

Arizona Proposition 139, Right to Abortion Initiative



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This measure would:

- Amend the Arizona constitution to establish a “right” to abortion up through the point of fetal viability (24 weeks)
- Amend the definition of fetal viability, to be determined on a case-by-case basis by the individual doctor. This could potentially increase the age of viability, leading to later-term abortions
- Include exceptions for the mother’s life or for her physical or mental health for abortions beyond 24 weeks
- Prevent the penalization of those helping a woman or coercing a woman into abortion
- Prevent any future attempts to regulate abortion before viability and could repeal many of the current “safeguards,” including parental consent

ARIZONA’S CURRENT LAW:

Abortion is legal up to 15 weeks, six days of pregnancy, with exceptions after this time (including the general health of the mother/life of the mother). Arizona currently requires a 24-hour waiting period and an ultrasound. If the mother is under 18, she must have consent from a parent/guardian.

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Catholics should vote **NO** on Arizona Proposition 139

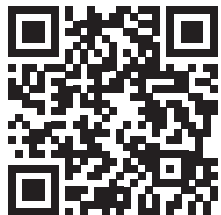
A human being's life begins the moment the sperm fertilizes the egg. This is now a unique and unrepeatable person.

Abortion is the intentional killing of a human being before he or she is born. The Catholic Church teaches that abortion is never morally licit.

The Church teaches that neither rape nor incest justifies the taking of an innocent human being's life.

Doctors never need to intentionally kill the baby to save the mother's life; therefore the "life of the mother" argument is invalid. In his address to midwives, Pope Pius XII taught that a physician should do all he can to preserve both lives. If the baby dies while the doctor tries to save the mother, this is not considered an abortion.

Any formal cooperation in abortion constitutes a grave sin. The Church attaches the canonical penalty of excommunication to this crime against human beings (CCC 2272).



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