

Testimony in support of HB 1373
The Prenatal Protection Act

My name is Connie Hardie and my husband and I have been long time residents and farmers in southeast ND. As a former RN and believer in Christ, I am very concerned about the devastating effects of abortion in any form on the mothers, not to mention the babies that are being killed indiscriminately by the thousands in ND and the millions nationwide. These babies are created in the image of God and as women we have the privilege and responsibility before God to cherish and protect them both in the womb and out of the womb. How far we have fallen into moral degradation when we use abortion as a form of birth control citing a woman's right over her body rather than choosing to live responsibly and love and care for our children. Teaching our children to abstain from sexual activity until in a loving marriage would be the common sense approach and honoring to God to whom we will all give an account someday. Making abortion in any form illegal will also be necessary to end this madness.

HB 1373 is an honorable bill that protects prenatal babies from cruel dismemberment or chemical burning. Does it matter whether the baby's location is in the womb or in this physical world? The logical answer is "NO". Science has proven that life begins at conception and we need to protect their God-given lives. No exceptions. Many children who have been born as a result of rape have gone on to live very productive lives if given the chance. Who are we to deny them this chance? Our constitution gives all men and women that are citizens of America the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

I have listened to the stories of women who chose to abort their babies. They all know once they've had the abortion that they have killed their babies. Struggles ensue as to how to deal with this knowledge, the guilt, regret and the shame they feel, and thus turn to unhealthy lifestyles of self-condemnation, over-eating, drinking, drugs etc. Their lives are not what they dreamed due to the lies they are told ie. that the baby is just a blob of tissue, the baby is an inconvenience and will hold them back from their dreams, among other lies. This is devastating to women and some are physically damaged causing sterility and/or dangerous infections. Some women become very hardened to justify their actions unless they find forgiveness and freedom in Christ.

We must protect our babies in the womb. I beseech you to support HB 1373 and to encourage your fellow House representatives to do the same. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Hardie