

## Praise for Our Work

Pro-life and pro-family leaders applaud our research, our education and outreach initiatives, and our efforts to end abortion with compassion by building on the pivotal truth that the welfare of a mother and her unborn child are inseparable.

“Abortion advocates have built their case for abortion on an elaborate system of misinformation . . . [*Making Abortion Rare*] is important reading for those who want to end the plague of abortion.”

Dr. Wanda Franz, President  
National Right to Life Committee

“Dr. Reardon’s analysis and suggested pro-life strategy are right on the mark.”

Dr. Jack Wilke, President  
Life Issues Institute

“Reardon argues persuasively that we must use cultural momentum, not fight it, to build a solution on awareness of the damage abortion does to women.”

Frederica Mathewes-Green  
Author, *Real Choices*

“This research will be critical to the resolution of public policy on abortion.”

Paige Cunningham, President,  
Americans United for Life

“The Elliot Institute has been on the cutting edge of the post abortion issue. When no one else was speaking of the pain of abortion, they were bringing attention to our wounds and helping us to see we were not crazy or alone. . . . Their research is invaluable and they continue to be a number one source for information on these issues.”

Theresa Bonopartis, Founder  
Lumina Post-Abortion Ministry

## About the Director

**David C. Reardon, Ph.D.**, is a biomedical ethicist and an internationally known author, speaker, and researcher on post-abortion issues.

Dr. Reardon began researching abortion’s impact on women in 1983. He was propelled to center stage of the pro-life movement after the publication of his first book, ***Aborted Women, Silent No More***, in 1987. This book earned acclaim from numerous reviewers, including the Conservative Book Club, which said it “may be the most powerful book ever published on abortion.”

He is now recognized as one of the leading experts in the field of post-abortion research. Articles about his work have appeared in numerous magazines and newspapers, including *Newsweek*, and he is also a frequent speaker and radio guest on post-abortion issues. His subsequent books include:

- ***Making Abortion Rare*** – outlines a practical and comprehensive road map for protecting the rights of women and unborn children, and bringing an end to abortion’s assault on both
- ***The Jericho Plan*** – a guide to fostering post-abortion healing within the church.
- ***Victims and Victors*** – in which women who have experienced sexual assault pregnancies reveal the truth about the “hard cases” and abortion.
- ***Forbidden Grief*** – explores the pain of abortion and the obstacles to healing.
- ***Reversing the Gender Gap*** – a guide to help pro-life political candidates fearlessly promote a stance that is truly both pro-woman and pro-life

Dr. Reardon has also served as the chief investigator on a number of original research projects detailed in this brochure.

## For More Information

You can find out more about the Elliot Institute on our web sites at:

[www.AfterAbortion.org](http://www.AfterAbortion.org)  
[www.TheUnChoice.com](http://www.TheUnChoice.com)  
[www.AbortionRisks.org](http://www.AbortionRisks.org)

Learn about:

- Fostering a society that is truly both pro-woman *and* pro-life
- Our research
- The physical and emotional impact of abortion
- Unwanted, coerced and forced abortions
- Post-abortion healing
- Educational materials and resources, including our books and free fact sheets
- How you can get involved

## Stay Informed

Click on the JOIN LIST icon at [www.afterabortion.org](http://www.afterabortion.org) to sign up for our email newsletter, which includes updates on new post-abortion research, news, information and resources.

*Elliot*

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# ELLIOT INSTITUTE

## OUR MISSION & MINISTRY

### Post-Abortion Research, Education and Advocacy

- BREAKTHROUGH RESEARCH
- PROACTIVE EDUCATION
- VALUABLE RESOURCES
- COMPASSIONATE OUTREACH
- PRO-WOMAN / PRO-LIFE

## The Elliot Institute

Founded in 1988, the Elliot Institute is a national non-profit organization dedicated to research, education and outreach regarding the effects of abortion on women, men, families and society. Our mission includes:

### Researching the Impact of Abortion

Studies verify that abortion is much more devastating to women than previously known. David C. Reardon, Ph.D., who founded and directs the Elliot Institute, has been on the forefront of post-abortion research since 1982.

### Speak Out Raising Awareness of Unwanted Abortions and Abortion Risks

We warn people about the risks of abortion—including unwanted, coerced or forced abortions; deceptive or negligent counseling; unsafe medical practices; and serious physical and psychological complications. We also educate people about the need to extend hope and healing to millions of hurting people.

### Creating A Truly Pro-Woman and Pro-Life Society

Dr. Reardon's book *Making Abortion Rare* provides a road map for educational, pastoral and political reform for a society where the authentic rights of both women and unborn children will be respected. It shows how to free those hurt by abortion to speak out, how to hold abortionists fully liable for the injuries they cause, and how to erode public tolerance for abortion by exposing the truth about unwanted abortions and the harm abortion on inflicts on women.

### Reframing the Debate

Our compassionate pro-woman/pro-life stand emphasizes the need to care for *both* women and their unborn children. It also exposes the anti-woman agenda of abortion advocates who hide abortion's risks and conspire with those who are coercing women and girls into unwanted abortions.

### Serving as a Resource for Pro-Life Groups and Others

We provide current research, information, and consultation for pro-life groups, healing ministries, and others seeking information on these issues.

## Education and Outreach

The Elliot Institute's projects involve research, education, and outreach to those struggling with a past abortion. New and ongoing projects include:

- **Internet Information and Outreach**  
Our primary web site at [www.afterabortion.org](http://www.afterabortion.org) includes information on research findings, abortion risks, personal testimonies, healing resources, and more. Sign up for our free e-newsletter and visit us on Twitter and Facebook.
- **The UnChoice Campaign**  
Raises awareness of the epidemic of unwanted, coerced and forced abortions and the trauma of abortion for all involved. Includes print, radio & TV ads, fact sheets, media guides, project ideas and other free and low-cost resources. Learn more at [www.TheUnChoice.com](http://www.TheUnChoice.com).
- **The Thomas W. Strahan Memorial Library**  
Our web site at [www.abortionrisks.org](http://www.abortionrisks.org) includes the world's most extensive online bibliography of published studies on the detrimental effects of abortion. This site also allows users to post information on new studies and share information about post-abortion healing programs.
- **Hope and Healing Newspaper Insert**  
More than 2 million copies of our 12-page publication on post-abortion issues and healing have been distributed via college, community, and city papers, including the *Washington Post*. Shows the heartbreaking truth and encourages a compassionate response.
- **Book Publishing and Distribution**  
We have distributed thousands of books, newsletters and other materials on abortion's impact on women and society. Learn more at [www.afterabortion.org](http://www.afterabortion.org).
- **The Abortion Case Study Project**  
This ongoing effort to collect women's abortion stories includes thousands of testimonies that help foster a greater understanding of this complex issue.

## Pro-Woman / Pro-Life Advocacy

The Elliot Institute works to promote pro-woman efforts such as legislation to make it easier for women to hold abortionists liable for failing to screen for the many risk factors associated with post-abortion problems and for the injuries caused by abortion. Our advocacy efforts include:

### Stand Up

#### Model Pro-Woman/Pro-Life Legislation

You can view our model legislation, "The Protection from High Risk and Coerced Abortion Act," at [www.stopforcedabortions.com](http://www.stopforcedabortions.com)

### Exposing Deceptive Abortion Practices (EDAP)

Through our EDAP project we collect information on deceptive counseling practices at abortion clinics, which can be used to investigate and prosecute clinics under the consumer protection laws.

### Petition for Public Hearings for Women Harmed by Rape and Incest Abortions

We have organized an ad hoc committee of women who have experienced sexual assault pregnancies to petition for public hearings about abortion in cases of rape or incest. These hearings would give women who have experienced sexual assault pregnancy a chance to testify about their experiences and the harm caused by abortion.

### Supreme Court Challenges to *Roe v. Wade*

Attorneys for Norma McCorvey (*Roe v. Wade*) and Sandra Cano (*Doe v. Bolton*) are using our research in their legal challenges asking the Supreme Court to reverse abortion on demand.

We also promote efforts to collect affidavits from women in support of these challenges to abortion laws. More than 1,000 affidavits have been collected so far. For more information about these efforts, please contact the Justice Foundation at 1-866-936-8827 or visit [www.operationoutcry.org](http://www.operationoutcry.org).

## Peer-Reviewed Research

The Elliot Institute's ground-breaking research on abortion's impact on women has been published in many of the most prestigious medical journals. We've been involved in research showing that compared to women who give birth, women who have abortions are at risk for:

- **Substance Abuse.** Five times more likely to subsequently abuse drugs or alcohol. *American Journal of Drug & Alcohol Abuse*  
More likely to smoke or use drugs and alcohol during subsequent pregnancies. *British Journal of Health Psychology*
- **Clinical Depression.** Significantly higher risk of clinical depression. *British Medical Journal*  
65% more likely to be at risk of long-term clinical depression. *Medical Science Monitor*
- **Death.** Elevated risk of death from all causes, including suicide. *Southern Medical Journal*
- **Psychiatric Illness.** 60% more likely to be hospitalized for psychiatric care. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*  
Significantly more likely to receive outpatient psychiatric care. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*  
160% more likely to be hospitalized for psychiatric care. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*
- **Anxiety Disorder** 30 percent more likely to report all the symptoms for a diagnosis of generalized anxiety disorder. *Journal of Anxiety Disorders*
- **Sleep Disorders.** Nearly twice as likely to be treated for sleep disorders. *Sleep*
- **Lack of Choice.** In a survey of women who had abortions, 64 percent reported being pressured to abort and nearly 80 percent reported receiving little or no counseling. More than 50% felt rushed or uncertain about abortion. *Medical Science Monitor*