

LD #1619

Good afternoon, Senator Carney, Representative Moonen, and members of the judiciary committee.

My name is Temple Knowles from Strong Maine, I come before you today to speak in opposition of LD #1619.

I believe it unnecessary to recite an unending list of facts supporting the reality of life starting at conception, the evidence is overwhelming.

Two brief observations will suffice to quell your presumption that I'm deferring:

In a recent article,^{*} I read of a survey taken of 5000 biologists, 96% agree when one egg cell joins with one sperm cell to become one zygote with unique genetic coding, the DNA reflects Homosapien, the offspring of mom and dad.

Second the fascinating developments undertaken in fetal surgery, recognizing these are human being requiring medical attention. These operations are absolutely staggering. To name a few:

1. Heart Tumor removals
2. Spina Bifida repair

There is overwhelming scientific data to support the existence of a person in the womb, to substantiate a human being a "medical patient" requiring healthcare, and in some cases undergoing medical procedures to forestall life threatening circumstances. This a person!!

The evidence shouts down the delusion, communicating that this mass is a "lump of organic matter" and is merely an unnecessary inconvenience that can be disregarded at will.

I spent several years overseas in east Africa. You may recall the shocking reports coming out of Rwanda in April of '94. The ethnic cleansing arrested the attention of the world as the Hutus proceeded to slaughter 500,000 to 600,000 Tutsis. The killing was brutal, dreadful, savage. It came to the horrific dismemberment by machete of ethnically unwanted people.

You all are very intelligent here and I don't think it necessary for me to draw the parallel between unwanted Tutsis and unwanted babies.

The issue here is not one surrounding the undeniable realities of biology and science. It is not cognitive; we know the biological truth.

The issue here is rather moral. Is it morally justifiable to extinguish the life of another? **Absolutely not.** Is it a moral virtue to stand for the sanctity of life? **Absolutely yes.**

You are the appointed authorities in this state, charged with the responsibility of ensuring, (and I draw this from the preamble of our constitution), ensuring: justice, tranquility, mutual defense, common welfare for ourselves and our **posterity.**

Additionally, in the preamble, imploring Gods aid and direction in accomplishing this pursuit.

I plead with you to strike down this evil piece of legislature that presumes killing an unborn unwanted person is OK.

Vote no for LD #1619

* Focus on Family, Pro Life Argument, by Lauren Roman, 2,24, 2022