

How well do you know the Catholic faith? Well, let's find out..."

Recently a lot of words were said about human life. Could you tell me please: *Why is it not permissible to take one's own life or the lives of others?*

A) We are the owners of our lives. Nobody, including God, has a right to say to us what we can or can not do with it.

B) The Church doesn't know. We do not have any commandment talking about human life.

C) God alone is Lord over life and death. Except in the case of legitimate self-defence of oneself or another, no one may kill another human being. (CCC 2258-2262, 2318-2320) An attack on life is a sacrilege committed against God. Human life is sacred; this means that it belongs to God; it is his property. Even our own life is only entrusted to us. God himself has given us the gift of life; only he may take it back from us. The Book of Exodus, translated literally, says "you shall not murder" (Ex 20:13).

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I need to know exactly what the church says in the fifth commandment. Could you tell me: ***What sort of attacks on human life are forbidden by the Fifth Commandment?***

A) Murder and acting as an accomplice to murder are forbidden. Killing unarmed civilians during a war is forbidden. The abortion of a human being, from the moment of conception on, is forbidden. Suicide, self-mutilation and self-destructive behaviour are forbidden. Euthanasia- killing the handicapped, the sick and the dying- is also forbidden.

B) Murder and acting as an accomplice to murder are forbidden but during the war even killing unarmed civilians is allowed. Suicide, self-mutilation and self-destructive behaviour are forbidden. Euthanasia- killing the handicapped, the sick and the dying- is also forbidden.

C) The Second Vatican council changed our interpretation of the fifth commandment. Today the Church teaches that every human being is the Lord of his own life and death and nobody including God cannot tell us what we can or can not do it with our lives.

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