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Chick Dissection | Baby Talk

— Jabberwock | 6/3/2007 @ 8:43 pm | Filed under:

Jack Chick Dissections

A teenager learns abortion is murder and Jesus is the only solution.

In other words, pray for a miscarriage!



Nothing draws in potential readers like putting a nightmarish, one-armed, half-torsoed baby with a wailing, adult-sized head on the cover of your comic.



You know, that's a pretty useful idea — a car that shouts "Stop hitting me!"

Fun fact: People who care about the environment are absurdly filthy, lazy, heathen retards with no consideration for their poor dear mothers or anyone but themselves.

Looks like she gets her jewelry at Au Bon Pain.

The guy's mouth looks like "The Muppet that Ate Stonehenge". And what's with the white stuff all over his jacket? Either he was helping the Ghostbusters battle Stay-Puft, or he... on second thought, I don't want to know.

Her "darlings" appear to be some ridiculous bone-munching kid who belongs in a zoo, a mustachioed kid who belongs in *Zoolander*, and a stereotypical Native American boy. Take a good, long look because aside from a brief appearance where a couple peer out from behind a couch, we will never see these children again in the rest of the Tract.

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- Cindy Smith
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She's gasping so hard, she inhaled her thumb and detonated her left ear.

Well, what the hell do you expect, naming him "Billy Bob"?

By the way, this is the last time we'll be seeing him as well. Not sure why Jack decided to put these people in at all, since they have negligible bearing on the plot of this Tract as a whole. I guess maybe he found himself with a couple extra panels and figured he'd lash out arbitrarily at environmentalists by depicting them as goofy, ridiculously retarded, grunting fucksticks.

Yay, it's Fang! The only thing to ever really like about a Chick Tract. What the hell is he growling at, though? Wait, it looks like... Why is there a mouse in blackface peering out from a hole in the corner of the couch?



Thelma didn't have a hunchback a couple panels ago. Maybe when she eats, she gets a fatty hump on her back, sort of like a camel. Or maybe she's farting so hard it's blasting her skirt out in a huge funnel shape behind her, which could explain why the cat's so pissed.

"I can't! I have to eat this whole tambourine before Eric shows up. Oop — my head is twisting off and rolling down my shoulder again."



HAW HAW IRONY! This guy from this family calling Eric a bum!

Goodbye, family! We won't see any of you but Thelma again!

Wait... is mom Jane Hathaway?

Ah, I can see what she sees in Eric, with his devil-may-care, no-helmet attitude... his beady eyes cushioned in middle-aged-looking bags hanging like droopy, raw eggs in his eye sockets... his fishy lips pulled into a permanently disgusted snarl...

UH-OH! CONDOMS! Rubber sheaths stretched over penises are EVIL.

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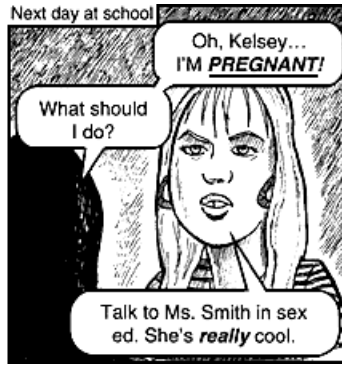
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You're going to vomit again? What a coincidence — so am I! Are you reading a Chick Tract, too?

Parts of images that are most often lovingly detailed and realistically crafted in Chick Tracts: Toilets and gay men's muscles. I'm not sure what conclusion to draw from this.

The girl in the second panel isn't actually talking, she's just really good at tonguing the massive groove in her teeth in such a way as to produce a range of sounds that resemble English.

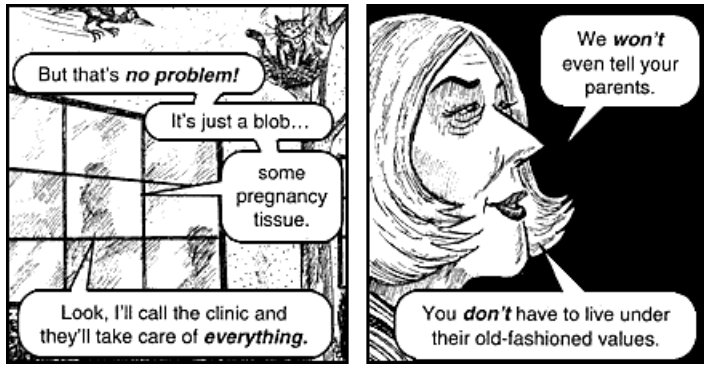
You know, why the hell is she even necessary? This is the seventh character to which we've needlessly been briefly introduced who we will never see again.



"Don't forget to pick up your condoms. You guys left them all over the floor after the last class, and the janitor *refused* to clean them up."

Bahahahaha, erm, uh... you can't be fucking serious. We've *had* a condom break, and, uh, it's not the kind of thing a person can be oblivious to without, oh, say, missing a few chromosomes, having part of a fence lodged in one's head, having a grenade go off in one's sinus cavity, having a fishnet stocking enveloping one's brain due to some kind of neurosurgery mishap... you see where I'm going with this. Anyway, point is, when a condom slips or breaks, *you fucking know about it*. This is a ridiculous presumption, that a woman wouldn't notice chunks of rubber or a dislodged condom in her vagina. Though, I guess it kind of makes sense in the conservative Christian perspective, where women are supposed to just lay back and not question the penises and other things going in and out of their various orifices.

Oh, and when the condom does break or slip, you rush out to your nearest drug store (~\$40) or Planned Parenthood (free) and get yourself some Plan B. Often mischaracterized by conservative Christians as "an abortion pill" or "the devil", Plan B is merely something close to a triple dose of the birth control pill. It works to prevent ovulation, fertilization, or post-fertilization implantation. (No, for those who hold this belief, life does not begin at fertilization. Either pick up a reproductive biology textbook sometime, or demonstrate how much you really care about this arbitrary definition of "human life" as "a cell with human DNA in it that could potentially become a blastocyst, embryo, fetus, then baby" by going into perpetual mourning for the loss of all the fertilized eggs that naturally never implant.)



Oh, this is a great shot — blurry smudges from outside an obviously less than transparent window. Sometimes I think I spend more time mocking these goddamned things than he does actually drawing them.

What never ceases to amaze me is the fundamentalist ability to take every opposing argument and alter it to make it seem incredibly arbitrary and oversimplified.

Look how she's drawn — she **MUST** be a villain. Chick can never make his antagonists normal- or innocent-looking people, because he can only make his argument through vilifying and demonizing people with perspectives that oppose or conflict with his own.

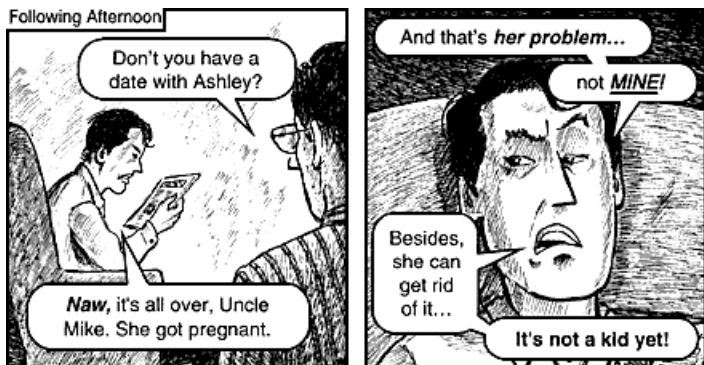
gasp Not tell her parents? But that body doesn't belong to *her*, it belongs to *them!* That's why daddy can fuck her whenever he wants — that vagina is technically *his* until she turns eighteen. (They also use her hair to strain pasta, her teeth to open bottles, and her armpits to ripen various cheeses.)



Er, uh... how would she be ruining his life? I thought she was getting an abortion. "Ew, temporary tattoo of a unicorn? I *hate* unicorns. It's over!"

That's not God up there, Ashley, that's just a cat somehow levitating above your face. And he ain't helpin' *shit*.

By the way, either this is some kind of alternate universe where the girl from Bewitched? somehow never got hooked on drugs, or 80% of all "unsaved" teenage girls in Chick's universe have black hair, the same face shape, and are named Ashley.



Eric went to the dentist once and the Novocain never wore off. Or maybe through some surgical mishap, doctors inadvertently installed an active goat anus inside Eric's nasal cavity, and that's a smell you never get used to.



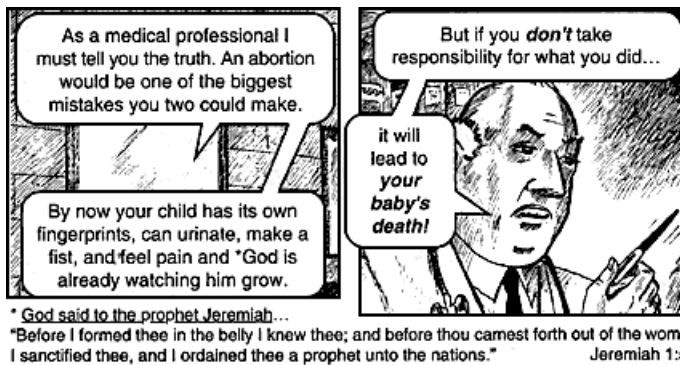
LYING PROPAGANDA, YOU SAY!?! Unlike Chick Tracts, right?

So "it's not a kid yet" stated about a two-month-old development of what's basically a roughly human-formed clump is an inaccurate statement because...?

"It's time you heard the truth. Or, well, the fundamentalist interpretation of what's going on around us. See, much like what we do with the Bible, where we focus nearly exclusively on a select number of excerpts and interpret them in whatever way reinforces our existing prejudices and preconceptions, we do the same thing with reality, rejecting the majority of our sensory input and information from the observable world and interpreting the information we do receive in whatever way reinforces our existing prejudices and preconceptions. Anyway, **come on**, let's go listen to *that*."

When I was in middle school, I once had a doctor — not our usual doctor — look down my throat and my sister's throat and then tell my mom we didn't have strep throat because he couldn't see any white spots. When we were able to get to our regular doctor, he said he'd never heard of a doctor who could diagnose strep throat by sight only. It turns out my sister actually had it. Another doctor in the area told a kid from my school he "just had a stomachache". A few days later, the kid's appendix ruptured and he had to have emergency surgery. I'm not sure simply being a doctor necessarily somehow automatically makes a person an expert on all parts and functions of the human body. Especially when, I mean, is this guy even an OB/GYN, or is he just a general practitioner?

In any event, it might be living, but it's not a "baby". Until the eighth week it's an embryo; after that, until birth, it's a fetus. When it comes out, it's a baby. It may seem like it's just a semantics argument, but in this particular situation in this Tract, [this is what is inside Ashley's body](#). Compare that to [this](#). Call me crazy, but it seems like there are a few subtle differences. I mean, if you're really up for re-enacting Eraserhead, I guess you can consider what's in the first image a "baby", but...

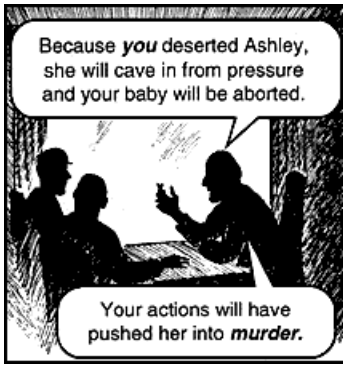


Does nobody in this fucking town have windows made of transparent glass?

"As a medical professional," huh? Certainly not as a rational, intelligent human being, apparently. "Well, you're two teenagers, at least one of you has an extremely dysfunctional family, you're both so mind-searingly stupid and oblivious that you didn't notice a condom breaking during sex so I doubt either of you will ever get a job that doesn't involve a paper hat, your combined checking and savings — if you've ever even been to a bank, let alone opened an account — probably add up to less than what I paid for my heating bill last month, and neither of you has health insurance, but I have to tell you the truth: Not having this baby would be one of the biggest mistakes you two could make."

You know, [anencephalic babies](#) are technically "living [babies]", as well. That doesn't mean they're human just because they're roughly human-shaped and can piss and move around and process nervous sensation. Fetal pigs can piss and move around and process nervous sensation, too.

It's a good thing Jeremiah wasn't miscarried, then, isn't it? If God wanted every single conception to result in a baby, there'd either be no such thing as miscarriage, or it'd be something that happens much more rarely than it does. And, you know, either God knows everything that's going to happen or he doesn't, make up your fucking minds already. Is God omnipotent or isn't he? Is he so incompetent that he's going to pre-ordain prophets who'll ultimately be aborted or miscarried?



"But don't worry, kid — she's still in her first trimester. There's a thirty percent chance she'll miscarry it anyway. Pray for that. It's not an abortion if God does it!"

That's another thing, why are we equating something that happens naturally and rather often with murder? And what about if a woman accidentally, say, handles prescription medication or other materials that can cause pregnancy complications and she ends up miscarrying? Is that the equivalent of manslaughter? If you didn't know you were pregnant and taking folic acid would've prevented your miscarriage, is that negligent homicide?

"What??? Me? Responsible for murder? Why, that lightly dishevels my hair and makes me drip two beads of sweat while gently massaging my cheek!"

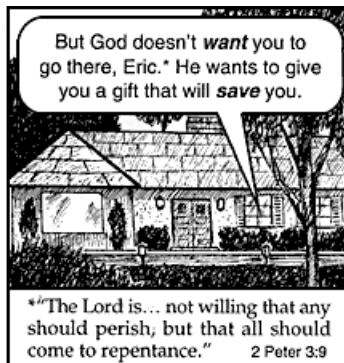


*Rev. 21:8

"Doctor Harris was **right** on target, Eric. I mean, not with any of the reproductive biology stuff, but when he shot that deer when we were driving him back to his place."

"I've changed into my referee outfit, and am going to read to you from the professional football rulebook."

You have to have some level of suspicion about a guy who considers lying and murder equal. Especially when the punishment is the same infinitely overblown "eternal torture" for both. "What's that? You shot three people in the face for no reason? Hell for you. *toss* Next! Says here you told your wife she wasn't fat when she asked. Do you see that? That's a cankle. Goodbye. *toss* Next! Bullshit, you didn't actually like that sweater your aunt got you. *plunk* Next!"

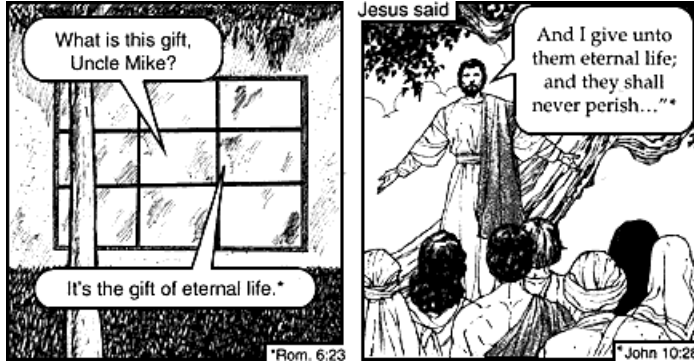


"Hey, you're SCARING me, Uncle Mike! You're starting to look like a smug, drowsy Hitler in glasses! And you punched me in the face and gave me two black eyes!"

Eric looks like he's aged about a decade in the last two panels. Thankfully he's still got that disgusted look we've all grown to love!

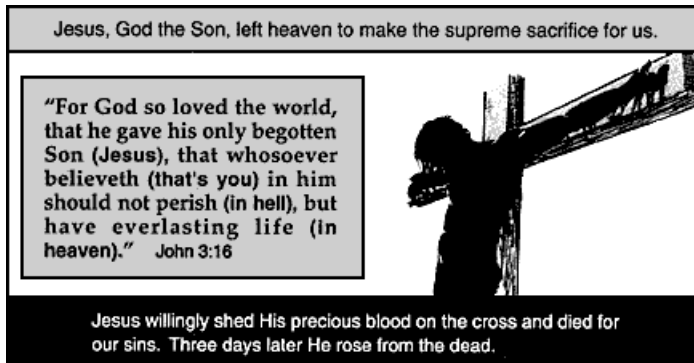
"He doesn't **want** you to go there, Eric. Sure, he made it the default for your afterlife, and sure, he's omnipotent, and could just *not* punish you for the rest of time, and sure, maybe his instructions are vague and contradictory and he's never really done anything to correct this, but really, he doesn't want you to go to hell when you die."

Uncle Mike might want to look into a house jack, before the entire thing collapses to the left.



Yeah, Jesus was a *white guy*. Everyone in the Middle East was *white*. You know, I think believing Jesus was white automatically disqualifies anything a Christian has to say about religion. Next time you're arguing with a fundamentalist, ask them, "what color was Jesus?" If they say "white", hit them hard with a rolled-up newspaper and then ignore everything else they have to say.

I'd like to say more about this panel, but the first half is just another goddamned translucent window, and the second half is just a bunch of people standing around with typical Chick boilerplate.



Oh come on, Jack — does the Bible really have all these little parenthetical annotations? Thing reads like the kids' "trying to be funny" rendition of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer:

o/` Jesus the bearded prophet / Claimed to be the son of God (up in heaven!)
 And if you don't accept him / You'll be raped with hot, forked rods (down in hell!)
 All of the Jewish people / Used to laugh and call him names (like "impostor")
 They never let poor Jesus / Join in any Jewish games (like Scrabble!)
 Then one foggy Easter eve, Romans came to say... (rabble rabble rabble)
 "Jesus, you're a fraud downright / You'll ride on this cross tonight!"
 Now people claim to love him / But they're all led easily (duh-whee!)
 Jesus the bearded prophet / Your fans twisted your legacy!

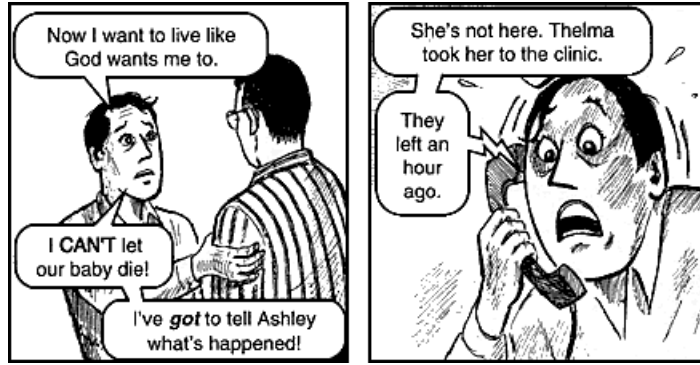
...sorry. This panel never leaves me much to work with.



"HOMPH HOMF OH UNCLE MIKE HOMPH I FOUND THIS CANDY EMBEDDED IN YOUR CARPET HOMPH HURMPH GLOMF DELICIOUS HURMPH JUJUBE HOMPH"

Well, if he didn't notice the absence of a complete, semen-filled condom on his penis after pulling out, I don't doubt he'd be easily convinced to buy any story anyone randomly told him.

Damn, that's one smug prick.



So somehow he just telepathically knows "how God wants him to live"?

Hey, this is exactly what this Tract was in need of: More shrill disgust! Thank you, Jack.

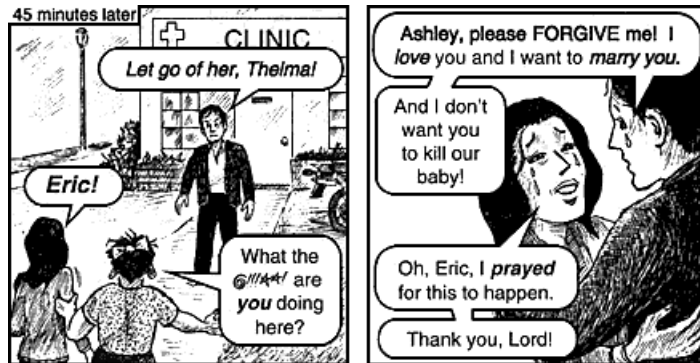


I hope he never sees the sudden curve 'til it's way too late.

If prayer has such an actual effect in reality, then, uh, why does abortion still happen? Why doesn't everyone get a flat tire on the way to the abortion clinic? This is just silly. I wonder how many people are actually lured into conservative Christianity by the implication they'll be given magical powers to manipulate reality through the power of God.

If she doesn't want to do it, then why doesn't she just fucking SAY she doesn't want to do it? Why can't it be that Ashley actually wants to have an abortion? "Pro-choice" means that it's just as wrong to force people to have an abortion as it is to force people to not have an abortion. Why is Jack arguing against something that proponents of reproductive choice already agree is a bad thing?

@!!!**!



Wait, so she's *not* getting the abortion, and the two main characters are getting saved? Never saw *that* coming.

So basically, a guy who at first wants his girlfriend to get an abortion changes his mind and prevents his girlfriend from having an abortion imposed on her against her own will. I don't... what? This is actually more pro-choice than anti-abortion. If Ashley never wanted to have an abortion in the first place... I... I don't... understand what Chick was trying to... And what was with the first few panels of this Tract? Billy Bob and his girlfriend's "little darlings" that never fucking show up

again, the girlfriend only being needlessly used as a plot device later in the story? It's... I don't... just... GODDAMN is this FUCKING STUPID.

@!!!**!

"You will always be second in my heart to this rather cruel, vindictive, petty person someone once convinced me existed and was the son of God, who will burn me for the rest of time if I don't believe in him. And I'll strap you in your car seat and roll the car into a lake if he tells me to."

One year later, she has a two year old with a full head of hair?

- Ah, I see, so it's perfectly okay to have an abortion, then, as long as you accept Jesus immediately afterward. What are fundamentalists so uppity about? If the whole point is to save people's *souls*, not do anything to contribute to their *lives*, then why not let people have abortions and then accept Jesus afterward? The fetuses go to heaven, and the mothers go to heaven, then, too, right? Everyone wins!

- It'll look kind of like a shrimp and will writhe around involuntarily on the floor incapable of any kind of thought, but yeah... your "baby" will be there.

- Bullshit.

- So basically, do whatever the hell you want to in life, even if it conflicts with conservative Christianity, accept Jesus right before you die, and you'll go to heaven regardless.

The Only Moral Abortion is My Abortion

I couldn't really figure out where to work this in above, since this Tract was so ridiculous and confusing and disjointed and probably Jack's worst attempt at coherently flowing narrative to date, but it's definitely something people should read. It's rather amazing how hypocritical and self-centered fundamentalists can be, and how even when they're given personal firsthand insight into the circumstances and contexts of the things they're protesting, they're capable of such intense cognitive dissonance that their situation is "moral" while the same situation for anyone else is somehow still "immoral".

Why we let these obviously mentally fractured people who are so out of touch with reality it borders on schizophrenia have any say in governance of people as a whole, let alone the massive influence and mainstream airtime they already receive, is beyond my comprehension. America, home of the PFFF JESUS SPOKE THROUGH MY TOASTER AND TOLD ME TO HATE GAYS AND BEAT MY DAUGHTER FOR HAVING SEX

Because everyone else is doing it:



50 Responses to "Chick Dissection | Baby Talk"

1. *Rarend* Says:

[June 3rd, 2007 at 9:51 pm](#)

(how conspiracies theories like Chick's Catholic scares get started)

"Dr. HARRIS was right on target ERIC". -panel 13

Harris Eric
Switch it around and you've got
Eric Harris

A bit of a nitpick, and since this was written in 1994 I suppose it doesn't mean anything. Or does it? Was Jack Chick predicting the future? HE MUST HAVE BEEN! OH HE MUST BE THE LEADER OF SOME SUPER SINISTER ORGANISATION BENT ON WORLD DOMINATION AND HE WAS COMMUNICATING WITH UNDERCOVER NEO-NAZIS TO...AND THEY...BUT THE BOMB ISN'T RUSSIAN...THE GRAYS AND THE RATHILLELIANS WILL INVADE EARTH...

2. Walter Lovecraft Says:

[June 3rd, 2007 at 10:34 pm](#)

You know, Unitarians, atheists, agnostics, et al need to rally together in some kind of anti-religious lunacy party, because the religious lunatic demographic is the most active of all demographics, which is really bad.

Also, I find it fascinating that religious lunatic candidates tend to hate foreigners, when there are overwhelming amounts of religious lunatics who are illegal immigrants (Korea, for example, has TONS of crazy Christians, and their presence is felt in New Jersey in particular). The whole movement is so riddled with contradiction it makes any sensible human being feel ill.

Anyway. The Anti-Zealot Party. Stranger parties have certainly been made.

3. Walter Lovecraft Says:

[June 3rd, 2007 at 10:35 pm](#)

Also, I'm no doctor, but from that last panel, I'd say whatever disorder makes the kid look the way it does, it's grounds for an abortion.

4. Jon Says:

[June 3rd, 2007 at 10:36 pm](#)

"...don't let anyone tell you that it is just some tissue***..."

*** ISA 44:24

Yeah, like the bible is actually going to have an accurate description of the development of a human in the womb, just like it knew that the Earth revolved around the Sun

Anyone know what ISA 44:24 actually says?

5. Infidel753 Says:

[June 3rd, 2007 at 11:04 pm](#)

Isaiah 44:24:

"Thus saith the Lord thy Redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the Lord that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself."

This could mean pretty much anything. I suppose Chick intended the "formed thee from the womb" reference to support his view that an embryo is a person, but if this is the best Biblical reference he could come up with for that purpose, it's not very impressive. In fact, the use of the preposition "from" could be taken as implying that a person is "formed" by the act of *removal* from the womb, that is, birth.

However, I do not know ancient Hebrew, so I can't comment on the original version of the text, which would be the only legitimate way of assessing it. Neither, I suspect, can most American fundamentalists.

6. Rocky Says:

[June 3rd, 2007 at 11:08 pm](#)

ISA 44:24 says:

Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;

7. il-Palazzo Says:

[June 3rd, 2007 at 11:08 pm](#)

"Hey you're SCARING me, Uncle mike!"

"That's THE WHOLE POINT, Eric! You've just proved that I'm doing it right!"

8. Kat Says:

[June 3rd, 2007 at 11:27 pm](#)

ISA 44:24 " 24 "This is what the LORD says—
your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb:
I am the LORD,
who has made all things,

who alone stretched out the heavens,
who spread out the earth by myself,"

So by this it really wasn't Eric who knocked up Ashley, It was god.

9. *Rose* Says:

[June 4th, 2007 at 12:08 am](#)

This is beyond words.

Although it does remind me of a story I heard about my friend's cousin who became a father at 14 and it did save his life (because he figured he couldn't be a druggie and a father simultaneously). True story. But, of course, that's usually not what happens in those situations.

Oh, and I love how Jesus comes along and evidently personally takes interest in saving the life of a fetus while there is genocide going on by the day. What a happy, positive view of the world: if you're a blob of cells, Jesus will do whatever it takes to save you as long as someone prays. If you're starving and being raped and your people are being killed, tough titties.

@Rarend: I'm going to have Jack Chick conspiracy nightmares because of you. Thanks a lot.

10. *Djur* Says:

[June 4th, 2007 at 12:45 am](#)

Is that the equivalent of manslaughter? If you didn't know you were pregnant and taking folic acid would've prevented your miscarriage, is that negligent homicide?

Actually, horrifyingly enough, there's some precedent for stuff like this. Susan Faludi outlines some of the atrocious invasions of women's privacy and bodily sovereignty in the eighties. Stuff like women having their children taken away or even being jailed for things like having sex while pregnant, not taking vitamins, eating junk food, etc.

It's not a long stretch from there to jailing women for negligent BAY-BEEEE-cide. Or BAAAAYBEEEEslaughter.

11. *Randy* Says:

[June 4th, 2007 at 1:36 am](#)

That Crazy Guy redux! I don't get why Chick has to make so many slight variations on the same theme. I suppose it's because this is an anti-abortion tract, that's what makes it different.

I seriously thought that was an obese middle-aged woman with a frumpy dress on the cover.

The teacher's nose is dangerously sharp.

I think the panel with the "What is this gift, Uncle Mike?" conversation can get the same treatment as "That's Jesus?" in that crazy guy, especially since you can't see them through the opaque window.

It's particularly interesting that, considering *this* Ashley is two months along in pregnancy, a year later her baby should be equivalent to a five month old.

Sorry, I should have commented earlier, but I was busy chatting and flirting with a gay Jew.

12. *Aisha* Says:

[June 4th, 2007 at 1:52 am](#)

I remember somewhere in the bible (OT I think) that killing a man accidentally was punishable by death, but making a woman miscarry was treated like property damage.

Wait a minute, a fetus doesn't have a CNS or even brain stem function until late second early 3rd trimester

Wait again. . . I thought actions didn't matter. . . just Jesus. . . repent. . . salvation *head explodes*

13. *Crane* Says:

[June 4th, 2007 at 2:30 am](#)

Why do you think so many people recant on their deathbed?
Basically, christianity seems to boil down to "Say your sorry and that God/Jesus are great, and you'll go to heaven".

14. *Linkage* Says:[June 4th, 2007 at 2:46 am](#)

I disagree with you

15. *Stephen* Says:[June 4th, 2007 at 3:29 am](#)

Wonderfully entertaining as always! My favorite lines:

"Parts of images that are most often lovingly detailed and realistically crafted in Chick Tracts: Toilets and gay men's muscles. I'm not sure what conclusion to draw from this."

"Sometimes I think I spend more time mocking these goddamned things than he does actually drawing them."

16. *BtI* Says:[June 4th, 2007 at 5:07 am](#)

Y'know, I think this all stemmed from a misunderstanding. Eric assumed the guy he was talking to was a 'doctor' because he was wearing a white coat and a stethoscope. Considering the evidence, I think it's infinitely more probable that he's actually some mentally ill homeless guy who just stole said pieces of equipment from the hospital where he woke up after his last meth overdose.

But of course Eric, like all Jack Chick characters, lacks the capacity for rational analysis of himself and others, leading he and Ashley to have a shitling to call their very own. Comes complete with his own gaping maw!

17. *Felis* Says:[June 4th, 2007 at 7:47 am](#)

It's about time! You sure now how to keep a guy waiting. Bloody brilliant as always; keep it up.

Gotta admit, I was a bit more serious when i read this one, because it *is* a sensitive issue.

I just realised something. When Doctor McChristian boasts "ultrasound scans have proven it!", it didnt make sense. I mean, Ashley finds out she's pregnant "two months later".

The Doctor says, 24 hrs later, that the baby is well enough developed to be a living thing. Doc's saying that an 8 week old baby is developed enough to have a brain.

But at 2 months, the baby is a 16 cell ball-it doesn't have anything AT ALL resembling a human's bdy part. Clearly Jack Chickenshit knows nothing about Biology.

If you want my 2 cents, I think the cutoff point is fist trimester. A week or two after, *maybe*.

BTW, does 'partial-birth abortion' actually happen in the US?

Keep the tracts going lolz

18. *Till* Says:[June 4th, 2007 at 12:53 pm](#)

@Aisha: Exodus 21:22

If men strive, and hurt a woman with child, so that her fruit depart from her, and yet no mischief follow: he shall be surely punished, according as the woman's husband will lay upon him; and he shall pay as the judges determine.

On an unrelated note: Did you hear that a Komodo dragon gave a virgin birth (well, hatching) close to Christmas 2006? Seems that Raptor Jesus shall redeem us all...

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Komodo_dragon#Parthenogenesis

19. *Kelse* Says:[June 4th, 2007 at 2:31 pm](#)

Get eleven more of those two-month-old "babies" and some dip, and you'd have a great shrimp platter.

20. *Chelonianmobile* Says:[June 4th, 2007 at 2:38 pm](#)

Nah, the aborted fetuses (foeti? foetae?) don't go to Heaven. They go to Hell, but they can't feel any pain, so they won't even notice their noses being ripped off. They grow till they look about five years old and go skipping merrily through the burning sands, befriending giant green bunnies and sapient fedoras.

Virtual cookies for webcomic readers who get that.

My own personal cutoff point for an abortion would be when the fetus (not baby, gotta remember semantic difference) was developed enough to feel pain, because that's kinda ... ick. I wouldn't be comfortable with that. But that's just me. I'd say it's best to avoid abortion whenever possible simply because it's an unpleasant procedure, but if the mother really couldn't deal with a baby or the embryo's carrying some horrible genetic defect, I'd say it's a smart move.

Huh. Would fundies or other pro-life groups agree to abort a fetus proven to be the Antichrist? Or would they have to let it be born and let it grow up under heavy guard all its life, because if they aborted it someone else would end up carrying the next Antichrist and they might be somewhere they couldn't get an abortion?

And why do I know I'll be stuck thinking about that all through tomorrow when I'm supposed to be studying for an exam? Dammit.

21. *Mom* Says:

[June 4th, 2007 at 5:30 pm](#)

If anyone is interested, this website offers a view of what a embryo/fetus looks like in the first stages of pregnancy. www.wprc.org/parenting/fetal-development/first-trimester/ Jack once again fails to make a point. He says not to have abortions yet he says "Whether you've had an abortion or not, receive Jesus Christ as your savior" So basically, you can have an abortion, accept Jesus Christ as your savior and you still go to heaven?

And, does God cause flat tires in order to stop abortions? I'm not pregnant but my check engine light is on. What do you think this means? Anyone?

Comment by Crane reminds me of the old joke....why do you see so many old people reading the bible? They're cramming for finals.

22. *little e-* Says:

[June 4th, 2007 at 7:27 pm](#)

The baby/fetus distinction is one which people like to make in these discussions, but I think is ultimately a red herring. From the general dictionary perspective, **any** offspring can be a 'baby'—I'm still my mother's baby, even though I'm an adult with a baby of my own. My baby is still my baby, even though it hasn't been born yet. Etc. From a **medical** perspective, of course, using the term 'baby' in this way is useless. If I call a doctor and say "I think there's a problem with my baby," the doctor does not want to sit there guessing whether I mean a 5 month fetus or a 24 yr old adult. So we have zygote and embryo and fetus and neonate and baby/infant and toddler and child and pre-teen and teenagers and adult and middle-aged and senior citizen and really old. These are all developmentally different stages of life. A fetus is developmentally different from a baby, and vice versa.

But the thing is... as fun as it is to argue semantics, the abortion debate doesn't hinge at **all** on whether or not the kid is a fetus or a baby or whatever. We can use 'baby' or 'fetus' until we're blue in the face trying to make **emotional** arguments to sway each other, but from a logical standpoint, that's all irrelevant. I may see my fetus as a baby, but I'm still fully willing to abort it if necessary, because I don't see enforcing my bodily sovereignty as murder, I see it as a fundamental right.

But Jack can't talk about things like fundamental rights to bodily sovereignty, because then he'd realize that just because someone believes that it's acceptable to abort a fetus doesn't mean they're going to go around forcing other people to abort fetuses. And that would just fuck over the entire strip.

23. *Janet* Says:

[June 4th, 2007 at 7:50 pm](#)

Felis wrote:

But at 2 months, the baby is a 16 cell ball-it doesn't have anything AT ALL resembling a human's bdy part. Clearly Jack Chickenshit knows nothing about Biology.

Neither do you. We've been linking to and discussing what status an embryo has at that point, and it's not a blastocyst (cell cluster). It's a blastocyst after about 2 days.

But, as little_e- says above, that's irrelevant, because it's about controlling your own life, and in many cases men have a less valid say in the laws. And as Jabberwock says, it's also about not investigating every miscarriage. Also, check out the link at the bottom to matters of pro-life women who don't even realize they're pro-choice - their OWN choice, of course.

24. little_e- Says:
[June 4th, 2007 at 8:01 pm](#)

Men who make laws regulating shit which will never, ever happen to them: busybodies. And dear gods how I hate busybodies.

25. Mom Says:
[June 4th, 2007 at 9:35 pm](#)

I totally agree with little_e- and Janet in that the stages of the developing embryo are irrelevant. Felis seemed to have a bit of misinformation on the developmental stages so I suggested the website. Some folks put great value on this in their individual arguments against abortion.

The thing that is most important is the individual's decision and their circumstances surrounding this decision. What they decide is no one's business and should be decided by the individual and not dictated by a bunch of lawmakers who don't have a clue or a bunch of scripture thumpers who feel it is their mission to save the world.

26. Jon Says:
[June 4th, 2007 at 10:39 pm](#)

We were debating abortion in class the other day, and the general consensus was that it should be the mother's choice and the mother's choice alone whether or not to abort the baby. Our teacher, playing devils advocate, brought in a situation where the woman who is having a baby doesn't want to abort it, while the man who impregnated her does want her to undergo an abortion. The woman, however, doesn't get an abortion and now wants the man to support her child financially and takes legal action. Should the man have had any say in her abortion? Can a situation occur where an outside party should have the ability to make the decision for the woman?

We were also discussing the cutoff points, and our stances were pretty varied. Most of the students (there are seven in our class) had the cutoff point somewhere between the first trimester and when a baby first looks somewhat like a baby. I, however, to the disgust of my fellow students, stated that the cutoff point should be when the baby is born. The rest of the class couldn't imagine killing a baby that was 9 months old and ready to be born, but I posed the question "would that really happen?"

How many times do you think some woman would be 9 months pregnant, start going into labor and being all like "Whoops! Sorry! Forgot to get that abortion! Better get one right away!"

At this point, there are better options (adoption, surgery, etc).

As Jabberwock once pointed out: It's not always the raising a child that cannot be handled by the woman, pregnancy is not an easy thing to deal with. But if a woman has already (basically) finished with pregnancy, there is no reason to have an abortion.

27. little_e- Says:
[June 5th, 2007 at 3:25 am](#)

Jon: the problem of unwanted fatherhood is, IMO, irrelevant to the issue of abortion. Abortion doesn't exist to rid mothers of the burdensome task of raising children. It exists to end unwanted pregnancies. *Adoption* exists to solve the problem of unwanted children.

I speak from the perspective of a person whose biological father did not want to raise her and signed away his parental rights when she was an

infant. I was later adopted by my stepfather. Men (and women) already have the legal option to get rid of unwanted children. Men do not have the legal option to get rid of pregnancies because... men do not get pregnant. (unless they're abortion doctors. But you know what I mean.)

Of course, to do this, the woman has to also agree that the man should give up custody. This is basically because once a child is born, it also has various legal rights, such as the right to be taken care of by its parents. It may sound harsh to say 'sucks to be you' to a guy caught in this sort of situation, but his life and health are not in jeopardy, and he doesn't have the right to go demanding that someone else have a surgical operation (with a certain accompanying risk of complications such as sterility and hemorrhaging,) just because he doesn't want to be a parent. After all, she's not asking him to have any such operations. Hell, he didn't even bother to get himself sterilized if he feels so strongly about it.

There are two solutions as I see it: A, be such a pain in the fucking ass about the whole situation that the woman realizes that joint-custody with you is a bad, bad idea. B, Pass a new law which allows for a legal opt-out mechanism similar to the one already in place for sperm and egg donors such that two people can agree *ahead of time* that should any offspring result from them fucking, only one of them will be responsible for it.

The only situations where I think any party other than the woman herself should make the decision would be a situation in which the woman is mentally incompetent/unable to make the decision—say, she's in a coma, or mentally retarded, or just a small child (it's happened, unfortunately.) In those cases, someone else should be trusted to make the decision for her, just as someone else would be trusted to make *any* medical decision for her.

I agree with you on your last point about the time limit of termination—speaking as a pregnant woman, I don't think most folks who aren't/haven't been pregnant have any appreciation for the sheer amount of hormones running through my brain going 'cuddle babies!' I'm like a zombie, only I want to cuddle babies and puppies instead of eat brains. I can only imagine that for any woman who finds it necessary to have a late-term abortion, it must be very difficult—far more difficult than the pro-criminalization crowd would ever admit. The only cases I could imagine of babies being aborted at nine months (instead of just induced or cesarianed,) would be cases in which they discover the fetus has some severe abnormality/malformation/etc. Like it has no brain and is going to die a slow, horrible death if it's born.

28. *Ryan Says:*
[June 5th, 2007 at 3:47 am](#)

Chelonianmobile: The correct answer is "Fnar"!

chows down on virtual cookies

Remind me to start hanging out at the Jack boards again. It's been too long.

29. *Ryan Says:*
[June 5th, 2007 at 3:53 am](#)

"If you are pregnant, don't let anybody tell you that it's just some tissue inside you. It's a LIVING BABY God created."

Wait...I thought Eric created it? Or is Ashley having a virgin birth, making little Nathan the next messiah?

30. *Professor Woland Says:*
[June 5th, 2007 at 4:35 am](#)

This was an unusual tract for Jack in terms of its characterisation. Normally when Jack decides to do a bildungsroman, he very obviously follows the character who is to be saved from the start so that the reader will develop sympathy with them (or at least understand, with the aid of certain mental gymnastics that they should be developing sympathy with them).

However, Jack spends the first three frames of this tract developing sympathy for Ashley, by showing us her fucked-up hippy family, only to finally introduce Eric in the fourth frame, poorly drawn and seemingly playing the usual Chickesque demonic influence as seen in 'That Crazy Guy.' He then proceeds to disappear again, and the next four frames continue centring on Ashley's story. Then all at once, despite Eric being up to this point the flattest of one-dimensional characters, he gets the old Jack Chick Self-Insertion Jesus Treatment.

Two theories present themselves here (well, actually, a lot of theories present themselves here, but these are the plausible ones):

A: Jack Chick couldn't develop a plot to save his life (let alone the life of a fetus), this simply being a particularly crap example of his work.

B: Jack sees abortion as fundamentally a man's issue, and is propagating the view that where the man leads, the vagina follows. Women need not be converted. They will be beaten into submission by their righteous husbands once they have been converted.

P.S. If you're willing to take requests, I highly recommend 'The Mad Machine.' I've probably read half of his tracts and this, I must say, could actually be called an achievement. I've never seen a story where the central and only character is not introduced until the final frames of the tract. The whole thing is just one massive scene-setting exercise finishing with the obligatory "...therefore Jesus." Remarkable.

31. *Felis* Says:

[June 5th, 2007 at 7:33 am](#)

Felis wrote:

But at 2 months, the baby is a 16 cell ball-it doesn't have anything AT ALL resembling a human's bdy part. Clearly Jack Chickenshit knows nothing about Biology.

Neither do you. We've been linking to and discussing what status an embryo has at that point, and it's not a blastocyst (cell cluster). It's a blastocyst after about 2 days.

Oh shit you're right as well. Its been five years since I've even looked at a Bio book, lol. Still, my point is that it can't feel pain at that point and it's not alive.

32. *Felis* Says:

[June 5th, 2007 at 7:34 am](#)

Bolloxed up the quotes AGAIN.

33. *Shaun* Says:

[June 5th, 2007 at 11:53 am](#)

Hmm... maybe, since Eric and Ashley seem to be complete morons anyway, they were unfamiliar with the proper use of a condom. We don't KNOW that he actually put it on. Maybe they just thought carrying it around with them would work like some sort of bad juju deterrent.

34. *Wattly* Says:

[June 5th, 2007 at 1:40 pm](#)

Hmm... maybe, since Eric and Ashley seem to be complete morons anyway, they were unfamiliar with the proper use of a condom. We don't KNOW that he actually put it on. Maybe they just thought carrying it around with them would work like some sort of bad juju deterrent.

You know, they never mention on the box what the effective radius is.

35. *Janet* Says:

[June 5th, 2007 at 4:54 pm](#)

Well, it's alive, but so is a shrimp. And even shrimps aren't completely dependent on another body to stay alive. Closer to compare it with a tumor.

36. *little e-* Says:

[June 5th, 2007 at 5:03 pm](#)

Felis: A two month old fetus is clearly "alive"—hell, my unfertilized eggs are *alive*. So are sperm. So are my toes and my pancreas and eyeballs. If I had cancer, that would be alive, too. About the only parts of us which aren't alive are our hair, fingernails, upper layer of our skin, and of course the crap in our intestines.

The question of 'alive' or not is utterly irrelevant. The opposition to killing fetuses doesn't stem from them being alive—conservatives are perfectly fine with cutting down living trees and sticking the corpses in their living rooms to celebrate Christmas, after all.

When they say 'alive', what they actually mean is (but can't say, because it would identify them as making a religious argument in the middle of a political debate, which our Constitution dictates is a 'no-no',) that it has a *soul*. Different religions posit that the soul enters the body at different times (if they even posit the existence of such a thing,) so 'life begins at conception' is really an attempt at disguising a conservative Christian opinion on when the soul enters the body and thus a 'person' is created. After all, these folks generally think nothing of killing a cow and eating it—they draw a strong line between 'human' and 'animal' (thus a lot of the opposition to evolution,) and that division is based on the notion that we have souls and they don't.

37. *Nicest Girl* Says:

[June 5th, 2007 at 5:54 pm](#)

I also like, in this tract, how Chick paints women out to be completely and utterly incapable of making a decision about whether or not to continue with her pregnancy on her own. And how she is totally lost and would ONLY choose to have an abortion because she's too weak to take care of a child on her own. BECAUSE Eric left... Ashley HAS to have an abortion. Because without Eric, she is nothing and her brain ceases to work correctly. This also seems to be pretty typical fundie thought. Women are stupid and require the guidance of men, especially when it comes to their own bodies and decision-making.

38. *Mom* Says:

[June 5th, 2007 at 8:19 pm](#)

What hit me as funny is that Jack promotes Ashley to marry "for the sake of the child" this smirking, cowardly, total prick. The only reason Eric changes his cowardly mind is because his Uncle Mike scares the shit out of him. Wouldn't you like to see the follow-up on this loving family? Ashley has the baby, Eric becomes an alcoholic because he really isn't in love with Ashley and never wanted children. Ashley ends up becoming a single parent anyway. She struggles with trying to raise a Christian child while working two jobs and can't make it to church on Sunday because that's the only day she can get any rest and she goes to hell anyway. And they lived happily ever after.....The End.

39. *Chobit* Says:

[June 6th, 2007 at 2:43 pm](#)

Thanks for doing this one! I appreciate it.

The worst part is the end. I wouldn't feel that great if I were second to Jesus to my other.

40. *paleone* Says:

[June 6th, 2007 at 6:24 pm](#)

I knew a girl in highschool who was forbidden to even discuss the concept of sexuality in her home. And she wouldnt listen to anyone else talk about it. Her parents prevented her from attending any health class that dealt with the subject and as a result she had about a 1st grade understanding of sex and reproduction.

When she was seventeen, she got pregnant. When her parents asked her when and with whom she was having sex she denied ever having it. They subsequently discovered she didnt know what sex was, only that it was "BAD". But she was of course told by her parents she HAD to keep the child even though she was obviously thouroughly unprepared for life.

41. *Chelonianmobile* Says:

[June 7th, 2007 at 1:33 pm](#)

Oh, I forgot: <http://www.ffrf.org/nontracts/abortion.php>

42. *Jabberwock* Says:

[June 7th, 2007 at 7:42 pm](#)

Paleone: And God told them, "Be fruitful and multiply. But do not speak at all of sex, for it is icky."

43. *Felis* Says:

[June 8th, 2007 at 6:54 am](#)

little e: What you're saying is a fair point, BUT I meant that the fetus (foetus?) is unable to feel pain at such an early poin in its development point. I was just speaking (a bit too) generally.

And with the trees statement, conservatives are okay with cutting down trees etc., but that's just because, well, they're trees. Sure, they're alive and all, and to take on out of the environment isn't good.

But, we're way higher up then them. I would say we are, in a biological sense, animals, but we're more than that by a mile. We have intelligence for one thing, and I don't mean the sort that dolphins and apes have - ours is way more, and we can apply critical thinking and complex reasoning. Plus we have free will!

44. *Mau de Katt* Says:
[June 8th, 2007 at 6:33 pm](#)

Ew. Those babies are creepy. So accepting Jesus infects your babies with progeria?

This seems like an appropriate place to link to this — have you ever seen the parody "Cthulhu Chick" tract? Better read it fast... every time someone posts it, Chick's pet lawyers get it yanked.

[Who Will Be Eaten First?](#)

45. *Jabberwock* Says:
[June 8th, 2007 at 7:21 pm](#)

Hehehe, I've seen that before, actually. You know, I'm a little surprised nobody from Chick Publications has ever tried to get in touch with me about the Dissections. I mean, not that they'd have a case anyway, since I'm clearly within the protective boundary of Parody and Fair Use, but it's interesting they've never even sent an empty threat in the hope that I'd get all scared and take it down.

46. *Eagle The Cheetah* Says:
[June 8th, 2007 at 8:44 pm](#)

I was wondering... what does it take to do a guest dissection?

47. *Nathan* Says:
[June 17th, 2007 at 9:21 pm](#)

I think I should sue. The baby has the same name as me. Jack Chick makes me sick.

48. *Jon* Says:
[June 19th, 2007 at 1:00 pm](#)

Which tract is that "Who will be eaten first" parodying? I cant find it on their site.

49. *Jackson* Says:
[June 19th, 2007 at 4:22 pm](#)

I'm impressed with Eric. He went from hating Ashley and being disgusted with her to wanting to marry her in a matter of hours.

They are going to be so happy together.

50. *Garrett* Says:
[June 25th, 2007 at 1:10 am](#)

I am a Deist Christian who does not base his positions on ethics on the Bible or on any other propagandized bullshit that is spewed by mass religion for the taking over of the people.

So, lets analyze abortion from a secular perspective.

We know that an embryo has a high chance of developing into a concious being.

Lets take an example. Say you drive your car through a green light and a person driving a different vehicle runs a red and slams into your car, putting you into a concussion. Lets also say that you have no brain activity, but that the doctors know that you have a 90% chance of waking up from this type of concussion (which doesn't actually exist but is purely hypothetical). Does the person who hit your car have to keep you alive for nine months, or is he/she entitled to pay your hospital bills, etc. etc. in order to make sure you are able to wake up?

Now apply this to abortion. The fetus will eventually be an eating, shitting, thinking human being and will have the same political rights as the rest of us—all of it started by a concious (or maybe unconcious if they were drunk

etc. but they are still responsible) decision on behalf of the mother and the father. It is their responsibility.

Obviously this breaks down if the woman is raped, since the fetus is an infringement on her right to her body (she did not choose to have sex, so the fetus is there by force rather than by her stupidity/ignorance), and the right of the mother trumps the right of what is infringing on her right.

Just would like your thoughts, maybe you have not ever heard of this side with the idiot Christians flooding the waves with all their irrelevant opinions. You are doing a great job by the way, keep it up. Everything is God Damn hilarious.

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