

Abortion: A difficult decision

Re: Abortion Story Page 1 The Tribune Feb. 8
Dear Editor:
I noticed all the men quoted in your newspaper's story slammed the Supreme Court's abortion ruling. The lone woman questioned, qualified her statement. I'm somewhat surprised the reporter, a woman, did not obtain a more balanced outlook.
The issue of abortion is by no means new. However, it lies close to my heart.
Eight years ago, I had an abortion. Believe me, it was not an easy decision. Nor does it rest well with me today.
As soon as I realized I was pregnant, I told my boyfriend. He was furious. He wanted and prayed that I was trying to trap him. Several days later, he moved out of the province. I confided in a girlfriend and shortly thereafter, I noticed my intensely private situation had gone public. I was shunned and ashamed.

My physician was kind and understanding. He explained all my options, then sent me home to make my own decision. I agonized for days about what I should do. I desperately wanted someone to love and in turn, love me back unconditionally. I never really experienced that as a child. In my family home, I remember sexual abuse and frequent beatings.

On the other side of the coin, I knew myself well enough to realize it was an untapped well of anger and anguish. I had seen the results of my temper let loose. I knew that if trapped alone for hours with a colicky, crying infant, I feared I might not be able to control my frustrations.
I chose an abortion. I will never forget it as long as I live.

Tell me, Pastors Middleton and Pitts, could an unwed young mother call on you in the middle of the night and say:

My baby is sick. It's been crying for hours. I'm at the end of my rope. Would either of you come over and rock my child? Or would you read me a scripture text from the Bible?
Pro-lifers don't want women to have abortions. But are they willing to stand beside them and help them bear the day-by-day trauma?

Please, pastors, climb down out of the pulpit and walk out into the street where it's all happening on a daily basis. Go down to the clinics and listen to the stories. If you LISTEN, not preach.

Gentlemen, judge not as ye may be judged. And remember, this is real life, not a dress rehearsal!

Sincerely,
Sonja Zeisig,
Stouffville

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