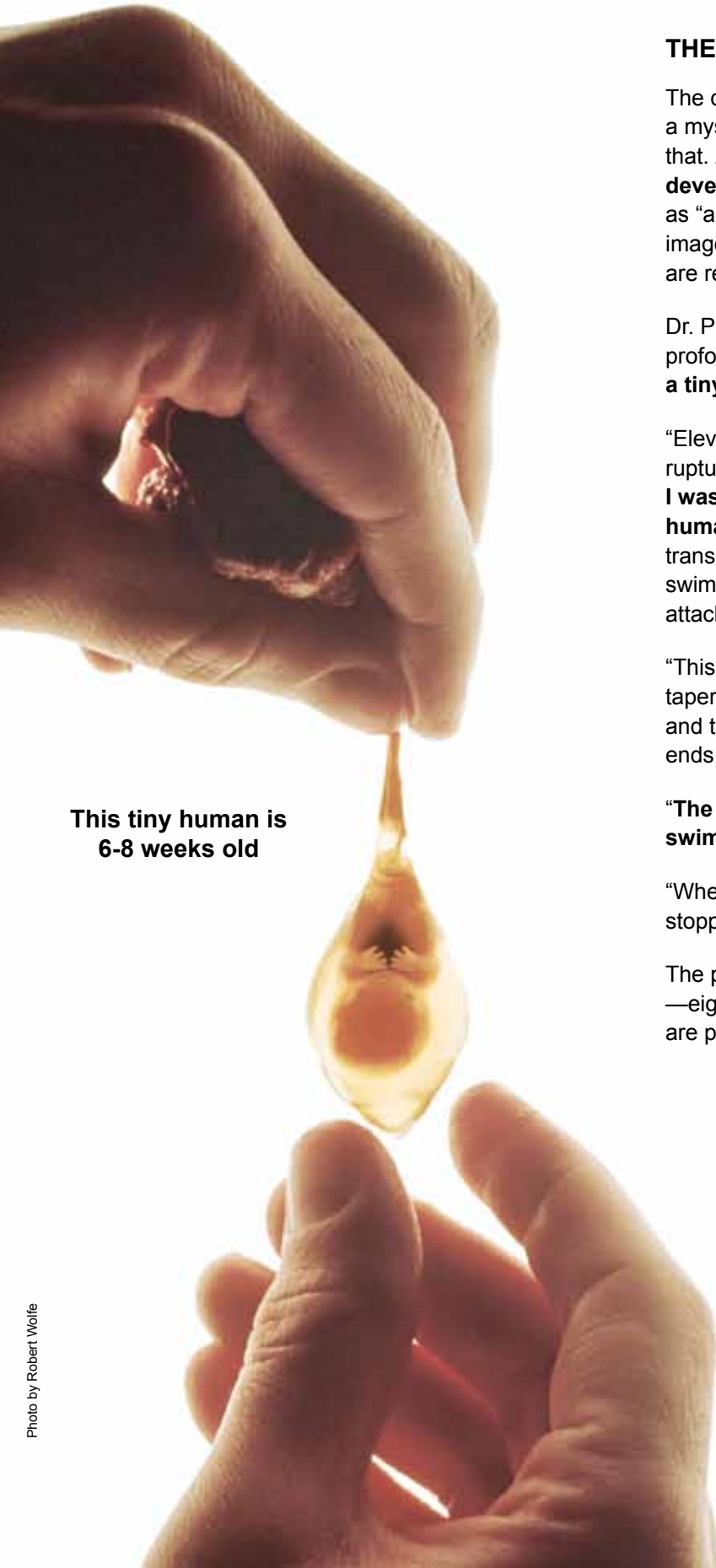


# Life Before Birth



## THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNBORN CHILD

The development of human life in the womb was once a mystery, but science and medicine have changed that. **Abortion advocates still try to dehumanize the developing baby in the womb** by speaking of the child as “a blob of tissue” or “uterine contents.” But ultrasound images, prenatal surgery and other advances in obstetrics are revealing the beauty and wonder of life in the womb.

Dr. Paul Rockwell, a New York physician, made these profound observations after **his amazing encounter with a tiny unborn baby boy:**

“Eleven years ago while I was giving an anesthetic for a ruptured ectopic pregnancy (at two months gestation), **I was handed what I believe was the smallest living human ever seen.** The embryo sac was intact and transparent. Within the sac was a tiny human male swimming extremely vigorously in the amniotic fluid, while attached to the wall by the umbilical cord.

“This tiny human was perfectly developed, with long, tapering fingers, feet and toes. The skin was transparent and the delicate arteries and veins were prominent to the ends of the fingers.

“**The baby swam about the sac with a natural swimmer’s stroke.** This tiny human was obviously alive!

“When the sac was opened, the tiny human immediately stopped moving and died.”

The point at which Dr. Rockwell witnessed this unborn baby—eight weeks gestation—is the time when many abortions are performed.

**This tiny human is  
6-8 weeks old**



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# SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN A NEW HUMAN LIFE

The following are approximate dates when specific development or functions begin. The dates shown have all been documented and reported in medical journals. Slight variations may occur. Future research may show these dates to be relatively late. Taken together, any intellectually honest observer can only conclude that human life and its processes are evident at conception / fertilization.

MOTHER	UNBORN BABY
<p><b>Conception / fertilization</b></p> <p><b>5-9 days after conception</b> Implantation in uterus of mother</p> <p><b>14 days after conception</b> The first menstrual period is missed</p> <p><b>Six weeks after conception</b> Mother has some physical signs of pregnancy and may wonder if she will have a second missed period and is “truly” pregnant</p> <p><b>16-20 weeks</b> Mother begins to feel baby’s movements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon fertilization, <b>cellular development begins</b>. The sex of the new human being is determined at conception.</li> <li>• At implantation (5-9 days after conception), <b>the new life is composed of hundreds of cells</b> and has developed a protective hormone to prevent the mother’s body from rejecting it as foreign tissue.</li> <li>• At 17 days, the new human has <b>developed its own blood cells</b>; the placenta is part of the new human and not of the mother.</li> <li>• At 18 days, occasional <b>pulsations of a muscle occur</b> — this will become the baby’s heart.</li> <li>• At 20 days, the <b>eyes start to develop</b>; the foundation of the entire <b>nervous system</b> has been laid.</li> <li>• By 24 days, the <b>heart has regular beats</b> or pulsations.</li> <li>• At 28 days, 40 pairs of muscles are developing; <b>arms and legs are forming</b>.</li> <li>• At 30 days, <b>blood flow begins</b> within the vascular system; ear and nasal development have begun.</li> <li>• At 42 days, the <b>skeleton is complete</b> and reflexes are present.</li> <li>• At 43 days, <b>electrical brain wave patterns</b> can be recorded. This is usually ample evidence that “thinking” is taking place in the brain.</li> <li>• At 49 days (seven weeks), the unborn baby has complete <b>fingers, toes and ears</b>.</li> <li>• At 56 days (eight weeks), all organs are functioning — <b>stomach, liver, kidneys, brain</b> — and all systems are intact.</li> <li>• In the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> weeks, the <b>baby squints, swallows and retracts his/her tongue</b>.</li> <li>• In the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> weeks, the unborn baby moves his/her arms and legs, <b>sucks his/her thumb</b>, inhales and exhales amniotic fluid, and nails appear.</li> <li>• At 16 weeks (four months), genital organs are clearly differentiated; the baby <b>grasps with hands, swims, kicks and turns somersaults</b>.</li> <li>• At 18 weeks, the vocal chords are working — <b>the baby can cry</b>.</li> <li>• At 20 weeks, <b>hair appears on the head</b>. The baby weighs one pound and measures 12 inches; the baby can feel pain.</li> </ul>
<p><b>An unborn baby of eight weeks is not essentially different from one of 18 weeks or 28 weeks. From conception on, the embryo and the fetus are undeniably human life.</b></p>	