

The Inconvenience of Life

Our beloved Winnie the Pooh muses, “I am not lost, for I know where I am. But, however, where I am may be lost.” The American culture today is lost. Many core values are turned upside down and inside out. Blinded by pride, some Americans cannot admit they are lost. First, they proclaim a human isn’t a human inside the womb, thus, abortion is acceptable. Later, through sonogram technology, people can see a child is alive. What position can then be taken? If the child is obviously alive, they must then find the value of life. What if they don’t? What if our culture takes the view that the parent gets to decide if the child is an inconvenience and they have the right to end that life? Who gets to decide what is inconvenient and where does that line of reasoning take us? I have witnessed families who have carried the mantle of an “inconvenient” child with love and dignity and it has strengthened my resolve that all life must be cherished.

Professor of philosophy David Boonin has further warped the pro-abortion justification argument. Boonin teaches abortion is the mother’s choice. He states it is not inhumane for a mother to decide she does not want to provide support. Where else does Boonin think a child in the womb will find support? Because Boonin structures his worldview around convenience, his argument denies the rights of the second person involved. Even as a father, Boonin claims that it would have been acceptable for him to abort his son if the pregnancy had been inconvenient. I hope David Boonin will question his view of convenience as the keystone of his moral argument.

For 13 years, I have watched my neighbors care for their disabled daughter, Lori. Now a young adult, she has had constant help which has been inconvenient at times. Caretakers drive her around the neighborhood daily because she loves the feel of the wind in her face. My younger sisters love to bring Lori strings of beads. They watch her face light up as she walks around the house with the beads clutched tightly in her hands. I have witnessed the sacrificial love of Lori’s family. They would never turn her out due to inconvenience. She is dependent on them. At what point is it just selfish to pull the “convenience card?” If a pregnancy is inconvenient, if a disabled child is inconvenient, if an elderly adult is inconvenient, is it unacceptable to turn them away?

I sincerely hope that David Boonin’s son does not pull the “convenience card” when his father is old and needing help. I hope he will not listen to what his father has been professing for years. I hope he will love and cherish his father’s life. I hope that in a time when the value of life is

decreasing, I will be able to exemplify, not how convenient a life is for me, but how beautiful and wonderful the gift of life is.

Works Cited

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