

Submitter: Deborah Tilden
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SJR33

I am writing in opposition of SJR33 for several reasons. Having had an abortion in the state of Oregon, the WORST decision of my life! The ONE do-over I would do in a heartbeat for so many reasons of how it impacted my life. It's actually quite shocking that we aren't talking about women's healthcare in the context of abortion's risks, complications and causal links on women's lifelong health and wholeness. But instead we are pushing an agenda and ideology that HURTS WOMEN, while killing innocent unborn children in their earliest stage of development. Let me list a few complications of abortion we know through best available worldwide science: One abortion can predispose a woman to pre-term/pre-mature births in future pregnancies by 27%, and two or more abortions increase that risks by 62% (British Journal of Gynecology, May 2009); There are 35 statistically significant studies that show a positive association between abortion and breast cancer. In fact, in 2007, an actuary found that abortion was the greatest predictor of breast cancer incidence in nine European countries. (Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons, 2007 September; 12(3): 72-8) Regarding mental health decline and suicide risk, meta-analysis identified 22 studies which strongly supported an association between abortion and mental health problems. An overall 81 percent greater risk of mental health problems for women who had an abortion compared to those who had not..." (British Journal of Psychiatry 2011; 199(3): pp. 180-6; 200(1): pp. 77-80) Those risks included a 34% increase in anxiety disorders; 37% increase in depression; 110% increase in alcohol use/abuse; 220% increase in marijuana use/abuse; and 155% increase in suicidal (and self-destructive) behaviors. Finally, a large-scale linkage study in Finland found that within one year of the end of pregnancy, the suicide rate with abortion was six times greater than the suicide rate associated with childbirth. (British Medical Journal 1996 December 313(7070): pp. 1431-4) Do you not know that abortion hurts women? Do you not care that abortion hurts women? Do you really honestly think that a woman who ends the life of her own unborn child in her womb goes without natural consequences? The conclusion many have come to is that YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT WOMEN AND CHILDREN, and their ability to thrive and fulfill a natural destiny. When a woman is pregnant, she is a parent of an unborn child in her womb. The neurobiological connection between mother and child is irrefutable. Perhaps a simple lesson in human connection and development is necessary...everyone listening to or reading this testimony has a belly button, also known as the "circle of life" in the human body. Your belly button was your human connection to your mother while you were in her womb. How have we become so calloused, heartless and barbaric that we have ignored the purest and most vulnerable stage of human development, and the purest and miraculous human connection known to mankind. In the famous words of the Crosby, Stills and Nash

song, "Teach your children well." How is promoting abortion on demand for any reason, at any stage of pregnancy teaching the children to live, love and value each other. The obsession with world population control has gone too far! Abortion on demand is just one of the tools in your toolbox to accomplish your agenda, the other tool you are using to destroy lives is promoting and pushing "gender reassignment" which in the end sterilizes a generation of youth through the exploitation, abuse and mutilation of precious young people. I challenge you all to do the right thing and VOTE NO ON SJR33. We can and must teach the children better than this!