations in the US that are working to truly help women who are conflicted about having an abortion or not? Marina, are they doing anything?

**Marina:**

Definitely not pro-life organizations. Of course, there are places where women can come to. There is help, but it is minimal even in states like New York. I live in New York, and I know what kind of help is offered here. The help is minimal. No one wants to live in a shelter, the accommodations in those shelters are not fit for children, etc. When I see all of this talk about newsletters, I always want to ask people like John, what is the minimum wage in Texas for a woman who doesn't have a degree. Doesn't have "Yale" behind her shoulders? How much are kindergartens? How much are kindergartens with a condition that no one will be compensating her for it? You understand, he said "housing" and I'm sure he only said that because of those newsletters where they tell women how harmful it is to have an abortion. You are killing a child.' John knows much more about newsletters than he knows about how much it costs to buy baby food, a single bottle of baby food. I don't want to offend John... But all of this is simply 'blah, blah, blah.'

**John:**

Go on to the websites of Pro-Life Waco and Care Net and you will see what we do. I invite you to come and visit Waco. I will give you a personal tour.

**Marina:**

You can only talk about the newsletter. Because you know nothing of the specific help that's offered. I know about that specific help. I raised three children. I know what I'm talking about. And you know, when you are talking about disabilities, one of my girls is disabled. And of course, I would never reject her. I know what it's like to raise a disabled child, do you understand? I understand, and I support that decision in Iceland. Yes, it's too hard. So, people should know early what kind of child it's going to be. I didn't know. No one told me about my girl. They told me as a matter of fact when she was born that she had issues. And I had a choice to not bring her home from the maternity hospital. In Russia, they have practices like that. You don't know how much it costs to buy a single bottle of baby food or how much it costs to get a bundle of diapers and how many of those a child needs per day. You don't know that. But you do know what kind of newsletter you send out and the name of your website. I'm sorry but that is where your activism stops. I know many similar organizations to yours and I would love to become a member of one of those for a few weeks and just laugh.

An open notep

**Host:**

Thank you, Marina. John Pisciotta has spoken as an opponent, a pro-life activist, to Marina Sokolovskaya, chief editor of the website "Vinograd from the US". She provides actual news in Russian as a voice of reason. Marina speaks for choice, not for abortion, but for choice. It is very important to note that. I wasn't able to be objective in this discussion. I am obviously in favor of a woman's choice. I think that the new law in Texas is absolutely inhuman and inadequate. If this current practice in Texas spreads across the whole country, I will have a lot of questions about choice and freedom of choice in the United States.