

Every Breath is Precious

"Liz! Listen to me. Please?" Annie looked at her best friend with pleading eyes.

"No," Liz turned so Annie couldn't see her eyes burn with tears. "I've heard enough of what you have to say. I am going through with this abortion. It would be too difficult to be a mother and a senior in high school. This is my only option." She turned back to face her friend.

"Your only option is to kill a helpless baby that God has a plan for? You can find help. I'm sure your mother can help and I will too. Please don't murder your own child." Annie spoke slowly to let her words sink in.

"I am not murdering anyone!" She opened her mouth several times but nothing came out.

"In New York they passed a new law, a woman can have an abortion up to birth. They also lit up the Empire State Building in celebration. They were celebrating that it was legal to kill children." Annie looked her friend in the eyes and saw horror. "What's the difference between killing a child when it's in the womb or out?"

"Well, when you put it that way I sound like a monster," Liz sighed.

"That's why the doctors don't say, 'Are you sure you want to murder your own child?' If they did, I don't think anyone would ever have an abortion. Yet, lots of people do and someone needs to remind them what's true."

"I guess you're right." Liz looked up with a tear stained face and Annie warped her in a tightly firm hug. "How am I supposed to be a mother and juggle my senior year of high school?"

"I don't know but, I'll always be there for you," Annie said with a comforting smile.

7TH-8TH GRADE

First Place Essay

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