

BELLA ELPERS

Respect Life Apostolate Scholarship
St. Alban Roe | St. Joseph

I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

In the first 10 days of 2021 alone, 1.2 million abortions were performed worldwide. Each year, 40-50 million abortions are performed worldwide. That's approximately 125,000 lives lost each day.¹ Abortion is currently the leading cause of death in the world, and actions must be taken in order to change this. One way that my community and I can attempt to change this is by spreading awareness. The easiest way to accomplish this is through education. If students are old enough and mature enough to handle the horrifying facts and staggering statistics that come along with learning about abortion, we should teach them. This should be done to help prevent students from making the same mistakes that previous generations have made. We can educate younger students by emphasizing a pro-life mentality that lives are precious and should not be wasted.

I can actively take a stand against abortion by participating in, and inviting others to participate in, pro-life marches. The March for Life in Washington D.C. is the world's largest pro-life march and is held every year in January. Even if I am unable to participate in a march of this scale, I can organize my own pro-life march within my school, church, or youth group. This is an impactful response because actions speak louder than words.

When I was in 6th grade, a representative from Birthright St. Louis came and spoke to us. She explained that at Birthright a woman can receive professional counseling and support that will continue even after her baby is born. Birthright's mission and work, along with their representative's presentation, has had a lasting impact on me. Donating to, volunteering at, and spreading awareness about programs such as these are additional ways that I can attempt to tackle the life issue of abortion.

By better educating society about abortion, participating in pro-life marches, and supporting programs such as Birthright, someday my dream of eliminating abortion from our world can become a reality. Each one of us can make a difference, and together we can make change.