

Submitter: Lois Anderson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SJR33

50 years ago, advocates for abortion told us that our laws prohibiting abortion were holding back women. They told us that a woman couldn't be equal unless she could choose to end the life of a baby developing in her womb. They told us that when they legalized abortion, our society would become a more just, a more humane place for all of our citizens. They said that more mothers would be able to take care of their children who were born, and that we would have more resources to care for the most vulnerable people in our society: the poor, the elderly and the disabled.

Now 50 years on, we know that this was all a lie. Our society is less just, not more. Our language is coarser, our public debate more crass. Violence is more prevalent on our streets and in our schools. Instead of greater care for the most vulnerable in our community, we see the opposite.

90% of babies diagnosed with down syndrome die from abortion. We have more people with mental illness suffering and dying on our streets than ever before. Abortion has not solved society's problems. Nothing that abortion advocates promised 50 years ago has actually come to fruition, except that millions of developing babies have been killed through legal abortion.

But not only do we know that abortion has not and cannot solve society's social ills, now we know that each child developing in her mother's womb is a distinct human being. We know because all of us have seen the ultrasounds that were not available 50 years ago. We have seen our baby sucking her thumb before she was born. We have seen her yawn and stretch. And...we know that she has a purpose and a future that is not ours to determine for her. But she does not have the right to the protection of her own life. A protection that each of us in this room enjoys.

For these reasons, I ask that you stand up for true equality under the law for both developing babies and their mothers.