In December 2014 and January/February 2016, Students for Life commissioned several polls with the Barna Group. The questions we asked them to research revolved around the overall millennial views of the pro-life movement, abortion, and Planned Parenthood; the use of graphic/abortion victims imagery with millennials; as well as pastor views and involvement in our movement. The following paper is a summary of the first portion of that research as well as our unique experience at Students for Life starting and leading more than 1,000 millennial-lead pro-life groups on campuses nationwide.

**VIEWS OF PASTORS ON ABORTION AND INVOLVEMENT OF CHURCHES IN THE PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT**

Abortion is not a problem just outside of the church. It is a problem inside of the church.

Consider these startlingly facts:
- 54% of women who had an abortion self-identified as a Christian
- More than 40% of women who had an abortion reported that they were actively attending a church
- 76% of those active church-going women said that their church had no influence on their decision to abort

From December 2015 to January 2016, Students for Life contracted the Barna Group to survey 513 Protestant Pastors (30% Mainline Protestant pastors and 70% Non-Mainline Protestant pastors) and 88 Catholic Priests and ask them how much they and their churches are involved in the pro-life movement as well as their thoughts on some pro-life movement tactics.

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1. [https://www.guttmacher.org/report/characteristics-us-abortion-patients-2014#full-article](https://www.guttmacher.org/report/characteristics-us-abortion-patients-2014#full-article)
3. In this report, the reader will find data often shown by mainline versus non-mainline denomination. These affiliations are predictive of a range of perspectives and thus useful for analysis. They are defined as follows:
   - **Mainline:**
     - Baptist (American)
     - Church of Christ – United
     - Episcopal
     - Lutheran (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)
     - Methodist – United
     - Presbyterian Church – USA
   - **Non-mainline:**
     - All other Protestant church affiliations, including non-denominational
When asked how often they talked about abortion in church, 73% of Non-Mainline pastors and nearly all (91%) Catholic priests have talked about the pro-life cause from the pulpit in the past year. However, Mainline pastors rarely address the topic, with only 41% of Mainline Protestant Pastors having talked about abortion in the last year.

Over half (52%) of Catholic priests report having their own pro-life activities or programs in their church and 85% indicate that some of their church members are actively involved in pro-life activities.

This is in direct contrast to the non-Catholic denominations. Only 9% combined of Mainline (2%) and Non-Mainline (7%) churches reported to have their own pro-life programs, according to their pastors. Just over half (54%) of Non-Mainline and only 34% of Mainline pastors report their church members are involved in pro-life activities.
### CATHOLICS ARE MOST INVOLVED WITH PRO-LIFE WORK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Mainline</th>
<th>Non-Mainline</th>
<th>Catholic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our Church Has Its Own Programs And/or Activities</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Church Supports Programs And/or Activities Outside of Our Church</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some of Our Church Members Are Actively Involved</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None of Above</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Church involved with Pro-Life Activities (Multiple responses allowed)

www.InstituteforProLifeAdvancement.org