

Lisa Dudley
Marshfield
LD 1619

Members of the Judiciary Committee, thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony today regarding LD1619. My name is Lisa Dudley, I am a resident of Marshfield. I am 46 years old and a mother to 8 sons- by birth and adoption through fostering. My life has not always been so full of life- at the age of 17 I got pregnant, at first it was exciting and full of plans for the future; however, several weeks went by and my boyfriend had a change of heart. He did not feel ready to be a dad and his parents offered to pay for me to have an abortion- I agreed thinking this would save our relationship. I cannot express to you the emptiness I experienced in the days to follow. I honestly thought I would just have a simple procedure and move on with life - I couldn't shake that emptiness. By age 19 I was pregnant a second time- my life was anything but settled and this time I decided that I wasn't ready to be a mother. Sadly, I left that clinic with the same emptiness I had experienced just 2 years earlier. Just 2 short years later I got to experience giving birth to my first born son. My thoughts of the 2 children I didn't allow to grow and have a chance at life were heavy on my mind. I think many women are afraid of what they think they can or cannot do and this option of abortion is there. Had I never been influenced to have the first abortion I do not believe I would have even considered the second. I greatly oppose LD1619 and ask you to please consider the women and lives that will be affected by this extreme bill.