

BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE OF OHIO
HB228
CHAIRMAN WHITE AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH
COMMITTEE

PREPARED TESTIMONY OF BRUCE CLYNE

June 13, 2006

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Bruce Clyne of Columbus, Ohio. I am the husband of Elizabeth {Lizzie} Clyne, who is a woman that has experienced the devastating effects of abortion. I am a retired Law Enforcement Officer from North Carolina with over twenty years of service to our state and nation. My wife Lizzie and I have lost two daughters from Incompetent Cervix, a side effect of one abortion Lizzie had when she was in her late teens.

Lizzie and I were married in April 1995 and she became pregnant with the first of our three children. Our first little girl's name was "Sarah". Our OB GYN doctor told me that the loss of Sarah was due to "Incompetent Cervix". A family grief counselor told me later, that only one in five marriages survive a "miscarriage".

I assured him that it was not a miscarriage but my daughter, "Sarah". He tried to tell me that miscarriage is a "term" that professionals use for babies who die that are "wanted" babies. I remember to this day the coldness in his voice as he referred to our daughter as one of the "wanted" babies.

No one can describe the pain a father feels when he holds his dead, newborn baby in his arms, after hearing her heartbeat only minutes before. There was absolutely NOTHING physically wrong with our daughter Sarah, she was just born too soon to survive. After losing Sarah, I became very depressed and unable to focus and desensitized myself to the entire world. I lost my will to live, like my wife, but knew I had to go on, if only for her. It was the worst time of my life.

I have been in Viet Nam and seen thousands of people, men and women, boys and girls die, but I had never had to choose a grave for my own child. Incompetent Cervix is a diagnosis commonly caused by abortion, however, most women are too filled with shame or guilt ridden to tell their doctors about it, until its too late-and they lose a child.

Our daughter "Faith" was born in January 1997. The problem with the incompetent cervix made the entire next pregnancy **very traumatic** and stressful. It was emotionally, physically and mentally draining. Each week I took Lizzie to the doctor and went through

my own severe anxiety- and watched helplessly as my wife was examined and went through the loss of “Sarah” all over again, with each visit.

My point is that it is not only the woman but the whole family that suffers the losses resulting from abortion. In my case, Lizzie’s previous abortion had a huge impact on my life and on our marriage and we have both suffered the aftermath of abortion.

On December 4th, 1973 I joined our US Army and raised my hand and swore to defend the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies: foreign and domestic. I took that vow seriously then, and for the rest of my life- I will speak and defend the rights of those who cannot speak out on their own, and that includes the unborn children of our country and our world.

Most Respectfully,
Bruce E. Clyne