

Debate about baby boxes essay



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Nowadays in most countries year by year there are more and more cases when babies are found dead in garbage cans or on the streets as a result of women's fear and reluctance to raise their newborn babies. From the latest published statistics about this kind of cases there was established extremely high level of such occurrences. Unfortunately, several times a year in the media there are reports about discarded newborns on the streets. Therefore, recently there arises an assertion relatively the necessity of Baby Boxes in hospitals.

And the point here is not about considering if it is good or bad to give mothers such an opportunity, but about considering baby to be killed or be alive. The first “incubator” for saving the lives of children has been installed in Hamburg, Germany in April 2000. This project was supported by the government after the 1999 statistics of thrown babies in garbage containers in Hamburg. Today our motion stands, this house would establish baby boxes in maternity hospitals.

By establishing these baby boxes, we mean make them legal and make them spread throughout all the maternity hospitals. By baby boxes, we mean the incubators with special cradled cribs built inside the walls of hospitals for women that are not willing to raise their child right after giving birth to them. One door of these boxes is located outside, and the other one—inside the building. After opening the box from outside, the baby is placed in a special comfortable crib and then in about 1 or 2 minutes the door starts to close.

After the door from outside is locked, and it is impossible to open it, the alarming signal is fed throughout the building so that nurses could know

about the abandoned child on time and could properly take care of him or her. Babies are inspected by specialists, and then are tested to primary analysis. Finally, police station and guardianship organs are informed about the found baby. So, these organs take a full responsibility and get involve in disposing the fate of these newborn babies. In this case there are neither camcorders, nor security around the place of baby boxes.

Thus, if baby has no any corporal injuries, mother is not involved to criminal liability. Otherwise, this woman will be searched out and will be given relevant sentence. At the same time there is a possibility that if these women change their mind, in this case after passing the genetic examination it appears to be possible for them to reclaim their babies back. Finally, by maternity hospitals we mean health facilities that provide care for women during pregnancy and childbirth as well as for newborn infants.

Today our role is by giving reasonable causes to prove to you why establishing these baby boxes will achieve benefits in current problems of society. Our first argument stands, baby box is nothing but a great chance to save a baby life. As time goes by there are more and more occurring cases, when newborns are found unsparingly left or dead in scrapyards or on the streets. In order to justify the installation of the box for foundlings, it is enough to read the criminal chronicle of the last three to five years.

There are almost no places where the police could not find abandoned babies- in the elevators, hallways, under fences, in the garbage, blue from the cold, sick and healthy, alive and dead. Baby box is an alternative to the garbage can. What doubts can there arise? We are talking about what is

better - to admit killing child by his or her own mother by leaving this child homeless wander the streets, when the parents are drunks and homeless people, or give him a chance to find a normal family? However, if mother leaves her child in baby box, she neither kills him, nor leaves him without any help.

So the main purpose of baby boxes is to decrease this huge amount of death toll. And the estimation is not the best option. Even one saved life justifies the existence of the baby box. On the other hand, the question that may arise is - won't these hospitals start to get hundreds of infants instead? Based on the experiences of other countries, we can safely say that this should not happen. For example, in the Czech Republic during three years of the baby box existing there were left only 12 babies, or in Hamburg this number reaches 25 kids but this is the number estimated during 5 years.

These real life examples totally support our main idea. So from them we can clearly see and decide that baby boxes undoubtedly may save a considerable amount of baby lives. We have to understand that child is not guilty, in whose womb he was conceived. He was given a life by God. Life is precious, and it's not actually us that can adequately discuss about it. Therefore, if somehow we can help a child to grow up and have a family, then, we believe that even if one box saves one life in the history of its existence, then it worth to build these baby boxes.

Our opponents said that by building baby boxes we are saving hundreds of baby lives. However, we strongly disagree; we would like to support our point by claiming that their point is not a fact. Even though there were

mentioned some countries where baby box has been approved for its existence due to decrease of found infants, there are still exist pretty much countries where baby boxes brought nothing beneficial to society. Secondly, we are supporting our point by strong idea which stands that by baby boxes we are reversely deteriorating the current situation.

Since, women while being in an inadequate condition enough state, they would unconsciously assume and consider baby box not as a way to save a life, but as a way to solve own problem to get rid of a baby. So it is quite dangerous to propagandize these baby boxes, because after establishing baby boxes, we are not decreasing the death toll (as our opponents mentioned that we do), we claim that these mothers will lose the fear and any responsibility at all, as a result not only death toll but the amount of babies left will also increase.

Our opponents didn't consider other factors that are affected by establishing baby boxes, which actually have the equal significance among society.

Therefore, since their argument is based only on the probable assumption and only a few examples in some countries, they still didn't take into account the other aspect of this case, which proves that our point was much broader and better explained.

Our second argument bases on the fact that leaving babies in baby boxes is an anonymous process with absolute impunity. It is a direct benefit to mothers. Why? Because there are many cases when mothers go for killing or leaving babies because of shame and fear that someone will know about their deed and then will judge them accusingly and critically. While exactly

at this period mothers usually are oversensitive and too emotional that they aren't able to stand the pressure they undergo by other people.

This simply explains their weak psychological condition, which actually is directly connected with the consequences relating the fate of their babies. But, since there would be no cameras, no witnesses at all, desperate mothers would be able to leave their child without any traces. Exactly anonymity makes this complication much simpler and leads to less critical consequences that entirely affect both mothers and her babies' life. This anonymity is prosecuted with an idea that this process is not only anonymous but also is without any formality.

Everything is eerily simple and easy. Why simplicity? Because when woman wants to refuse from her child, usually she has to do a lot of procedures which take too much time. But here we do not need anything - just put the baby in the baby box for the purpose of both woman's convenience and baby's safety. Even though we are talking about baby's life deprived of parents, we are not merely considering the simplicity of process but we are particularly emphasizing that exactly due to this fact our society will strive for developing to better state.

This is what actually happened in Latvia a couple of years ago when baby was found not somewhere on the street or garbage can, but on the threshold of the Latvian well-known hospital's doors. And later on the place where doctors found the baby, the other day they built a baby box for such abandoned orphans. This example clearly demonstrates how anonymity works in such case: nobody could find out who left the baby. The point here

is that this child's mother was in such condition when she merely wanted to get rid of her child by very safe way by not bothering someone and what's more without getting any criminal liability.

Our opponents are considering the impunity and anonymity of baby boxes as the benefits, however we disagree, we claim that it should be considered reversely as a drawback for society. Because actually these factors lead to the worsening of our society's concept about the real purpose of these baby boxes. Our point is that by establishing the baby boxes we are not solving the main issue for society about the abandoned children.

If we support this idea we are not only increasing the death tolls but also making this problem to be convenient to mothers as well by not obligating them for certain liabilities, while actually mothers are exactly those who are creating this problem for current society. Our opponents' explanation was based on definitely wrong conceptions, while we are taking into consideration much more significant factors such as absence of criminal liability for women that actually should be considered as convicts for this case. Therefore, our opponents' argument is inferior to ours, which means that compared to ours, they yield by the less significance.