

(L.D. 1619) Bill "An Act to Improve Maine's Reproductive Privacy Laws"

Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the Maine Committee on Judiciary:

I am the product of a rape. Because of this, I have no father. My mother did the best she could to raise me on her own. At no point did she ever consider abortion as an option, and I am forever grateful for that. I'm now happily married with two children of my own. Here is why I believe that LD 1619 ought not to be passed in my home state of Maine:

It is irrefutable that the "clump of cells" created after conception has his/her own separate DNA—the unique code that dictates what we will look like, what type of personality we will have, etc. He/she is a completely different human. Therefore, it is an act of killing to prevent this life from continuing on its natural course. It is dehumanizing to look at life as expendable waste and this culture of death is already trickling into other forms of assisted suicide for healthy people—it will be the singular downfall of humanity worldwide if we do not change the attitudes about the importance of all life and all lives.

I am living proof that the argument to abort because the baby will be living in less than desirable circumstances is a fraudulent one. Although we were poor, I was not unhappy. I went to public school, made friends, connected with people in the local churches, etc. I may not have had the best clothes or the best food, but I had more important things, like relationships. You cannot pretend to be able to tell the future of a person based on circumstances, who will rise above and who will not. It is better to put resources into the life of the baby and not the death of the baby.

There are countless moral and scientific arguments against abortion in general, but I just wanted to highlight two that are personal to me. I'm grateful that I was not aborted, even though my life was not easy growing up. I had and still have the right to life. I'm glad I was given the chance to grow, become educated, have a productive career, and now raise a family of my own. I will always choose life, every time. I urge you to vote "Ought not to pass" on LD1619. Please give these children the same chance that I had. Thank you for considering this testimony.

Angela Hurd

Morrill, ME

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LD 1619

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