

PROLIFE FACTS

"Women are hard-wired for relationships and a woman's relationship to her baby is one of the most powerful of all, whether she realises it or not. The hard-wiring of the brain may explain many women's disturbing post-abortion feelings," write Evelyn and Paul Vitz of New York University in an article published in Public Discourse (September 20th).

Paul Vitz is a professor emeritus of psychology and senior scholar at the Institute for the Psychological Sciences. The Vitz's cited research that reveals that the part of the brain that processes emotion, generally called the limbic system, functions differently in women. "Women experience emotions largely in relation to other people."

The Vitz's relate spending a semester with students studying the stories of women who shared their experiences after an abortion. "Many of these women are in acute pain; some are almost totally incapacitated" by their post-abortion feelings.

"What is particularly striking is that most of the women who have these powerful emotional reactions to their abortions are stunned by them. They were not opposed to abortion; many were actively pro-choice. They were blind-sided by their reaction."

"If this was the right decision, why do I feel so terrible?"

Half page
95 x 128.5

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Paul Vitz of the Institute for the Psychological Sciences at New York University studied the stories of women who shared their experiences after an abortion. Even women who were actively pro-choice reported powerful emotional reactions to their abortions.

Eighth page
47.5 x 128.5

Quarter page
95 x 64

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"Women need to be told the truth...This is what informed choice means."

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