

### **Abortion the World's Leading Cause of Death . . . Again**

What was the leading cause of death worldwide in 2021? Well, the same as it was in 2020. Of course, ultimately, it's because of sin! But what's the leading cause of death from a number's perspective in today's world? It was an utterly unnatural cause of death that only affects the most vulnerable. It wasn't COVID-19. What was it? Abortion. That's right, abortion was yet again the leading cause of death both globally and here in Australia last year.

According to *The Christian Post*, 42.6 million unborn children lost their lives to abortion in 2021 alone (These are official figures. The true amount is much higher). Combined with other deaths, 100 million people died last year - nearly half dying because they were murdered in their mother's wombs. How does this number of deaths compare to the other leading causes of death?

By contrast, only 13 million people perished of communicable diseases, the second-leading cause of death last year. The other leading causes of death paled in comparison to abortion, with 8.2 million people dying of cancer worldwide, nearly 5 million deaths caused by smoking, approximately 2.5 million alcohol-related deaths, nearly 1.7 million people succumbing to HIV/AIDS, more than 1.3 million people dying in traffic accidents, and nearly 1.1 million suicides worldwide.

Here in Australia, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, coronary heart disease is listed as the number one cause of death. Some 17, 731 people lost their lives to this disease last year. Abortions aren't even listed, as there is no standardised national data collection on unplanned pregnancy and abortion in Australia, and different states have different laws and regulations – and therefore different reporting mechanisms regarding abortion procedures, but it has been estimated that around 100, 000 children lose their lives through abortion each year – 5 times the rate of heart disease.

Our culture, here in Australia and in many other nations around the world, continues to be a culture of death. How can we combat the prevailing belief that unborn lives have no rights and can be disposed of at the whim of the mother or someone else? By sharing biblical truth and the gospel message with everyone!