

## THE TAG ON PHRASE

### Too often even pro-lifers tag on the phrase "...except in cases of rape..."

In John Wolcott's article "Abortion No Solution for Rape Victims", he writes about a speech by Julie Makimaa at the Human Life of Washington annual meeting. Julie's mother, Lee Ezell, (See book review - "The Missing Piece".) was raped at eighteen and Julie was conceived as a result of Life Issues Bible Study by CFL

A Christian Response to Abortion the rape. At the banquet address Julie told her dramatic story and how it changed her life.

"My most important message is that people need to realize that children should not have their value determined by the circumstances of their conception, whether it's rape or incest," she said, "Every child is valuable and there's a purpose in every child's life."

Julie and her husband, Bob, had been active in pro-life work before she met her birth mother and knew the circumstances of her own birth and adoption. Julie now spends much of her time working with Crisis Pregnancy Centers, speaking to pro-life and sexual assault groups around the country and telling her story to state legislators grappling with abortion issues.

"Bob and I had never thought much about sexual assault cases in our pro-life work but after finding out about my own life, how could we ever say that abortion was OK for rape or incest victims," she said.

Her visits with legislators have impact, she says, because they see her as a person who has talents, family and inherent human value rather than as the intangible being often dismissed even in abortion prohibition bills by a simple tag-on phrase, "...except in cases of rape..."

"For many of them (legislators), I really bring the issue down to reality. It's easy for them to make a decision to allow abortion for sexual assaults if they don't connect the issue with a real child, a real person. When they see me they realize these children aren't evil and don't have terrible problems just because of their conception. **They're just normal people who should not be punished because of the crime of their father,**" she said.

### Additional Scriptures to help answer questions on rape, incest, and deformity

Deuteronomy 24:16 "Fathers shall not be put to death for their sons, nor shall sons be put to death for their fathers; everyone shall be put to death for his own sin."

Genesis 50:20 "And as for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive."

1 Corinthians 10:13 "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."

Ephesians 5:20 "Always give thanks for everything to our God and Father in the name of our

Lord Jesus Christ."

Romans 9:20-21 " No, don't say that. Who are you to criticize God? Should the thing made say to the one who made it, 'Why have you made me like this?' Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make from the same lump one vessel for honorable use, and another for common use?"

James 1:12 "Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to those who love Him."

1 Living World, 1991, Vol. 5, No. 4

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