

March 4, 2020

To Members of the Human Services Committee
of the Connecticut State Legislature

RE: Raised S.B. No. 274

Dear Legislators;

I am writing as a citizen to voice my opposition to Raised S.B. No. 274, and to ask you to vote against it.

The fact that this bill is narrowly designed to benefit only one private organization, should give you concern enough to vote against it. That the organization is Planned Parenthood of Southern New England should give you chills and make you recoil in horror, because the business of Planned Parenthood is killing innocent children. It matters not whether those children are inside or outside of their mothers' wombs. They are all innocent, helpless and voiceless.

The wording of the bill is innocuous. It does not mention Planned Parenthood by name, but, in fact, the only "family planning organization" in Connecticut which has lost federal funding under Title X of the Public Health Service Act, is Planned Parenthood of Southern New England. The reason it has "lost" federal funding is because it has refused to abide by the statutory condition that it not make referrals for abortion. Why? Because the primary business of Planned Parenthood is abortion. And to whom would it make referrals for abortions? To itself.

What does Planned Parenthood's decision to withdraw from Title X rather than refrain from making referrals for abortions tell us about that organization? That it values the income it receives from performing abortions more highly than it values women's health. To put it another way, whatever limited health services Planned Parenthood clinics actually provide to women are merely "loss leaders." Their primary revenue source and business model is as an abortion provider.

If you vote for S.B. 274, you will clearly be voting to use taxpayer's money to fund abortion.

To put it another way, you are using our hard-earned money to pay for something that we, the majority of Americans, are morally opposed. To personalize it, you may be using my tax dollars to subsidize the killing of my own grandson or grand-daughter. Think about it for a minute. Picture it in your minds. It is happening every day in this country.

For several years, I have volunteered at the Pro-Life booth at the “Big E,” the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Massachusetts. I have spoken with spouses, parents and grandparents of women who have had abortions, who have told me with pained and tearful expressions, of their unspeakable sadness on learning that their own child, or grandchild had been aborted and there was nothing they could do about it. I have also spoken with several women who have had abortions who told me how they were either coerced or deceived into thinking they had no choice but to abort their child, and how they regretted doing it.

The amount of pain and suffering caused by abortion in our society is immeasurable. Most of us don't see it, because abortions are done in private, and the women and men whose lives have been affected by abortion mostly bear their inner pain in secret, but the pain is as real as the post-traumatic stress disorder suffered by survivors of a mass shooting or veterans returning from war.

As a society, we have refused to acknowledge what abortion really is, we have numbed ourselves to it, or we have masked the pain with anger or partisanship. But whatever our political affiliation or loyalties may be, we all are living with the poisonous fallout of abortion which is moral confusion and a general devaluation of human life. We have elevated abortion to a “right” instead of mourning our own failure to provide caring support for expectant mothers and their poor temporarily “unwanted” children. And we are seeing the results of our collective callousness in school shootings, rising rates of drug abuse and suicides.

I have visited the Nazi death camp at Dachau, in Germany. I have been inside the gas chambers and looked inside the doors of the crematory ovens. I've seen photos of the piles of human hair and eyeglasses taken from the innocent civilians who were executed there in systematized mass murder. Two things I observed from being in that place continue to trouble me more than anything else: (1) How neat, orderly and scientific it all was inside the walls of the camp; and (2) How neat, orderly and normal everything seemed to be in the residential neighborhood that surrounded the camp, just outside the walls. After all, the Germans were the most scientifically advanced, civilized nation of people in the world!

The parallel to abortion in this country today is striking. Children are being mutilated and killed scientifically and silently within the walls of these so-called “family planning” clinics, while the people in the neighborhoods outside the clinic walls sleep or go about their business. Are they unaware, or do they just feel powerless to stop the genocide? How different are we from the citizens of Germany during the Third Reich? Well, I can tell you one way in which we are different: We can speak up against it without fear of death or imprisonment. And, I believe we have a duty to do so or else we are all complicit.

There is another parallel to Nazi Germany that I would be remiss if I did not mention. That is eugenics. The Nazis believed in creating a “Master Race” by eliminating certain undesirable persons from their society through systematized murder. In our day, the concentration of Planned Parenthood clinics in our poorer neighborhood and inner cities

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advances their subtle agenda of limiting the birth rates of certain ethnic populations. I submit to you the rather chilling statistic that, in a recent year in New York City, there were more African American babies aborted than were born alive.

If you, as a legislator, want to view yourself as a friend and ally of African American and other ethnic groups who may be less economically advantaged than the general population, please consider this. Did the Irish Americans rise to economic and political power by having smaller families? Did the Italian Americans rise to economic and political power by having smaller families? Did the Polish Americans rise to economic and political power by having small families? No. They were all discriminated against to varying degrees, but they rose to political and economic power by keeping their families together and helping each other out. The idea that limiting family size is helpful to the advancement of African Americans or other economically disadvantaged ethnic groups is false. It only serves to keep them from advancing themselves as a significant voting bloc.

You, the elected representatives in the Human Services Committee, have a duty to the citizens of this great state of Connecticut. Your first duty is to do what is morally right. Your next duty is to enact fiscally responsible legislation that will advance the interest of all taxpayers rather than one politically involved organization. I submit to you that the purpose and effect of Raised S.B. No. 274, is neither morally right nor fiscally responsible, nor is it in the best interest of the citizens.

Please, I implore you to do the right thing and exercise your vote to defeat this bill and keep it from advancing beyond this Committee.

Thank you.

Robert J. Hale, Jr.