

## Delayed Emotions

"It is very common for women to have a delayed reaction to an abortion (either surgical or chemical), varying from a few weeks to many years before any symptoms appear."

-Dr. Wanda Franz, Ph.D.  
President of the Association for  
Interdisciplinary Research in  
Values and Social Change

"The so called 'safe, simple procedures' that were to allow me to live my life and go on, nearly ruined mine and many other lives instead."

-Karen C.

"When I hold a friend's baby, I grieve all over again. I feel great sadness that the world will never know the two children I aborted."

-Linda Marie

## There Is Help

### EMOTIONAL, MEDICAL, LEGAL

*If you need to talk, or would like more information, contact::*

Bethesda, The House of Mercy  
Northeast Ohio  
[www.bethesdahouseofmercy.org](http://www.bethesdahouseofmercy.org)  
1-800-482-4100

Option Line  
800-712-4357  
[www.optionline.org](http://www.optionline.org)

Life Dynamics (legal)  
800-401-6494  
940-380-8800  
[www.prolifeamerica.com](http://www.prolifeamerica.com)

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries  
610-354-0555  
[www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org)

Silent No More Awareness  
[www.silentnomoreawareness.org](http://www.silentnomoreawareness.org)

National Suicide Hotline:  
800-784-2433

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### Lake County Right To Life



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*Respecting the dignity of the human person at all stages.*

## Post Abortion Syndrome

*PAS*

### Why Does It Hurt?



*"Physically I had no problem with my abortion, but emotionally I created a 'living hell' that continues on a daily basis."*

-Terri F.

# Post Abortion Syndrome

## What Are Some of Its Symptoms?

- Denial, Anger, Guilt
- Withdrawal from social relationships
- Despair/Depression
- Child Abuse
- Inability to forgive self/others
- Recurring nightmares
- Termination of relationships
- Denial of grief and mourning for the aborted child
- Grief and mourning for the loss of the child experienced by fathers, grandparents, children, extended family and others
- Eating disorders
- Preoccupation with death/the abortion date.
- Suicidal tendencies



## What is It?

1. A condition in which abortion destroys the natural bond between parent and child, leaving the mother and father with a sense of incompleteness.
2. A conflict created within the woman between her role as nurturer and her role in the destruction of the life of her unborn child.
3. A denial of the grief and mourning which needs to be recognized and expressed by a woman for her aborted child.
4. A physically and emotionally debilitating condition which can impair a woman's functioning and well-being individually, socially and within her family.
5. A conflict which other family members also experience about their roles after an abortion.

## Who Suffers?

Anyone can. Men and women who have lost a child through abortion. Children and grandparents who have lost a sibling or grandchild through abortion.

## There is Healing

*“The reconciliation of Post Abortion Syndrome is impossible without the act of and belief in forgiveness...One of the most beautiful and profound transactions open to us, forgiveness cleanses, heals and strengthens.”*

Reconciliation with others, the aborted child and self is possible through:

- PAS support groups
- Professional counseling
- Spiritual ministry



Dr. Vincent Rue. Ph.D.  
Leading authority of PAS  
Institute of Pregnancy Loss

*“That sense of peace has brought with it, for me, real joy and new hope for the future.”*

*-Olivia G.*