

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

PREPARED TESTIMONY OF CYNTHIA COLLINS

June 13, 2006

Testimony of Cynthia Collins

My name is Cynthia Collins. I am the Executive Director of the Crisis Pregnancy Help Center of Slidell, Louisiana. Over the past 20 years our Center has provided life-affirming resources to over 23,000 women and given life to approximately 9,000 Louisiana babies ... **including one Safe Haven baby**. Louisiana just passed its abortion ban bill which should be signed by the Governor any day. As I was deeply involved in the legislative process in Louisiana, I am here to offer my support and testimony in support of Ohio's courageous stand to protect women, families and unborn children.

I have worked with **thousands of women hurt by abortion** suffering from depression, suicide attempts, physical problems, and substance abuse. Nationally, there are over 100,000 women annually suffering through post abortion depression.

Here are direct quotes from some of these women:

Stacy - "There was so much blood. The physical pain was unbearable, but the emotional pain was worse. It's been 20 years of regretting this decision every day of my life. "

Connie - " I thought I was getting rid of a problem. Instead I became the mother of a dead baby and set myself up for a lifetime of grief and sorrow."

My Story -

I was nineteen, a freshman in college in Pittsburgh, PA and pregnant from my first boyfriend. It was January of 1973. A staff person at Planned Parenthood referred me for an abortion in Washington, DC. She told me my baby was a "product of conception" and abortion could take care of my problem. There were 40 other young women in the abortion facility that day. We were shown a plastic model of an empty womb and then taken into the abortion procedure rooms, alone.

The force of the suction abortion was severe. There was no doctor/patient relationship. Within a year, I was diagnosed with breast disease and went into a deep depression using drugs and alcohol to bury the pain of the abortion. I left college after my sophomore year and began a destructive lifestyle of promiscuity, abusive relationships, and continued abortions. During one abortion, part of my baby was left inside. Planned Parenthood referred me to an abortionist. After crying in deep pain, with my arms grabbing the wall, the abortionist looked at me and told the nurse I was too far along...to get up, get dressed, and get out. Afraid, ashamed, and alone, I sought help from a physician who admitted me to the hospital for an emergency D & C. Abortion didn't end my problem, it added to my pain.

One year after marriage, I miscarried, due to the scarring in my uterus as a result of my abortions. In subsequent pregnancies, my obstetrician told me I was at risk and would have to remain in bed for my health and the health of my children. During my last pregnancy, I remained bed-ridden for seven months in order to save the lives of my twin daughters.

Abortion does not end at the abortionist table. Abortion rips a woman's soul and has cost this nation, through the broken hearts of women who suffer in silent shame, masking their pain in drugs, alcohol, repeat abortions, eating disorders, inability to bond with future children, infertility, miscarriage, and abusive relationships. We can look at the history of the past 33 years of abortion in this nation and see that abortion is outdated and unneeded in a new generation that has 4D ultrasound, surgery to heal the pre-born, and Pregnancy Resource Centers that help women transition from crisis and violence, to a life filled with hope, no matter how their child were conceived.

Your support to end the abortion experiment on the women will be a step to protect both women and children. Thank you for allowing our voices to be heard.



Speaking the Truth in Love, Abortion Hurts Women [Abortion Recovery Help Line](#)

Contact Information:

Cynthia Collins

Louisiana: (985) 774-4610 National: 1-866-4-OUTCRY

Operation Outcry 24 Hour Help Line

1-866-482-LIFE

Email:

louisiana@operationoutcry.org