Thomson's "A Defense of Abortion": Worksheet

1. What's the logical gap in abortion debates when people focus on whether a fetus is a person?

2. Explain what it means to say a fetus has a right to life.

3. Fill in the blank: A person's right to life does NOT grant them _________________. Explain your answer.

4. Why is it important to take the pregnant mother's perspective in debates about abortion?
5. What is a third party allowed and not allowed to do?

6. When does one have a right to another person's body?

7. According to Thomson, when is abortion impermissible?

8. Either list one of Thomson's metaphors/hypothetical examples and how it relates to an important part of abortion/pregnancy discussions, or do the same with your own original example.