



THE ABORTION ISSUE

We are once again, in the political arena, using preborn humans to generate votes for a particular political agenda. We do this because we have devalued those lives to the point of barter without much thought about who they are. Frederick Douglass illustrated the concept well when he described the slave traders as viewing the black person as a commodity rather than as a human being who has the same thoughts, feelings, emotions, and rights as everyone else. How we label someone determines how we treat them. (Prof. Patrick Henry Winston, MIT AI Lectures).

Here is where you jump in and assert that “the preborn (you fill in the word) is not a human.”

Obviously, if it is not a human being, but simply “products of conception,” a mistake, an inconvenience, or part of “my body” which I have control over, then of course there is no “political” issue, I should be able to do whatever I want with my body parts.

But what if:

- This preborn** is a human who needs a voice, who needs to be protected from the disease, injuries and misfortune that affect all humans at various times in their life, from conception to natural death.
- Why would I state** that the preborn is human and deserving of protection? Consider the following:
 - Genetically it is a separate person from its mother and father. It is not another “organ” like heart or lungs that are part of the pregnant woman’s body.
 - It is not part of the woman who is nurturing it in her uterus.
 - Its heart is beating 21 days after fertilization
 - In 6 weeks its brain waves can be recorded
 - At 8 weeks the baby is fully formed and sucking her thumb
 - At 20 weeks the baby responds to her mother’s voice.
 - Babies who have exited their uterine home in 21-23 weeks have a good chance of surviving.
- Where one is living**, how old or young you are, what you can and cannot do does not make you non-human. As a physician I am called to defend the weak, care for all, irrespective of where they live, what their abilities or disabilities are, whether they are wanted or unwanted.

Many in our world are demanding “reproductive rights.” Taken literally, at face value, I too am in support of reproductive rights. Today, however, many are adding to that slogan the right to terminate the life they have just created. What they are really saying with the reproductive rights slogan is this: “I fight for your right to end the life of your baby.” I ask, to what extent will we tolerate child sacrifice for our own peace and comfort?

Having said that, I am aware of the added burden that an unexpected pregnancy brings to a woman’s life. The woman may be in school or rising in the ranks of her company. She may be financially stretched to the limit. She may already be a single parent. Her pregnancy may have been the result of rape. She may be a teenager totally unprepared for being a mother and the thought of caring for a child turns her world upside down. These are all extremely difficult situations which need addressing by a compassionate society. A society that values life from conception to natural death. A world view that embraces sanctity of life, realizing that the taking of life is not a remedy.

My plea is that you and I understand that “reproductive rights” as it is being marketed, is the taking of a life – a defenseless life. We need to avoid getting hoodwinked and polarized with vote seeking rhetoric. We need to put money, commitment, hard work, and compassionate care into providing for good birth control counseling for all. We need community resources and government to support women who find themselves in the extremely tough situation of an unplanned pregnancy.

If you are pregnant with questions or if you want to volunteer to help support pregnant women, here are NH organizations that value the pre born child.

Care Women’s Center 13 West Street Concord, NH 03301
603-224-7477 carewomenscenter.com

RealOptions 340 Granite Street Unit 202 Manchester, NH 03102
603-623-1122 realoptionsnh.org

RealOptions 30 Temple Street Suite 315 Nashua, NH 03060
603-883-1122 realoptionsnh.org

WHY? Do We Say...

“The whole 9 yards”

Meaning: to try one’s best; go all the way

Origin: During World War II, the ammunition gunners used in fighter planes were 9 yards long, so to say one gave it “the whole 9 yards” was to say one went all the way. That origin has been debunked due to its appearance previous to World War II, and Fred Shapiro described the phrase as “the most prominent etymological riddle of our time.” We have to agree with him. Despite being debunked, the ammunition explanation is still the best one we’ve found.

“How do you like them apples?”

Meaning: a gloat, as in “so there!”; could also be a way to express shock

Origin: Many believe this phrase originated with a “toffee apple,” a type of trench mortar bomb often used to destroy tanks during World War I. A character in the John Wayne movie Rio Bravo illustrates how some believe the phrase itself came to be when he tosses an explosive into the air, and after his partner shoots it and it explodes, killing the enemy, he exclaims, “How do you like them apples?”



“PUTTING THE GARDEN TO BED”

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH
6:00PM AT BOW OLD TOWN HALL
91 BOW CENTER RD, BOW

PRESENTED BY RON TREXLER
UNH EXTENSION SPEAKER’S BUREAU



RON IS A UNH MASTER GARDENER AND MEMBER OF THE HOOKSETT GARDEN CLUB. DURING THIS PRESENTATION ATTENDEES WILL LEARN THE STEPS NECESSARY TO PROPERLY PREPARE THEIR GARDENS FOR WINTER, INCLUDING: FINISHING OFF ANNUAL AND VEGETABLE BEDS, PREPARING PERENNIAL BEDS TO REDUCE PESTS AND DISEASE, OVERWINTERING NON-HARDY PLANTS, READYING ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS AND EVERGREENS TO SURVIVE VARIOUS WINTER CONDITIONS, AND TENDING TO TOOLS AND SUPPLIES.

THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, BUT REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. EMAIL: REGISTER@BOWGARDENCLUB.ORG

SCHEDULE:
6:00PM - SOCIAL TIME & REFRESHMENTS
6:30PM - PRESENTATION
7:30PM - BGC MEMBER MEETING



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