

Mapping of Donald Marquis' Why Abortion is Immoral

1

Thesis

This essay sets out an argument that purports to show, as well as any argument in ethics can show, that abortion is, except in rare cases, seriously immoral, that it is the same moral category as killing an innocent adult human being. (Para. 1)

2

A Necessary Condition

is a theoretical account of the wrongness of killing (Para. 4)

3

Unproblematic Assumption

It is wrong to kill *us* .
(Para 5)

4

Why?

When I am killed, I am deprived of what I now value which would have been part of my future personal life, but also what I would come to value. (Para. 6)

5

5

Since a fetus possesses a property, the possession of which in an adult human being is sufficient to make killing an adult human being wrong, abortion is wrong.
(Para. 6)

Assumptions

1. the morality stands or rests upon the status of the fetus (Para. 2)
2. will not explore hard cases (Para. 3)

