

Diane Strait, grandma, parent of two grown specials needs children, caregiver of my disabled veteran brother.

I recently stood outside of my local library to ask petitioners to show me their petition and what it said. This was the first time in the 31 years that I've lived in my small village (city now) that I'd seen a petitioner at my small library. Together with the petitioner, I read the proposed reproductive rights state of Ohio constitutional Amendment and realized immediately it is vague and ambiguous – and yet it's language is outright deceptive. I asked the petitioner who "every individual" was – children? Are there no age limits in this text, I asked? The text further stated "has a right to make "reproductive decisions" – I asked do you mean transgender surgery – such as sex changes on minors without parental consent or knowledge? The petitioner began to tell me she was midwife and there are "anomalies" and yelled at me telling me "I needed to leave with my beliefs!"

As a parent of 2 grown daughters who have developmental disabilities, I am to understand I will lose my legal guardianship if this constitutional amendment passes. As a grandma, I understand that my grandchildren – all children - will be legally able to obtain sex gender surgeries and 9-month abortions without parental consent or knowledge. I saw in California that laws are even now being proposed that, indeed, parents will pay for their children's sex changes on their insurance even without any consent or knowledge of the surgery or abortion. Add to all this the language in the proposed constitutional amendment that legally protects the one "assisting" in this service. Again, parents have no legal recourse. And guardians of special needs individuals lose the protection for their loved one.