

The Salvation Army's Position on Abortion

We are all familiar with the persistent bell-ringers at shopping malls during the Christmas season. They stand alongside their familiar red kettle, inviting you to donate your change when leaving the store. Millions of people do so each year.

However, the **Kansas Coalition for Life** (KCFL) asks you to prepare a note to drop into the bucket instead of money, politely asking The Salvation Army to correct their flawed position on abortion.

For example, your note could simply read:

- *"No one deserves to die by abortion!" Or,*
- *"Thou Shalt Not Kill. Every abortion kills a child, and most of the time, leaves the mother emotionally scarred for life!" Or,*
- *"The Baby Jesus was born to a single Mom in an emotionally difficult situation. What if Jesus had been killed by abortion, prior to doing his ordained work on Earth?" Or,*
- *"Every Abortion is an act of violence. It is the ultimate in child abuse! Please stop promoting 'some' abortions!" Or,*
- *"Every child deserves a chance at life, not just some children! Please work to stop ALL abortions." Or,*
- Make a note using your own wording, but please keep it positive and upbeat. Members of The Salvation Army are our brothers and sisters who are terribly wrong on abortion. But, they are not our enemy.
- Finally, you can also print and fold this entire document, and insert it into the red bucket as well.

It is important to let them know that you are aware that money given to the Salvation Army is used not only for **direct help** to people in need, which we all support, but also for **issue advocacy**.



It is the 'issue advocacy' part, and the fact that The Salvation Army takes a clear proChoice position, much like that of the Methodist Church, to which they are historically and theologically connected, that makes donating to them entirely unacceptable.

It is, in fact, counterproductive for anyone who wishes to follow the Commandment: 'THOU SHALT NOT KILL', and who wants to promote true Christian values, to donate ANY MONEY, even a penny, to The Salvation Army under these current circumstances.

The Salvation Army's current official statement on abortion, is publically available at: http://www1.salvationarmy.org/lHQ/www_ihq_isjc.nsf/vw-sublinks/FE3C992C78838853802577DF0071D796?openDocument. But do not be fooled by one of the worst examples of contradictory and twisted double-speak ever seen in a single document.

The Salvation Army's document starts out fine, saying: *"The Salvation Army believes all people are created in the image of God and therefore have unique and intrinsic value."* ...And, it goes on to say: *"The Salvation Army believes that life is a gift from God and we are answerable to God for the taking of life."* Etc. At first glance,

one would think that The Salvation Army is perfectly in line with Evangelical Protestant thinking and Catholic teaching on the topic of abortion. But, *Katie-bar-the-door!* when the double-speak begins!

In twisted language that is 100% contradictory to the above quoted statements, The Salvation Army tries, unsuccessfully, to have it both ways, making a complete mockery of their own proLife opening statements.

The Salvation Army's first abortion exception is predictably: *"...to save the life of the mother."*

They make no distinction concerning ectopic pregnancy care, which is not even considered to be in the realm of abortion. While it is true that pregnancy is not a risk-free endeavor, and that numerous complications can occur during pregnancy, complications which may even have a cause directly related to the pregnancy, the fact remains that there has never been a single case in recorded medical history, where a mother's life was lost due to her failure to procure an abortion. This fact may be news to some, but it is an indisputable fact nevertheless.

Pregnancy is a natural condition in female human beings. It has been going on for a long time now. If a doctor ever listed *"Failure to have an abortion"* as a cause of death, he or she would lose his or her medical license as soon as such nonsense came to light!

Missing from The Salvation Army's statement, is the pertinent information from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) reporting over 400 mothers who were themselves killed during the process of so-called, 'safe, legal abortions' since 1973.

Following the familiar pattern of the Methodist Church again, which openly takes a proChoice position on abortion, The Salvation Army also makes exceptions for rape, and incest, and an implied exception for emotional reasons, wrapped in the verbiage on rape and incest.

Their statement says: *"...In addition, rape and incest are brutal acts of dominance violating*

women physically and emotionally. This situation represents a special case for the consideration of termination as the violation may be compounded by the continuation of the pregnancy."



It is as if the two different sections of The Salvation Army's abortion statement were written by different authors who had no knowledge of what the other was writing.

The Salvation Army is actually a distinct and separate religious denomination in its own right. It was formed in London, England in 1865 by a Methodist Preacher, named William Booth. The Salvation Army is currently active in 127 different countries around the globe.

The red kettle campaign is conducted as much for *'image and public relations'* as it is for actual income. In America, The Salvation Army's big money comes from the UNITED WAY, and large individual and corporate donations, such as a \$1.6 Billion Dollar gift in the will of Joan Kroc, wife of the former McDonald's CEO, Ray Kroc. These large donations most often come with strings attached, causing The Salvation Army to take positions that are clearly not Christian in nature.

Understandably, The Salvation Army wants to have it both ways, and that is what KCFL objects to. The Salvation Army wants to be involved in abortion advocacy to satisfy some of their large donors, while still telling potential average-income donors, that they are proLife Christians.

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Copies are available at: www.kcfl.net



Dear Salvation Army;

*No one deserves to die by abortion!
Please change your corporate policy to
oppose all abortions. Thank you.*

Dear Salvation Army;

*Thou Shalt Not Kill. Every abortion kills
a child, and most of the time, leaves the
mother emotionally scarred for life! Please
change your corporate policy to oppose all
abortions! Thank you.*

Dear Salvation Army;

*Every Abortion is an act of violence. It
is the ultimate in child abuse! Please
change your corporate policy to oppose all
abortions! Thank you.*

Dear Salvation Army;

*The Baby Jesus was born to a single
Mom in an emotionally difficult
situation. What if Jesus had been killed
by abortion, prior to doing his ordained
work on Earth? Please change your
corporate policy to oppose all abortions!
Every life has a purpose. Thank you.*



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