

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**HURT BY ABORTION?
EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN BEGINS**

Arkansas Right to Life has begun a billboard campaign to reach out to women that have been hurt by abortion in Arkansas. The boards are located at 1901 South University Avenue, 7200 West 12th Street and 12101 Kanis Road in Little Rock.

In 2012 there were 3,782 abortions performed in Arkansas, most occurring in Little Rock, where the only surgical abortion facility in our state is located. The non-surgical method is available in Little Rock and Fayetteville.

Approximately 10% of women undergoing elective abortion will suffer immediate complications, of which approximately one-fifth (2%) are considered life threatening. The nine most common major complications which can occur at the time of an abortion are: infection, excessive bleeding, embolism, ripping or perforation of the uterus, anesthesia complications, convulsions, hemorrhage, cervical injury, and endotoxin shock. The most common “minor” complications include: infection, bleeding, fever, second degree burns, chronic abdominal pain, vomiting, gastro-intestinal disturbances, and Rh sensitization.

The psychological effects can include, suicide, alcohol and drug abuse, eating disorders, sexual dysfunction, child neglect and abuse. While psychological reactions to abortion fall into many categories, some women experience all or some symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The lowest incidence rate of PTSD reported following abortion is 1.5%, which would translate to over 600,000 cases of abortion induced PTSD. Another study found that 14% of American women have all the symptoms of PTSD and attribute them to their abortions, with as many as 65% reporting some, but not all symptoms of PTSD.

“While abortion has touched all levels of American society, perhaps no group has been devastated by abortion as much as the Black community said Lekita Diamond-Gaynor, coordinator of Arkansas Black Americans for Life. “Almost half of all Black pregnancies end in abortion,” she added.

June is Abortion Awareness month in the African-American community.

Arkansas Right to Life, affiliate of the National Right to Life Committee, the oldest and largest pro-life organization in Arkansas.