

# Heartbeat Bill Proponent Testimony - Committee of Health & Aging

November 29, 2017

**Good Morning Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee.** My name is Reverend Katherine Marple; I am a wife, a mom, a grandmom, an Ordained minister of the Gospel, Advocate & Activist, and I support the **Heartbeat Bill**. This is a unique opportunity and honor to speak on behalf of **real** women who are not characterized as the pro-abortion crowd would have you believe. Real women do not grandstand, nor do they force their chilling opinions on the general public to serve their own agenda. Rather, it is a **privilege & honor** to represent the millions and millions of women and children who have, and continue to be victimized by what is curiously called 'choice'.

Abortion has affected my life since 1976; I am a sibling to an aborted child, an aunt to an aborted child, a cousin to an aborted child, **I am also Post Abortive** and a grandmother to my own aborted grandchild. Years later, that one day came when I realized that my abortion was a tragedy and not an accomplishment. Finally, I was able to discern correctly that abortion is murder. I was told the babies were only clumps of cells, not human, and had no worth; essentially, the abortionist and their workers lied to me. Every one of these children deserved and had a right to life, a right to have their own family and a right to serve their communities. Abortion is causing a generational culture of death within families and communities at large. If there was a Heartbeat Bill, none of these amazing children would have been aborted and their mothers in absolute despair.

Abortion law cannot take away the reality that abortion kills unborn human children, and if a heartbeat is the benchmark for all life, then those who believe babies are not babies at conception should **at the very least** understand the concept of the beating heart being 'life'. The Heartbeat Bill recognizes that all human life IS life, and it's measurement is a beating heart.

Do we consider the rhetoric that has permeated the way the public thinks about abortion? Absolutely! Abortion has been a dismal failure which has created a subculture of apathy, wrong relationships, making right decisions, causing distrust in our Churches,

family and Government. After all, if your government is okay with killing unborn children, what else could they possibly be capable of?

The absurdity of the notion of abortion should be enough to stop this failure of recent history. As a Minister, I've searched the Scriptures over and over to find where abortion was ever lauded, much less addressed. And while the word 'abortion' is not in the Bible, preserving Life is. Throughout Scripture, from the Old Testament to the New Covenant, we are all commanded to love and preserve life as Christ does. Remember, every human being has the ability to kill, but it is not the Will of God to do so, nor to passively allow it to happen.

While the opposition calls my Bible ignorant, is not for today, or an outright lie, I stand here to remind everyone that God has not changed, nor is He the Author of confusion. In not so quiet desperation, the Law [commonly known as the Ten Commandments] which was given thousands of years ago, stills stands true today or the crime of murder would not be a crime.

My husband and I recently adopted a young cat from our local Humane Society. As we were driving home with our family's new addition, can you possibly imagine the irony of knowing I **rescued** this little, innocent, homeless cat **on the very same day** that 57 unborn Ohioans lost their lives to abortion? I repeat, on the very same day. As Ohioans, we have to stand for every human life, born and unborn, because that's what Ohioans are supposed to do. Supporting abortion stands against who we are as a state and government. The Heartbeat Bill will save the lives of many thousands of Ohioans, until their natural death, as it should be. The Heartbeat Bill is a single great step that we need to protect the lives of babies and Ohio women, because women need to know the truth and tragedy of abortion.

***I thank the Committee for allowing me to testify on this day.***

**Rev. Katherine Marple**