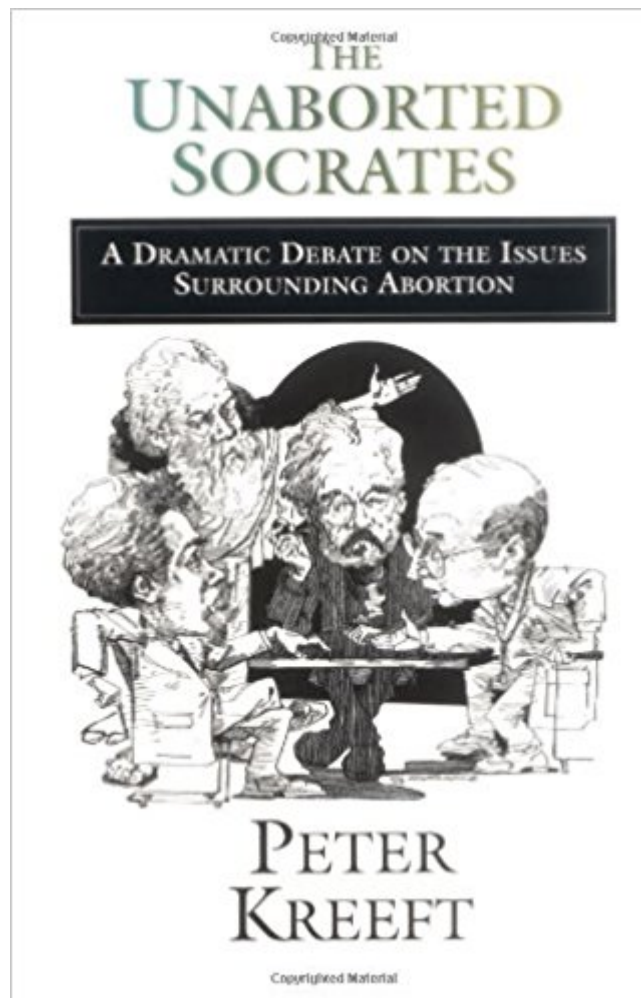


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# The Unaborted Socrates: A Dramatic Debate On The Issues Surrounding Abortion



## Synopsis

Is abortion a woman's right? When does human life begin? Should we legislate morality? What would happen if the Socrates of old suddenly appeared in modern Athens? Peter Kreeft imagines the dialog that might ensue with three worthy opponents--a doctor, a philosopher and a psychologist--about the arguments surrounding abortion. Kreeft uses Socratic technique to strip away the emotional issues and get to the heart of the rational objections to abortion. Logic joins humor as Socrates challenges the standard rhetoric and passion of the contemporary debate.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Peter J. Kreeft (PhD, Fordham University) is professor of philosophy at Boston College where he has taught since 1965. A popular lecturer, he has also taught at many other colleges, seminaries and educational institutions in the eastern United States. Kreeft has written more than fifty books, including *The Best Things in Life*, *The Journey*, *How to Win the Culture War*, and *Handbook of Christian Apologetics* (with Ronald Tacelli).

An exceptional work and definitely worth reading several times. While debating pro choice vs pro life, Socrates seeks peace and common ground with Dr. Rex H. Using the basics of logic and gentle persuasion, he brings his opponent to his side without arguments and anger that leaving both sides hurt and unwilling to see the other side. Socrates' method is to remain neutral, choosing neither side but simply agreeing to explore and discover the truth along with Dr. H. A profound read that will give

you logical and solid facts on abortion. The only reason that I really give it four and a half stars is that the kindle edition has a rather large number of typos, so a little sloppy on the copying. I would definitely recommend this book to young and old alike, although perhaps the paper edition. Fabulous job, Peter Kreeft!

I read this when I was in College for a moral and ethics class. Remember this was written in the 70's. However put it together with today's technology it will give you insight into the abortion argument debated through logic and reason as Socrates would if he were here today. It's a fast read and gives you food for thought.

I first stumbled on this gem in the mid 80s at Calvin College. It was right around the time my firstborn was conceived thus my keen interest in the topic. I must say the presentation is as powerful today as it was then. Dr. Kreeft makes the details of the arguments for both sides a bit more approachable by embedding them in an imaginary dialogue. It is witty and entertaining and though I am no expert on philosophy it seems to effectively demonstrate the ability of Socratic logic to strip away pretense, false premise and emotionalism. Of course post-modern philosophy has proclaimed reason and truth "dead" and such thinking renders the logic in this thin volume nearly worthless. Nonetheless there may still be a few jolly souls that would enjoy trying to poke holes in Dr. Kreeft's dialogues. I would actually welcome such an effort, but haven't found any to date. Feel free to enlighten me if you have seen anyone challenge this imaginary Socrates' way of thinking and provide convincing counter arguments. I'd really like to be challenged by such a response or engage such a person in some friendly dialogue over a drink or two!

This, in my opinion, is an excellent work. Even if you don't agree with the conclusions reached here, it still is a good, logical work. It essentially uses Socratic thought to address and challenge pro-abortion thinking. I didn't expect this, but it really does a nice job of teaching the reader how to have debate, without getting emotional or verbally attacking the other person. The writer sticks very closely to rational thought, and I really appreciated that. I will not be selling this book. It's worth the money, and worth a re-read. The English is excellent as well. I didn't need a dictionary on-hand, just to understand one sentence :)

Brilliant! A non-religious approach to a conclusion that is solely based on a conversation style of writing based in Socratic method of reasoning. Easy to read. Simple questions that wrestle with the

moral challenges of a pro-life or pro-choice position.

Kreeft has demolished the arguments for abortion in this slim volume, at least, if you believe in logic. He imagines Socrates, the master of debate from ancient Greece, tackling the question of abortion. Step by step he counters the arguments of three abortion proponents. He visits an abortion and talks with Dr. Rex Herrod, an abortionist, then with Professor Attila Tarian an ethicist at a philosophy convention, and finally with Professor "Pop" Syke in a psychiatric ward. His flustered opponents keep coming back for more, but Socrates keeps countering their arguments step by step until the reader wonders how they can be so dense and dogmatic as not to see where the logic is going.

It is a very good book, not only because I sympathise deeply with its prolife stance, but because it is clear, humorous and free from some of the prejudices and taboos of our age. It is serious philosophy and ethics presented in a lucid and readable manner. Obviously abortionists (prochoicers) might feel differently on reading it, but I am certain they will be challenged.

Everyone should read this wonderful book of logic and reasoning. It's great if you're studying debate and /or law.

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