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# PREPARING YOUR STUDENTS FOR CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT

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# PREPARING OUR STUDENTS FOR CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT

- ▶ Establishing a framework
- ▶ Warnings
- ▶ Addressing the foundational issues
- ▶ Case studies

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## ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK

- ▶ Every issue we face is a worldview issue.
- ▶ Cultural issues don't exist in a vacuum.
- ▶ Our goal is to help students think in distinctively Christian ways.

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# BEWARE!

- ▶ Political Spin
- ▶ Actors and Athletes
- ▶ Emotional Appeals

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## ADDRESSING THE FOUNDATIONAL ISSUES

- ▶ What is the foundational issue that is being addressed?
- ▶ What does the Bible say about it?

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## CASE STUDIES

- ▶ Racial Discrimination
- ▶ Pre-marital Sex
- ▶ Abortion

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# ABORTION

- ▶ What is the foundational issue?
- ▶ What we are talking about is the intentional killing of a human being.
- ▶ What does the Bible say about that?

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## WHEN DOES HUMAN LIFE BEGIN?

- ▶ This is where science is on our side
- ▶ Human life begins at the moment of conception
  - ▶ A new human life is created at the point when the sperm and egg unite (zygote => embryo => fetus => newborn)
  - ▶ It is a new organism at the point of fertilization
  - ▶ At this point it has a unique human DNA that is in the process of "self-actualization"
  - ▶ It is acting like an organism, not a "bundle of cells"
  - ▶ A change in terms doesn't change the Biology



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## IF NOT AT CONCEPTION, THEN WHEN?

- ▶ Birth
- ▶ Heartbeat (6 weeks)
- ▶ Pain (15 weeks) or earlier
  - ▶ We even operate on pre-born babies at this point and administer anesthesia.
- ▶ Viable (60% of babies born at 22 weeks survive)
  - ▶ But is this the standard? What about adults on life support?
- ▶ Conception is the only true landmark for personhood.

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## DEALING WITH THE SPIN

- ▶ Unconstitutional
- ▶ My body, my choice
- ▶ Women's Rights
- ▶ That's not a human being (video)

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## DIFFICULT ISSUES

- ▶ Is it okay advocate incrementalism?
- ▶ What about rape and incest?
- ▶ What about the life of the mother?

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## CURRENT SITUATION

- ▶ Alabama (May 14, 2019 => takes effect in September)
  - ▶ Makes it a felony to perform or attempt an abortion
  - ▶ Permits abortion to save the life of the mother
- ▶ Georgia (May 7, 2019 => takes effect Jan 1, 2020)
  - ▶ The [Living Infants Fairness and Equality \(LIFE\) Act](#) defines a natural person as including an unborn child with a detectable human heartbeat.
- ▶ Missouri (May 24, 2019)
  - ▶ Basically bans abortions after 8 weeks unless it is to "avert the death of a pregnant woman"

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## RESOURCES

- ▶ The Charlotte Lozier Institute - [lozierinstitute.org](https://lozierinstitute.org)
- ▶ End Abortion Now - [endabortionnow.com](https://endabortionnow.com)
- ▶ March For Life - [marchforlife.org](https://marchforlife.org)
- ▶ Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission - [erlc.org](https://erlc.org)