

SKBU JOURNAL OF PHILOSOPHY
PEER REVIEWED

**DOES A FETUS POSSESS MORAL STATUS OF A HUMAN BEING? THE
PROBLEM OF MORAL PERMISSIBILITY OF ABORTION**

Upama Sarkar

Abstract

Many countries have legalized abortion by their law but that would not lead us to conclude that there can be no distinction between law and ethics; even it makes this issue more significant for ethical evaluation. The act of abortion gets rejected for religious factors in many countries or societies but there is also another ground that raises question against abortion. On moral ground we can raise a valid question that whether a fetus holds humanity and if it possess so then it demands right to live. The moral permissibility of abortion depends on the moral status of the fetus and the conflict lays between the women those who are seeking abortion; their rights, choice, needs and on the other side there is the question regarding status of the fetus. Abortion is a termination of human pregnancy which is done deliberately hence it raises many ethical questions. The main question that will be discussed in this short research article is that whether abortion is ethically justified or not. Moral significance of fetus will be the main aspect of abortion on the basis of which we can find out the ethical justification of abortion and finally we will come to a conclusion on casuistry based approach.

Key words: Abortion, Fetus, Embryo, Pre-natal organism, Viability.