Provincial election

Abortion is a federal issue, claims Elliot

Continued from Page 12 system," he said.

Sex education is a parent's responsibility and private counselling programs should be made available to assist, Mr. Gori said. The government can also help by educating the parents, he said.

FCP believes abstinence should be promoted as a virtue and that putting sex education and controms in schools will send a message that "there is nothing wrong with promiscuity," Mr. Gori said. A five to 15 per cent condom failure rate will also lead to more pregnancies and more abortions, he said.

If a girl is not mature enough to raise a baby, parents and grand-parents should help raise the baby, Mr. Gori explained. The mother may not think she wants the baby but once the baby is born she will never regret having it, he said. "Women will realize after having the baby that it's a life worth having." Adoption is always an option, he added.

The government must trim down

programs such as pay equity to make more funding available for single mother's assistance, Mr. Gori insists. "You cannot beat love with violence," he said adding that society is becoming increasingly violent when people can choose who will die.

Even if a woman becomes pregnant as the result of a rape it would not improve the woman's situation by adding another trauma to her life, Mr. Gori insists. It may be difficult to turn back the effect of the rape but having an abortion will not eliminate the stress, he explained. The birth should not be terminated when the baby is not at fault, Mr. Gori said.

Aware of the reports that unwanted babies have been left to die in garbage bins, Mr. Gori argued, "there's no difference if you throw the baby in the garbage five months before or five months after the birth."

However, Liberal incumbent Walt Elliot said he has always advised girls to see the pregnancy through and as a former educator he has arranged for home instruction for many teenage women. But he said once the girls make a choice the support must be

available.

Sex education should be available in schools because it is not always easy for parents to accept that their children are sexually active, Mr. Elliot said.

Mr. Elliot said condom machines were installed in schools to prevent the spreading of AIDS and doesn't believe teens will be more sexually active if the machines are provided

An abortion is a federal issue, the provincial government is responsible for providing health care, Mr. Elliot said, adding that proper clinics must exist to perform the accepted procedure.

In response to Mr. Gori's statement that pregnancies from rape still do not necessitate abortion, Mr. Elliot said Mr. Gori wouldn't consider the ramifications of a girl becoming pregnant as a result of a rape by a family member. This wouldn't enter the mind of a single-issue man, Mr. Elliot said.

North Halton Libertarian Party candidate, John Shadbolt, said he can't understand how a man can dictate what a woman should do with her body and said another person's will shouldn't be imposed on others. However, he did express

concern that there may not be a large enough young population to care for an aging society.

North Halton Progressive Conservative candidate, Dave Whiting, said he doesn't agree with abortion clinics because he believes abortions are becoming a form of birth control. Women are having as many as three abortions, he said.

Mr. Whiting said the line should be drawn at performing abortions for medical reasons in a hospital setting by qualified doctors.

North Halton New Democrat candidate, Noel Duignan, supports pro-choice and said women should be able to have control over their bodies if they are to achieve equality in society. Mr. Duignan said sex education and condom machines should be offered to help 17, 18 and 19-year-old teenagers, who are actively engaged in sexual activity, act safely.

North Halton Green Party Ontario candidate, Patricia Kammerer, also supports pro-choice, sex education and increased single-parent assistance. She said she has no opinion as to whether condom machines should be installed in schools.

French language bill an important issue

Although the province's French language legislation, Bill 8, has barely been touched upon during any of the all-candidates meetings in the North Halton riding, local Progressive Conservative Candidate Dave Whiting said the constituents tell him they list it as the second most important issue next to government spending/taxes.

Results from an informal poll the PC candidates carried out earlier in the campaign and conversations with the public show the French language issue is important and most agree the legislation should be done away with, said Mr. Whiting.

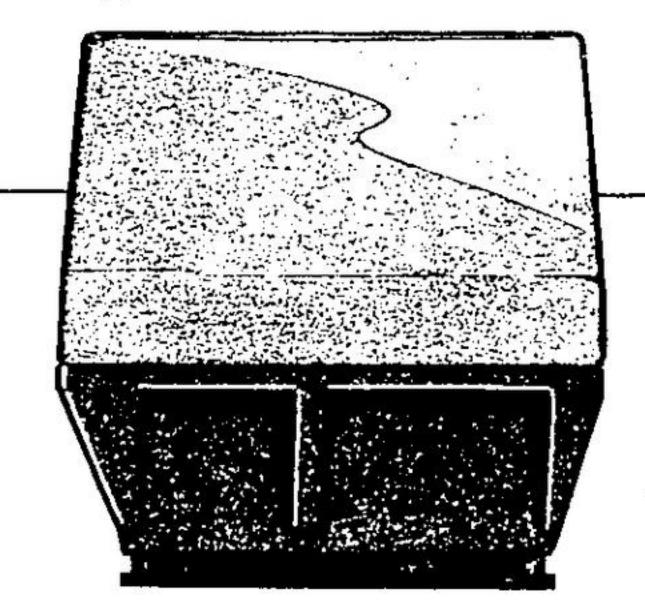
People believe Bill 8 is the first step by the province to declaring Ontario officially bilingual, he said.

Bill 8, which was supported by all three parties in the legislature means that in municipalities where the numbers warrant it, the provincial government funds and offers provincial services in both French and English. The

municipality isn't required to provide any funding for these provincially-run programs.

Mr. Whiting agrees with the reason behind Bill 8 - to accommodate minority language rights - but he argues it's unnecessary. Before Bill 8 was passed, no one, for example, using the provincial court system anywhere

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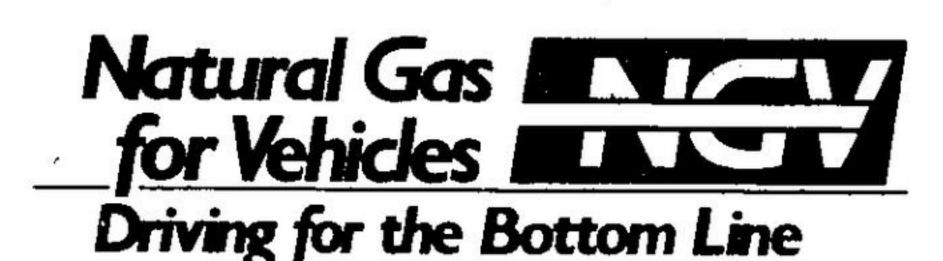
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