

Lyra Sylvester  
Portland  
LD 253

Access to safe and legal abortion is detrimental to the health of the women and children of this country. A rape victim should not have to carry to term a pregnancy. An estranged teen living in squalor should not have to carry to term a pregnancy. Children should not grow up in homes in which they cannot have their needs met due to forcing someone young, ill equipped or impoverished to carry to term a pregnancy. The child and mother suffer in these instances. "Just put it up for adoption!" is a sad excuse for justification. That requires resources someone may not have. And say an adoptive family falls through? The foster system is overloaded and straining. Adoption is not a perfect solution. Forcing a young girl into a full term pregnancy does not have a perfect solution. Please do better by the women and the children in this country.

Sincerely,  
A young woman in this country