

Senator Carney and Representative Moonen, Honorable Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, my name is Lisa Parent and I am a resident of Hamlin. I submit my testimony in opposition to LD 1619, as well as oppose LD 776 and LD 1343, also under your consideration today. LD 1619 would allow abortions of full-term babies who are able to survive on their own outside the womb, and even those babies viable beginning at 20 weeks gestation. In defense against the cruel and inhumane torture that abortion does to babies in their mothers' wombs, medical experts agree that these preborn human beings begin to feel pain at 12 weeks, with some experts' research pointing to fetuses feeling pain at 8 weeks! Imagine the torture these little babies feel when dismembered, burned alive with saline, or injected with drugs to kill them!

I am opposed to these bills from my experiences as a former professional Nurse Midwife and Family Nurse Practitioner, Instructor at the University of Florida Graduate School of Nurse-Midwifery and Faculty for the School of Nursing, teaching Obstetrics, Gynecology and Pediatrics Nursing at the University of Maine at Fort Kent. I was an Independent Doctorate Student in Philosophy at the University of Maine studying Advanced Practice Nursing, Health Care Policy and Access for Advanced Practice Nurses as a Feasible Alternative to Affordable Health Care and Access to Primary Care in Rural Maine.

In 1999, while a doctoral student, I was approached by the Maine Nurse Practitioner Association (MNPA), which learned of my research studies, and who asked me to write a "white paper" to help them in their political efforts to persuade Maine Legislators of the 117th Legislative Session to pass a bill that would allow mid-level providers to gain primary care provider (PCP) status, hence insurance company recognition and direct reimbursement of services to nurse practitioners and nurse midwives. Because of the persuasiveness of this paper, LD 857 passed unanimously after amendment and Governor Angus King signed it into law. As a result of this political achievement, I was encouraged to run for, and was voted, President-Elect of the MNPA.

However, at the first MNPA Board of Directors' meeting, it was brought to the table that the next item on their political agenda was *to pass a law in Maine that allowed mid-level providers, PAs, nurse practitioners, and midwives to PERFORM ABORTIONS!* I refused to support this and proffered to resign if this was not taken off the agenda, stating that midwives and nurse practitioners are health care providers for people of all stages of life. I objected as health CARE providers are morally obligated to "do no harm" and that abortions were NOT within our mid-level provider SCOPE OF PRACTICE. Furthermore, with our lack of skill and knowledge this subjected women to health risks while killing babies in their mothers' wombs. Even the Hippocratic Oath for Doctors states: "DO NO HARM!" My protests were dismissed.

The 117th Legislature, specifically LD 857 – which was the foot in the door to change the legislative landscape of Maine – has since opened a "Pandora's Box" to push further laws for providing abortions. The MNPA paved the way to get to this point as Maine Legislators recently supported the Abortion Mills' agenda and passed a law that finally allowed NPS, CNMS, PAs, and even non-health care providers to perform abortions – "services" that kill human babies and are NOT without damaging effects to women. Back in 1999, I washed my hands of the blood of innocents that has now come upon your hands today should you vote to approve LD 1619. Your decisions today would allow any abortion provider procedurally trained to abort fetuses at any time, any reason. As you know, additional legislation, specifically LD 616, under review would establish immunity from incurring liabilities from untoward outcomes for performing abortions. This is an unwise move by Maine's Politicians who give their stamp of approval to pass such laws that would make Maine the abortion capitol of the world, a ghastly recognition that most conscientious Mainers would be horrified by, let alone not welcome nor approve.

The dangers of performing abortions are increasingly well-documented, especially irreversible damages to fertility, substance addiction, post-traumatic stress disorder as well as domestic violence, mental health problems and suicide. To have a mid-level provider perform this "procedure" is met with greater dangers to physical outcome for the women who seek abortions as, and I repeat, for litigious reasons as well, performing abortions is NOT within our training and SCOPE OF PRACTICE. Nurse Practitioners and Nurse-Midwives are NOT "mini-doctors" and it is a professional disgrace to do harm to any patient. As former Faculty for the University of Florida University Medical Center in Jacksonville, Florida at the College of Nurse-Midwifery, I know what was and was not taught in curricula, having taught and trained student nurse midwives as well as medical doctors in their internships and practicums in gynecological and obstetric procedures.

Sadly, many uninformed women deny the truth of what conception is and are adamant about their body, their choice, dismissing the reality that there is another human being that is growing within their womb, conceived and fully human with its unique blueprint. Even more tragic, women are not fully informed, and are even deceived, about abortion's adverse sequelae. As a result, legally, UNINFORMED CONSENT places all abortion providers and facilities at risk of liable. Additional legislation under consideration in other hearings scheduled would make Maine's abortion providers not liable for

any damages, which, if the public was fully aware of this, plus being forced to pay for increased costs to health insurance policy premiums and raising taxes to pay for abortions, more would be demanding that you vote NO on these bills before you today.

Women speak of “terminating a pregnancy” as ridding a parasite which is merely a “blob of tissue,” many choosing to remain ignorant of the fact that it is a human baby that is already growing in its mother’s womb. This is wrongful thinking. Once conceived, and even in the wisdom of Horton, in *Horton Hears a Who* by Dr. Seuss, “a person is a person, no matter how small.”

Adolf Hitler’s atrocities of human genocide in the Holocaust brought about a great outcry in the murder of human beings. Many of these “inhumanely denoted” blobs, for which this bill would eliminate, are future women and men of society. Maine is treading dangerous waters in revisiting a greater holocaust should LD 1619, and actually all SIX bills, be enacted into law. Hitler’s crimes were abominable. In this era, we are witness to even greater human genocide on a worldwide scale and if these bills are passed, Maine would be the Capitol of Unjust and Unaccountable Murders. Where is the Nuremburg Trial for such crimes against humanity now?

Who’s crying for the babies murdered in their mothers’ wombs – the ultimate human genocide with billions of babies aborted worldwide, such unimaginable atrocities in destruction of the lives of little innocent, defenseless human beings who “have a documented voice on ultrasound at 18 weeks” yet have no voice in public policy that denies their existence; their gasps and gags are unheard in their pain-felt “silent screams” as they are dismembered, body part by body part, torn limb from limb, and their little heads crushed and removed by surgical forceps instruments that rip them from their mothers’ wombs, and if aborted at full-term, babies are partially delivered, legs first, thrashing about in pain, whereupon the base of their bony skull is pierced with a sharp instrument to pierce through the brain and suck out the contents to render them lifeless, a defenseless state, as someone terminates their life, unable to fight for their right to live, to live their purpose for which the Creator made them and allowed them to be conceived, fully human, wonderfully made, from the moment of conception.

Ladies and Gentlemen, in this revisited genocide of human preborn babies as presented in LD 1619, the womb is the most dangerous battlefield of our times, with our children killed in action. All of the bills before Committees this day and this week are being forced upon Mainers by the Abortion-friendly Mills administration in such extreme legislative acts, many of which are already on the books and codifying these bills would make Hitler’s genocide “child’s play. All testimonies here today are insignificant compared to the testimonies of the *silenced voices, babies murdered* which, if enacted, would expand the right of another human being in choice to kill another living human being in the womb, with no accountability, no conscientious objection by those responsible for this evil. Life is precious. All life is sacred and has a “raison d’etre” – a reason for being. ALL lives matter! Once we were all embryos! When it comes to the “CHOICE” to take a child’s life, choose wisely. Choice is not reasonable, nor humane, when it is a choice of one more powerful voice silencing the little voice that cries out: “Let me LIVE, let me LOVE!”

Finally, the lucrative business of abortions gives a deceptively “caring,” packaged image of “reproductive health services” in self-determined choice. The bottom line is their self-serving agenda to increase profits for those involved in the abortion industry, which have notoriously been targeting the poor and people of color, while callously selling aborted babies’ parts harvested in the process. This lucrative human body parts trafficking business has been exposed in the media in videoed admissions by Planned Parenthood directors, which is heinous, atrocious, and inhumane. Maine’s bottom line depends on your decisions today.

In closing, search your moral compass and conscience as this bill is a moral injustice to society and its children. Inevitably, abortion is killing a child awaiting to be born. Before you pass LD 1619, remember the Judeo-Christian Laws upon which our Nation, under God, was founded: “Thou shall NOT kill.” Resist the temptations to bloody your hands that would result from passing LD 1619 in this horrific crime against humanity, against children. It is YOUR choice.

Respectfully, always a PARENT FOR LIFE, Lisa Marie Parent, MN, CAG (retired ARNP-C, CNM and FNP-C), Hamlin, Maine