Eclipse of Reason (1987) [1]

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*Eclipse of Reason* begins with a brief narration by Charlton Heston, a Hollywood actor who opposed women’s rights to legal abortions. In the introduction Heston claims that there are ten times more performed abortions than open-heart surgeries, claiming that the media has failed to inform the public of the details of abortion[3]. Heston prefaces the rest of the film, warning the viewers that they will witness death, but says that viewing such material can benefit viewers by decreasing their ignorance about the procedure. He concludes by labeling aborted fetuses as victims.

After Heston’s introduction, Nathanson specializes in abortionan anonymous woman claims that after her abortion[3], she had uterine and intestinal damage. Another woman says she suffered psychologically as a result of seeing the remains of her aborted fetus[4] and considered suicide. Both women report feeling deceived by medical practitioners, as they did not anticipate those ramifications arising from their abortions.

The film then transitions to the testimonies of some doctors who ceased performing abortions because they said the procedure had negative moral implications. Next, an anonymous woman claims that after her abortion[3], she had uterine and intestinal damage. Another woman says she suffered psychologically as a result of seeing the remains of her aborted fetus[4] and considered suicide. Both women report feeling deceived by medical practitioners, as they did not anticipate those ramifications arising from their abortions.


### Sources

Illegalizing abortion, which had been decriminalized in 1973 in the United States. Eclipse of Reason was one of the most influential films that garnered public attention to the abortion debate in the US during the 1980s.

Subject

Topic
Outreach [27] Religion [28]

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