Student 5: Low Achieved

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Abortion is the removal of a baby from the womb. The removal is done by a doctor before the baby is ready to be born. The abortion can only take place if two doctors say so, according to the law in New Zealand.

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Abortion means the foetus dies. This can occur naturally or it can be procured by a surgical procedure. In New Zealand in 1970's a women with means could obtain a legal abortion in the two States of Victoria and New South Wales in Australia due to a change in the law over there. Abortions have been performed in New Zealand since 1974 in the Auckland Medical Aid Centre. However, this was stopped until a legal battle was sorted and abortion was allowed and restricted to public hospitals in 1975.



The legal battles continues and although it is legal under the Contraception, Sterilisation, and Abortion Bill. After many amendments and one all-night sitting, the National bill was passed on 15 December 1977. Not everyone agrees with the right to abortions even today.



The Catholic Church does not think that abortion is a good idea and condemns it because it is seen as murder, (Exodus 20) and against the ethical principle of the dignity of a human person.



It is in the 10 commandments that we don't kill someone else. This is what abortion does when a woman has it. St John Paul II said we lived in a 'culture of death' in the world. He meant this about abortion because it involves death of the baby, which has not been born.



There are different types of abortion depending upon which doctor performs it and how pregnant the woman is. The Catholic Church does not think any of the types are good, as they do not see the baby as sacred and a gift from God. I agree with the Catholic Church because it is murder and so not a good thing to do.



It can be seen as a waste of a human life and so not fulfilling John 10:10-11, when Jesus said he had come so we could have life to the full. Abortion is not having life to the 'full' as Jesus wishes.



