

# What Happens When You Buy a Lie?

ANNIVERSARY ROE VS. WADE

## 40 Long Years

Have you ever noticed how frequently in the Bible things take 40 days or years? The Israelites wandered in the desert on their way to the Promised Land for 40 long years. Moses was on Mount Sinai for 40 days while receiving the 10 Commandments. Ninevah got 40 days to repent (Remember Jonah?) Jesus fasted, prayed, and underwent temptation for 40 days in the desert. And finally, 40 days passed between Jesus' Resurrection and His Ascension, during which time He was seen many times.

This month we celebrate a dark 40 years in our history. 40 years of abortion in the United States. 40 long years. That's over 55 million human lives –taken - before they ever had a chance. It's astonishing. Imagine if the entire population of California just disappeared. Now imagine the entire West coast. Gone. That amounts to fewer human lives than those lost to the abortion holocaust in our country.

We as a nation can offer our prayers and penance for the change of hearts. We can pray a rosary daily for fostering a culture of life; offer penance or a sacrifice for the conversion of our country to embrace the Gospel of Life, etc.

### What Happens When You Buy A Lie?

What happens when a nation believes a lie? That's kind of what happened in the United States in 1973, when the Supreme Court decided in Roe v. Wade that abortion should be legal in this country – that a woman's rights over her own body trumped the child in her womb's right to life. It was a lie. Of course women have the right to determine what happens in their own body. And of course, we all enjoy the "right to choose" by virtue of having free will – no one can ever take that from you. We can remove the earthly consequence for committing sin – we can make it legal – but that doesn't make it right. In fact, it just clouds the issue. Isn't the government's job to support what is right? Not to say that wrong is right. To whom can we turn for guidance?

The Catholic Church has unfalteringly defended the right to life from the very beginning. In fact, what is today the Respect Life Apostolate of the Church in St. Louis opened just a few months after Roe v. Wade. Since then we have continued – and we will always continue – to stand up for that most basic of human rights – the right to life!

Be proud to be a catholic – a champion of life! Consider how lucky we are to know that God loves us – that our life is precious to Him – that every human life is sacred. And see how necessary is our witness to the world around us. Take a look at what happens when we forget who we are; whose we are. The world needs the Christian message that every human life is sacred. Will you be that messenger today?

**Q.What happens when freedom is abused? When “freedom” is named to excuse evil?**

**Q.Does it change my sense of who I am when I consider that I am precious to God?**

*Sarah Swaykus, Program Director, Respect Life Apostolate*

