

Wednesday PM – Justice and Abortion

I. Abortion as a Social Justice Issue

- **The social and justice issues that underlie abortion**
 - Our present societal sexual ethos
 - Economics
 - Gender disparity
 - The proclivity to isolate abortion as if it has no connection to all the other issue of justice.
 - The role and place of law
 - ✚ The law as preventing an intrinsic evil
 - ✚ The law as “teacher” – its power and its impotence
 - ✚ The principle of “democracy” - as reflecting the will of the majority rather than the moral or religious view of a minority.
 - ✚ What really is the effect of reversing “Roe versus Wade”?
 - The radicalization of strident voices on both sides making rational discussion impossible
 - ✚ *“Beyond the Abortion Wars”* – Charles Camosy’s research
 - ✚ Hate-filled, contemptuous prophecy (on both sides)

II. The path forward

- The moral and religious formation of the conscience of society
 - ✚ Re – the sacredness of all life
 - ✚ Re – sexual ethics
 - ✚ Re – the economic issues underlying abortion
 - ✚ Re – Gender equality
 - ✚ Re – respectful dialogue – the absence of contempt
 - ✚ Re - both Pro-life and Pro-Choice having a wide and consistent view on this question and how it relates to other social and justice issues.
 - ✚ Re – linking the prevalence of abortion to the issue of injustice in general in our world.
 - Loving, care-filled prophecy
 - “Neighborliness”, tolerance of each other
 - “Pray and fasting”
 - ✚ *“Some demons are only cast out through prayer and fasting”*
Jesus
 - ✚ *“Prayer is most needed just when it is felt to be most useless”*
Michael Buckley SJ
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