The Pregnancy Rescue Case: why abortion is immoral

Perry Hendricks 💿

Department of Philosophy, University of Minnesota Morris, Morris, Minnesota, USA

Correspondence to Perry Hendricks, Department of Philosophy, University of Minnestoa Morris, Morris, Minnesota 56267, USA; hendri59@purdue.edu

Received 21 March 2023 Accepted 10 June 2023 Published Online First 28 June 2023

ABSTRACT

In cases in which we must choose between either (i) preventing a woman from remaining unwillingly pregnant or (ii) preventing a fetus from being killed, we should prevent the fetus from being killed. But this suggests that in typical cases abortion is wrong: typical abortions involve preventing a woman from remaining unwillingly pregnant over preventing a fetus from being killed. And so abortion is typically wrong—and this holds whether or not fetuses are persons.