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 **TODAY'S "QUICK HIT":**
**Those Pesky
Pro-Lifers:
Self-Righteous
or Sincere?**



By Stephen L. Bakke  December 11, 2016

Here's what provoked me:

Why did this presidential election raise the level of debate about character and morality? Let's face it, the answer is obvious. Quite naturally then, this "soul-searching" has brought the abortion debate closer to the surface. It's a tough battle going on behind the scenes on this old and emotion filled argument. I think it's best that we pursue this opportunity to once again have a meaningful discussion about "the definition and meaning of human life."

Here's my response:

Those Pesky Pro-Lifers: Self-Righteous or Sincere?

Rev. Scott Alan Johnson scolds Rick Olson, a pro-life advocate, on December 11 in "Abortion is more intricate than 'right' or 'wrong'." An earlier writer asked readers "What would Jesus say about Donald Trump?" Olson's pro-life response to that question (How Christians should vote, December 4) raised Johnson's ire. Johnson disapproves of what he considers self-righteous opposition to abortion. He uses a version of moral relativism to deny pro-lifers the right to declare abortion wrong because, in a society as intricate and complicated as ours, the solution to this debate is far too complex.

I suggest we back up and truly simplify things. Progressives always tout the fact that our founding documents lack contextual equivalency to present-day realities. OK, let's use that same thought process to suggest that facts and technology have changed since the Roe v. Wade decision. I think most pro-lifers would appreciate the mere chance to renew the debate about "the definition of life" in the context of today's world. Let's first settle that argument, then decide how to introduce into the equation other complexities of our society.

Rev. Johnson, echoing your scold of Mr. Olson, you also don't have the last word on what Jesus thinks.