

Mark Cowperthwaite
King's Coalition for Abolition
LD 975

Elected representatives of the people of Maine, my name is Mark Cowperthwaite. I live in Thomaston, Maine. I am a husband, father of 10 living children, and grandfather of 3 precious grandchildren.

I am thankful for the opportunity to speak to you today regarding this bill, LD 975, which calls for equal protection under law for our most vulnerable neighbors, those who in spite of not being charged with any crime are being killed every single day in our state. In my view, there is no more important matter that you will have discussed before you as it is truly a matter of life and death.

There is no doubt that these babies being starved to death by medical abortion are indeed human.

There is no question as to the genetic uniqueness of every child at every stage of development from conception.

Rather the question regarding appropriate legal protection of our unborn neighbors has been largely relegated as of late to focus only on the issue of the rights of mothers, while the rights of the child have been disregarded through use of the exact same tactics of dehumanization that a few generations ago were used to excuse chattel slavery.

Claiming "It's not a person, it's a fetus" isn't any less wicked than saying "It's not a person, it's a slave and it's my choice what I do with my property."

The legal and moral excuses given in defense of slavery 150 years ago were the same as the current excuses that allow mothers to destroy their own offspring. These excuses were a mix of evil, ignorance of biological facts, and faulty logic that none of us would want used to determine our right to life and our dignity.

I remember the day a quarter of a century ago when my girlfriend at the time decided to kill the baby we created together. I had no legal choice to protect my child, and she exercised her evil, yet legally protected choice to end that baby's life by abortion.

I remember weeping and begging her to reconsider. I remember thinking at the time that even though I rejected the Bible and the Christian religion, I KNEW in my heart that this was a wicked act, that our baby was dead, and as a father I was given no choice over our baby's life. The state gave her the sole choice to slaughter this living human being under cover of law and avoid the responsibility of parenting.

Today, we the people are taking a step that calls for each one of you as sworn defenders of the Maine Constitution and representatives of the people of Maine to stand for the oppressed of this age and be a voice for those whose voices are silenced by abortion. The lives of thousands of babies in Maine are in your hands.

I urge each one of you to consider your own life, which is a gracious gift from God. I challenge you to consider not merely the rights of the mother but the rights of the children who have been starved, dismembered, and flushed down the toilet or tossed in medical waste containers.

Today we are calling you to abandon the prejudice and apathy against these defenseless children and pass this bill, to change the course of our state and its people, to embrace life and to protect our neighbors in the same way we would protect a baby a month after they are born.

We call upon you to do your duty to end the violence of abortion in our state. I urge you to vote to pass L and outlaw this barbaric destruction of human life.

Thank you for your time and attention today.
To God alone be the glory!