

September 27, 2024

Dear Texas Legislator or Candidate:

**Texas Christians for Reproductive Justice (TCRJ) is conducting a survey of Texas legislators regarding one aspect of the basis for their opposition to abortion.** The survey, made up of one question, focuses on the foundation of cellular and embryonic personhood which ends at 12 weeks' gestation. Cellular personhood defines a fertilized egg (zygote, blastocyst) as a person. Embryonic personhood considers an embryo a person prior to the development of two major organs—the brain and heart. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) and other major medical groups consider 'heartbeat' as occurring when the four chambers of a heart are fully formed, between 17 and 20 weeks of pregnancy, and, based on review of the evidence, that the brain and consciousness are formed at a rudimentary level between 24- and 25-weeks' gestation.

TCRJ has developed an information sheet on why the Christian Bible does not support either cellular or embryonic personhood. For more details on why we support this position, see the attached information sheet on abortion and the Bible or go to [TexasChristians.org/Bible](https://TexasChristians.org/Bible)

How to submit (select one):

- Respond in an email to [survey@TexasChristians.org](mailto:survey@TexasChristians.org)
- Scan the form and attach to an email to [survey@TexasChristians.org](mailto:survey@TexasChristians.org)
- Mail the completed form to:  
Texas Christians for Reproductive Justice  
P.O. Box 225871  
Dallas, TX 75222-5871
- Contact us via email at [survey@TexasChristians.org](mailto:survey@TexasChristians.org) and request a phone interview with the legislator or legislative staff.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us via email.

**We ask that you respond by October 12, 2024.** The laws restricting abortion are highly consequential and we believe that Texans deserve more information on the foundation for these laws. **If we do not receive responses from our elected officials or those running for office, we can only conclude that there is no basis for Texas' abortion bans.**

Grace and Peace,

Texas Christians for Reproductive Justice