

To the Editors:

## **Reducing abortions is a public health issue**

I refer to the article with the above heading in the *Ceylon Medical Journal*. (1). The author advocates legalising abortion when the fetus is abnormal or following rape and incest, and wide promotion of emergency contraception.

It is necessary to state the pro-life view to prevent the impression that his views are acceptable to all doctors. Human life starts at conception. Prevention of implanantion is tantamount to an abortion. Emergency contraception, whether by pills or by intrauterine device, prevent implan-

tation. They act as potential abortifacients. Killing of a human being who is inside the uterus is wrong even though he is abnormal or the result of rape or incest. 61% of human beings may live in communities where termination of pregnancy is legal. That does not mean that they are right and that we are wrong.

### **References**

1. Gunasekara PC. Reducing abortions is a public health issue. *Ceylon Medical Journal* 2001; 46: 41-4.

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