

Meeting 6: ERI Discussion¹

Note: Send an email a week in advance with links to select videos.

Topics

Module 6: The Question of Rape

Open the Meeting: (12 min.)

Ice-breaker: (10 min.)

- www.protectlifemi.org/ice

Role Count: (1 min.)

- sign up sheet or have secretary take note

Announcements: (2 min.)

- Next meeting will be a (choose one) Discussion/Activism/Educational meeting.
Note: Remind them if they need to read/watch anything prior to the next meeting.
- Update about upcoming events, tabling, outreach opportunities, etc.

Debrief from Outreach, if applicable (10-15 minutes)

Use the Debrief Guide (on our website, under outreach) to debrief from a recent outreach. This only needs to be done once for each outreach. The purpose of debriefing is to share experiences and learn from mistakes and successes.

ERI Discussion: (30-40 min.)

Share the Meeting's Purpose: how to respond to the question of rape

Preliminary Questions:

- Who watched the videos before hand?
- Can someone give a brief summary of the videos for those who missed it?
- What stood out to you?

ERI Practice: See Attached Sheet

- Transition into scripted practice sessions.
- Note: For time restraint, feel free to cut out questions that don't fit your group well, if needed.

Close the Meeting: (2 min.)

Thank you for coming!!

¹ Apologetics videos and questions are graciously provided by Equal Rights Institute.

Next Meeting will be a (choose one) Activism/Discussion/Educational meeting. Share where and when.

Reminder of Club Announcements.

The Question of Rape

6:1 – Communicating the Truth with Compassion

SUMMARY:

Does the person you're talking to realize you can see the horror of rape, or do you come across like you all you can think about is your agenda for the unborn?

Don't fake compassion. If you don't feel genuine compassion for survivors of rape, fix that problem first. Assuming that you feel genuine compassion, here are a few suggestions for ways to show it:

1. Take the time to listen.
2. Acknowledge the horror of rape.
3. Ask the person if they know someone who has gone through that (DON'T ask the person you're talking to if they have been raped).
4. Agree that we aren't hard enough on rapists (consider describing the multiple moral crimes explanation).

The question of rape presents a relational challenge and an intellectual challenge to the pro-life advocate. When you are ready to transition to discussing the intellectual challenge, start with the following sound bite, then do some version of trot out a toddler.

"We both agree that rape is an act of violence that is done against an innocent person, the woman. But we shouldn't try to solve that problem by committing another act of violence against another innocent person, the child."

ACTIVITIES:

Practice Dialogue (Improvised)

Instructions: Divide into pairs and take turns playing the pro-life side with this prompt. Make sure everyone gets the chance to practice the pro-life side at least for the first part. This is uncomfortable. It's supposed to be. Get used to it as a group so you'll be ready for it on campus.

PC: [Aggressively] So you're against abortion. Well what about rape?

PL: [Only respond to the relational challenge. NO ARGUMENTS YET! If you can't think of anything to say, ask for help.]

PC: [Calmly] It seems like you care about how hard this situation is for women. I'm glad you don't exclusively care about fetuses. But really, I want to know your view. What should the law be? Should abortion in the case of rape be against the law?

PL: [Very graciously respond to the intellectual challenge.]

Discussion Questions

1. Talk about your improvised dialogues. What kinds of statements did you make in response to the relational challenge? Did you take enough time? What do you think you did well? How do you think you can improve in responding to the question of rape?
2. Have you ever known someone who was a survivor of sexual assault or rape?