

## The Saints and the Church speak out on abortion!

[Ξένες γλώσσες / In English](#)



The following represents the teaching of the Church from the [early] second century through to the fifth century.... Note that penalties, when they are given, are neither civil nor criminal, but ecclesiastical and pastoral (excommunication for the purpose of inducing repentance). Also note that these quotes deal with both surgical and chemically induced abortion, both pre- and post-quickening.

**All quotes are from «The Church Fathers on Social Issues», Department of youth Ministry of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America.**

### **From the Letter to Diognetus**

(speaking of what distinguishes Christians from pagans):

«They marry, as do all others; they beget children but they do not destroy their offspring» (literally ‘cast away fetuses’). [\(περισσότερα...\)](#)