

TIPS FOR PROLIFE PHARMACY EMPLOYMENT

The following techniques have been used successfully on several occasions to obtain employment in which the company agreed to a prolife dispensing policy for the pharmacy. This means no abortifacient drugs or devices, including birth control pills, and no referrals for the same.

Start the job search with a belief that God has such employment in mind, and prayer that God will prepare the way to find it.

Include the prolife message clearly on the resume. A sample statement: "ETHICS: The practice of pharmacy should respect the human rights of preborn children. The work environment I seek will not dispense abortifacient drugs."

Realize that the application process serves two purposes. Naturally, it is intended to help earn a living. At the same time, however, it provides one on one encounters to raise awareness of pharmacy's involvement in a serious moral crisis. For this reason, don't try to guess who might be receptive to the prolife viewpoint. Approach it optimistically, figuring that if you don't get the job, at least someone will have heard the message.

Unless the interviewer brings up the ethics statement, defer discussing it until the end of the personal interview. (A phone interviewer may bring it up, but it is much more likely to be considered thoughtfully if received in person.)

Although rights of conscience should be strongly supported by everyone, these job searches did not use that basis of appeal. Instead, the applicant focused on the human rights of the child in the womb. In fact, it was not uncommon for an accommodation to be offered, exempting the applicant from personally dispensing abortifacients. While on the face of it, this is gracious, it also continues the injustice against preborn children. So the offers were declined along these lines: "Suppose I were offered a job, and the employer said, 'In this store, we charge all the Jews 10% extra. If you don't want to do that, it's OK. We have another pharmacist who will take care of those customers.' Would it be right for me to accept employment in a company like that?" (This question didn't produce any changes in policy, but no interviewer ever said the point was invalid.)

Success was achieved with independent niche companies. The number of these has been growing in recent years. Generally, abortifacients are not important to their business model. Some owners will actively share prolife convictions. Others may consider it a lifestyle feature of the employment benefits package.