

Thursday, April 28th, 2022

Dear Abilene Mayor and City Council Members,

As a practicing Obstetrician and Gynecologic Surgeon specializing in women facing unplanned pregnancies, I want to applaud you for considering the ordinance to make Abilene a Sanctuary City for the Unborn, which protects not only unborn humans but also the women of your city.

It is estimated that over 63 million babies have been lost to abortion in our nation in the last 49 years. Our greatest threat to humankind today is the loss of human life to abortion. Biologists agree that scientifically a new life is created at conception. The moment one sperm has penetrated an egg it releases the father's unique genetic material into the mother's genetic material and a brand-new DNA is immediately formed. This process, which takes a fraction of 1 second, creates a unique DNA that will be only found in that new life of the baby. Abortion kills this new life that will be unrepeatable. Each life, including the parent's lives, needs to be protected.

As a physician and scientist, I will discuss some of the most well-researched risks of abortion to women in this letter.

BREAST CANCER

Breast cancer is a LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH of women ages 20-59. 1 in 8 women will get breast cancer.

Dr. Ian Gentles & Dr. Joe Brind compiled 109 large worldwide studies regarding abortion and breast cancer and proved an overall **40% increased risk of breast cancer** in women who have had an abortion. (Only 20% of breast cancers are caused by family genetics). Having had an abortion is the highest of all risk factors for developing future breast cancer. Breast cancer cases rose 32% in 1987, 10 years after abortion was legalized.

Dr. Huang analyzed 36 studies in China after their "One Child Policy" had been enforced, and proved a **44% increased risk of breast cancer have having 1 abortion, a 76% risk after 2, and a 90% risk after 3 abortions!**

Dr. Janet Daling proved an **800% increased lifetime risk** of getting breast cancer in girls who had an abortion at 18 years old or younger.

PREMATURE BIRTH

There is a **36% increased risk of preterm birth after 1 surgical abortion, and 93% increased risk after 2 surgical abortions.**

Prior to the legalization of abortion, 6% of all births were preterm. Following the legalization of abortion, preterm births have now increased to 13% (a 100% increase). The US now ranks 6th of all of the world's countries in the highest rates of preterm birth. One million babies are born prematurely each year in the US, and 11,000 babies die annually the day they are born due to prematurity.

PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

A large compilation of studies from 1995-2009 showed a woman who has had an abortion has an **81% increased risk of significant life-changing mental health problems**. Increased mental health problems include: depression, anger, sadness, guilt, shame, feeling of worthlessness, post-traumatic stress disorder, eating disorders, sexual dysfunction, trouble sleeping, alcohol and drug abuse, child neglect/abuse, and 7 times more likely to commit suicide.

Compared with women who had unintended pregnancies and carried them to full-term, women who chose abortion were over 50% more likely to have significant negative mental health outcomes, proving that even in cases of traumatic situations leading to pregnancy, carrying the pregnancy is **protective** to the maternal psyche.

UTERINE DAMAGE

Not only can the cervix be damaged during abortion, but there is an increased risk of: internal uterine permanent scarring preventing future pregnancy, damage to the fallopian tubes causing sterility, significant blood loss and hemorrhage, future risk of miscarriage, and difficulty becoming pregnant again.

Because of these scientifically proven medical risks to women undergoing an abortion, I do not recommend abortion to my patients, and I advocate for supporting women with an unplanned pregnancy. You have great honor at such a time as this to give voice to the unborn and help support the health of the women of Abilene. Every life is unique, valuable, and important, including the mothers, fathers, and unborn children of people facing an unintended pregnancy.

Sincerely,

Dr. Karysse Trandem, FACOOG, Obstetrician & Gynecologic Surgeon

National Medical Director, Save the Storks

CEO & International Medical Director, Canopy Global Foundation

Abbreviated references:

Breast Cancer:

1. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30831018/>
2. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12751491/>
3. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17957788/>
4. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/12067799/>
5. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24272196/>
6. <https://academic.oup.com/jnci/article-abstract/86/21/1584/1062090?redirectedFrom=fulltext>

Preterm Birth:

1. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK78374/>
2. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15777440/>
3. [https://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378\(15\)02596-X/fulltext](https://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378(15)02596-X/fulltext)

Psychological Damage:

1. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6207970/>
2. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2050312116665997>
3. <https://acamh.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.1469-7610.2005.01538.x?systemMessage=Wiley+Online+Library+will+be+disrupted+4+Feb+from+10-12+GMT+for+monthly+maintenance>

Uterine Damage:

1. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK430793/>