

Dear respected lawmakers,

There is much that could be said regarding the issue of abortion, and specifically the bill before us, H.57. Being a Christian, I see things through the lens of scripture which would clearly condemn such a bill. However, that is not where I will place my argument, at least not in this letter.

I can speak about abortion from personal experience. As a college student in the late 70's I was living of life that was sexually immoral. Consequently, my girlfriend at the time, Carol, (who is now my wife of 36 years) became pregnant. Neither of us thought of the child as anything but a blob of cells and had no convictions that this child was precious and created in the image of God. So, the decision was made to have an abortion. Roe V. Wade opened the door for us to legally pursue this option. We thought this would be best since we were just starting our careers.

Well, I can tell you, this was the biggest mistake of our entire lives. After the abortion Carol suffered physical pain that lasted for weeks. But the emotional pain remains until this very day, nearly 40 years after the abortion. Depression, unexplained muscle pain, and even an attempt to take her own life. And, by the way, a couple of years after the abortion, when we wanted to start a family we found out that Carol would never be able to get pregnant.

This news was devastating to us....so we pursued adoption. And here is an unusual irony. A high school student who lived in a southern State visited a gynecologist seeking an abortion. The gynecologist happened to be a Christian, who consequently convinced the woman to keep the child, and if she didn't feel comfortable raising the child to put him/her up for adoption. The woman decided to put her baby up for adoption. This child is now our son who is 36 years old and has blessed us with two grandchildren as well. I thank God this young woman didn't head to a planned parenthood or other abortion mill first.

If you think that abortion is a woman's right to reproductive health care, you are sorely mistaken and misinformed. Abortion never improves the health of any of the parties involved. Not to mention it takes the life of the most innocent and vulnerable, a child in the womb of its mother.

Carol and I are law abiding citizens, if abortion were not legal, we would not have killed our baby. Don't get me wrong, we take full responsibility for the heinous act we perpetuated on our unborn child. I oftentimes wish someone would have just slowed the process down, talked to us about what we were about to do, and the consequences. But instead, it was way too easy and convenient. It breaks my heart every day that we did such a thing, and the laws of our nation put its stamp of approval on our decision.

Please vote no on H.57, it is a destructive bill that actually hurts the very people it seeks to protect. A civilized society should not be supporting infanticide.

Respectfully submitted, Guy and Carol Rossi, Proctor Vermont 802-459-3343