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I'm writing as an act of fighting to keep free a woman's right to choose whether or not she is prepared to bring another human into this world. As a woman who has been a teacher for over 30 years, I know the good work I do in the world would have been made very difficult -- if not impossible -- if I had not been able to choose to not have a child when I had just finished my freshman year of college and had just met my first boy-friend and after making love for the second time in my life, was pregnant.

Having lost my virginity to a date-raped three months earlier, the gift of making love was powerfully healing for me, but the weight of the ramifications (pregnancy) was not something I was ready to live out. Although the choice was difficult and I did grieve, I am still grateful I was able to make that choice. For although life is sacred, there's more than enough human life on this planet. All of our environmental -- and some of our social -- issues, are, after all, tied to human overpopulation. It makes no sense to make abortion and contraceptives illegal.

I understand that life is sacred,