

Contents

Preface	x
Acknowledgements	xiv
CHAPTER ONE Introduction: the issues, their context and strategy	1
1 Preliminaries	1
2 Moral philosophy: what does it yield?	4
3 Morality, legislation and abortion	12
CHAPTER TWO The moral status of the foetus	27
1 Introduction	27
2 The conservative view	31
3 The extreme liberal view	47
4 The animal view	59
5 The mixed strategy	65
6 The potentiality view	72
7 Conclusions	85
CHAPTER THREE Trying to prove the foetus does not matter	89
1 Introduction	89
2 'Person' as opposed to 'human being'	91
3 Speciesism	101
4 Tooley on abortion	107
5 The person view and infanticide	118
6 The person view and other issues	123

CHAPTER FOUR	Utilitarianism: abandoning the sanctity of life	131
1	The utilitarian position	131
2	Utilitarianism and animals	147
3	Modifying utilitarianism	158
4	The role of side-effects: a side issue	172
CHAPTER FIVE	Women's rights and wrongs	178
1	Introduction	178
2	Thomson's arguments	182
3	Discussion and further criticisms	194
4	Abortion as special	204
CHAPTER SIX	Neo-Aristotelianism	218
1	Introduction	218
2	The theory outlined	220
3	The theory applied to animals	237
4	The theory applied to aliens	247
CHAPTER SEVEN	What is wrong with utilitarianism	260
1	What morality requires	260
2	Benevolence and the other virtues	278
CHAPTER EIGHT	The special position of women	293
1	The average woman	295
2	Bearing children as intrinsically worthwhile	307
3	Surrogacy	318
4	Abortion	330
APPENDIX ONE	Human development	340
APPENDIX TWO	Methods of abortion	344
APPENDIX THREE	Methods of overcoming infertility	346
APPENDIX FOUR	The 'Warnock Report'	352

CONTENTS

ix

Glossary

356

Index

359