

# EMBRACING THE WORST IN OUR LIVES: From Despair to Hope



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# EMBRACING THE WORST IN OUR LIVES: From Despair to Hope

- What Is The Worst In Our Lives?

**ADULTERY**

**ABORTION**

**SICKNESS**

**RAPE**

**MURDER**

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- **John 8: 7 – 11 NAB**

**Jesus said, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Again he bent down and wrote on the ground. And in response, they went away one by one, beginning with the elders. So he was left alone with the woman before him. Then Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She replied, "No one, sir." Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, (and) from now on do not sin any more."**

# **EMBRACING THE WORST IN OUR LIVES: From Despair to Hope**

- **Francis Cardinal George – Archdiocese of Chicago**

**“The Church best fulfills her mission when she ministers with the Lord’s combination of respect for persons and for the truth that fulfills them. In other words, the Church is both Catholic and apostolic.”**

**“A Call for A New Apologetic”**

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- Francis Cardinal George, OMI – Archdiocese of Chicago

**“As Catholic, she reaches out to everyone, even – and especially – those most sinful and broken. But as apostolic, the Church also reaches out with faith that comes to us from the apostles, without compromises that would contravene the dignity of vocation of beings made in the image of a self-giving God.”**

**“A Call for A New Apologetic”**

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- **Francis Cardinal George, OMI – Archdiocese of Chicago**

**“The deepest poverty is the inability of joy...the inability of joy presupposes and produces the inability to love, produces jealousy, avarice – all defects that devastate the life of individuals and of the world.”**

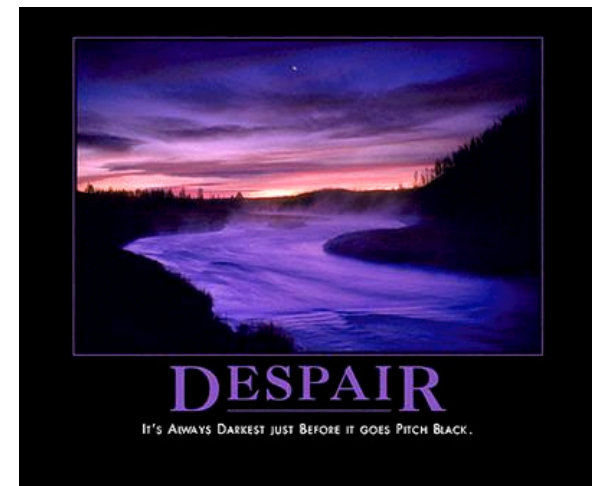
**“A Call for A New Apologetic”**

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- Francis Cardinal George, OMI –  
Archdiocese of Chicago

**“If the art of living remains  
an unknown, nothing else  
works.”**

**“A Call for A New Apologetic”**



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## The Psychological Realities of Induced Abortions Vincent M. Rue, Ph.D.

“...The culture of private violence create and enable an abusive/killing field protected by secrecy, denial and legality and legitimized as expediency, self-empowerment and freedom to choose .”



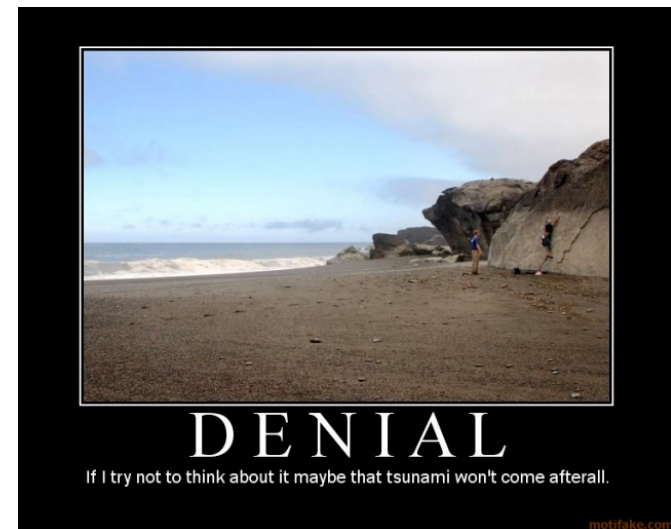
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Quote from Vicki Thorn – Project Rachel

“There is a still huge denial regarding the links between abortion and harmful behaviors, such as: depression, eating disorders, and suicidal tendencies.”



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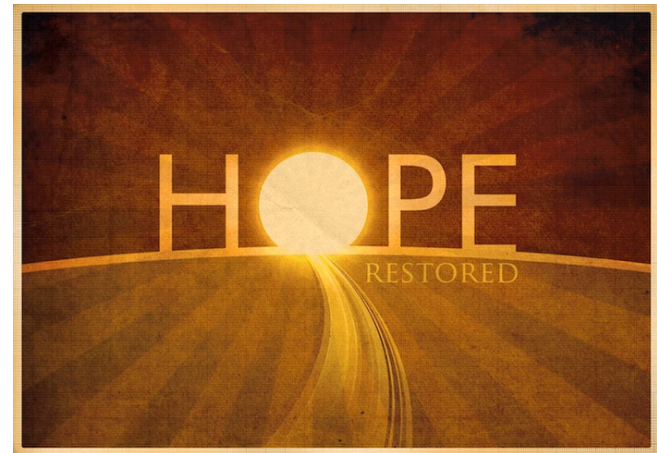
Quote from Vicki Thorn – Project Rachel

“An ‘aborted woman’ might believe God can’t forgive her. If you give God permission to heal you, God will honor your request.”



# **EMBRACING THE WORST IN OUR LIVES: From Despair to Hope**

**Reconciliation and  
Forgiveness is at the  
heart of embracing  
the worst in our lives.  
It leads us from  
despair to hope.**



# EMBRACING THE WORST IN OUR LIVES: From Despair to Hope

Quotes From Women Who Reliving the Choice of Abortion

**“Abortion seemed like a quick fix. I believed Catholics didn’t get many chances to make mistakes. Following my abortion I gave up religion and God.”**



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Quotes From Women Who Reliving the Choice of Abortion

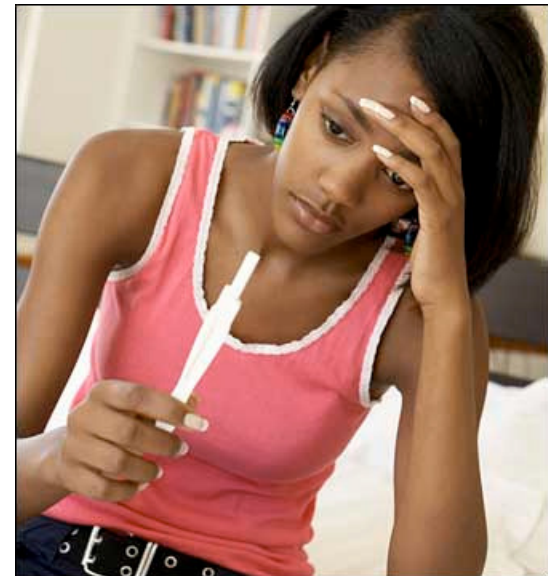
**“I convinced myself  
that I had committed  
an unforgivable act.”**



# EMBRACING THE WORST IN OUR LIVES: From Despair to Hope

Quotes From Women Who Are Reliving the Choice of Abortion

**“I called an abortion clinic. I didn’t stop to think, to pray, or to question. I didn’t consider any other option – I didn’t think I had another choice.”**



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Rev. Christopher Lack - Cincinnati

“The women who have been through an abortion and have found healing and forgiveness are some of the most compassionate and courageous people. They go from being victims to being ministers of Christ’s forgiveness to others.”



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Quotes From Women Who Are Reliving the Choice of Abortion

“...God wanted me to experience His tender mercy and forgiveness. It didn't happen overnight, it wasn't a lightning bolt that came down from heaven...it slowly and warmly seeped into my heart and soul.”





# EMBRACING THE WORST IN OUR LIVES: From Despair to Hope

An Invitation for Wholeness & Holiness

“Come, all you who are thirsty,  
come to the waters; and you  
who have no money, come, buy  
and eat! Come, buy wine and  
milk without money and without  
cost.”

Isaiah 55: 1

