

**ENDEAVOUR FORUM INC.**

**NGO in Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC**

**&**

**CANADA SILENT NO MORE ASSOCIATION**

**(a registered non-profit society)**

To the **United Nations Human Rights Committee**

**General Comment No. 36-49 Part lll, Article 6:**

**Right to Life**

**“Everyone has a fundamental Right to Life, no matter how small”**

**JUNE 9, 2015**

Written Statement by

Mrs. Denise Mountenay

Canadian Representative

**International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**

**Adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession by General Assembly resolution 2200A (XXI) of 16 December 1966
entry into force 23 March 1976, in accordance with Article 49**

Preamble

The States Parties to the present Covenant,

Considering that, in accordance with the principles proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations, recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Recognizing that these rights derive from the inherent dignity of the human person,

Recognizing that, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the ideal of free human beings enjoying civil and political freedom and freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy his civil and political rights, as well as his economic, social and cultural rights…

**PART III**

***Article 6***

**1. Every human being has the inherent right to life. This right shall be protected by law. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life.**

First, I would like to establish the fact that children in the womb are members of the human family, and should be recognized as having inherent dignity, value and inalienable rights to life and security of person as human beings, no matter how small. Secondly, they need to be protected by law, as they are too weak, vulnerable and small to protect themselves. Thirdly, abortion is a form of genocide, and should be abolished. Fourthly, according to Article 7, induced abortion is also a form of cruel and inhumane treatment/punishment of innocent human beings.

The science of how we are created is fascinating. From the time we are conceived, we are as small as a dot, yet we are fully human and fully alive. Our DNA already determines if we are a boy or girl and how cells will differentiate to form every vital functioning organ, such as the heart, lungs, liver, immune system, kidneys, pancreas, every muscle, bone, joint, blood cells and hair in all the right places. Incredibly, like a computer microchip, the knowledge in the DNA will also form an intelligent brain, two important ears, that will hear, a nose, to smell, a tongue and mouth, so will speak, and limbs etc. We have a beating heart by three weeks, and visible arms, legs, fingers and toes by eight weeks. From approximately 10 to 12 weeks into a pregnancy, doctors can determine whether the child in the womb is recognizable as a boy or girl. [[1]](#endnote-1) This is not a potential human being, taking millions of years to develop, but a human being with the potential to live a great life. This is the first vital stages of human development. It is not a chicken, or a dog, growing in a mother’s womb, it is a child, a human being.

**Yet, the discrimination and taking of human life against the youngest human beings, originates in the WOMB:** Tragically, there is an agenda and push by some NGO’s and pharmaceutical corporations to annihilate children in the womb as a violent form of birth control. They are biased and financially profit in the extermination of children in the womb, whether by chemical poisoning, dismemberment or decapitation. Defenceless, tiny, but perfect, little boys and girls are systematically executed while in the sanctuary of their mothers’ wombs. Gender-selective abortions are done on the female child simply because she is a girl. The choice to abort one’s daughter just because she is a girl should be unthinkable. Abortion is the greatest human rights violation and crime against humanity in our generation!

**Gender-selective abortions** are the utmost form of exploitation, discrimination, and violence against girls in our lifetime. Many reports document that it is a common cultural belief—especially in China and India—that boys are more "wanted" than girls. As a result, due to sex-selective abortions, there are now more than 34 million boys, than girls under the age of 20 in China, and millions more men than women in India too. [[2]](#endnote-2) Millions of girl children are targeted for abortion (death in the womb-feticide) or left to die after birth (infanticide). These antiquated customs and policies must be adamantly addressed by all the Member States and condemned by Human Rights Commission. We must form an alliance to protect the youngest and weakest of human family, who have no voice.

We also denounce the One-Child Policy in China, which forces and coerces pregnant women to abort their children. (Warning: graphic photos of aborted children-next page)

**The Right to Life before birth**: According to the UN Charter, The Universal Declaration on Human Rights, and the ‘Declaration on the Rights of the Child’, **“the child, by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth.”** Whether legal or illegal, no induced abortion is "safe" for the human child.

**VIOLENCE Against Women:** As a former legal ‘abortion patient’ myself and after having spoken to hundreds of other post-abortive women, I can testify as an expert; that legal abortion hurt and damaged me, and also took the lives of my children. Abortion causes much physical, psychological and spiritual damage to women, affecting her parenthood, mental and reproductive health.

Misinformation, rhetoric and euphemisms that promote abortion as “safe and legal,” and as a woman's right to choose to have her child's life terminated without question, abound in our western developed world. Yet the evidence in scientific research indicates legal or illegal; induced abortions are not “safe” for women. Since the legalization of abortion-on-demand, millions of women have suffered physically, psychologically, and spiritually as a result. Hundreds of women in the USA alone have died as a consequence of legal abortion. [[3]](#endnote-3)

**Violence against pregnant women** has increased dramatically. Homicide has become the leading cause of death among pregnant women. In many cases, women are assaulted or killed for refusing to abort (choosing life for their baby). A high percentage of pregnant women reported being punched or kicked in the abdomen, usually by the father of the baby. These findings add to a growing body of evidence that link domestic violence and abortion.[[4]](#endnote-4)

In one study, 64 percent of American women and teenage girls reported they were pressured to abort by others, and more than 80 percent of these said they did not receive adequate counseling prior to their decision to abort. [[5]](#endnote-5)

A large study in Finland reported **higher rates of suicide for women after abortion.** Women who had an abortion had a 6 times higher risk of death from suicide compared to women who carried their babies to term.[[6]](#endnote-6)

Teens are at much higher risk of a suicide attempt after abortion.University of Minnesota researchers found a **ten-fold increase in suicide attempts** **among teens** within six months after their abortion.[[7]](#endnote-7)

Another study at a South African clinic found that 18 percent of patients developed post-traumatic stress disorder after abortion. [[8]](#endnote-8)

**More than 40 studies published in peer-reviewed journals with statistical controls and statistically significant results show that abortion is a risk factor for numerous psychiatric illnesses.**

The largest study of **rape victims** ever completed, indicates that most women not only experience severe trauma from the rape, but also experience additional trauma if they choose to abort the baby conceived in rape. Furthermore, **89 percent of those who chose abortion regretted it**, while none of the women who carried to term expressed regrets. In our view, with cases of incest, abortion allows the abuse to continue without discovery, again contributing to additional trauma.[[9]](#endnote-9)

Women also frequently suffer **physical complications following abortion.** One of the most significant of these complications is **cervical damage** due to forcing the cervix open, causing an increased risk of a **pre-term birth** in subsequent pregnancies. There are now 147 studies from 34 countries linking abortion to premature births.[[10]](#endnote-10)

Pre-term birth is known to increase the risk of cerebral palsy, blindness, deafness, respiratory problems and other disabling conditions for the ‘wanted’ child in the aftermath of abortion. [[11]](#endnote-11)

Following my abortions, I suffered multiple complications including an infection, a damaged cervix, a badly scarred uterus, fertility problems, and a cancer scare. To date 95 credible worldwide studies also link breast cancer to induced abortion.[[12]](#endnote-12)

It is our belief that legal abortion has become the greatest form of exploitation against pregnant women and pre-born children in our generation. While the choice should be available to women as to why, when, where and with whom to have sex; once conception takes place, another human being exists – one whose life and dignity must be valued and regarded. The choice to “kill the unwanted” children before birth, systematically, and without question; is similar to the Nazi philosophy of “kill the unwanted Jews” and should be condemned, not promoted as a woman’s right, and tolerated by the UN. Pregnancy is not a disease and abortion is hardly a medical necessity.

**In conclusion**: Rendering the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action, it states the following:

“Women's right to the enjoyment of the highest standard of health must be secured throughout the whole **life cycle,** in equality with men. **Prevention of unwanted pregnancies must always be given the highest priority and every attempt should be made to eliminate the need for abortion**.”

1. **Governments are asked to: “**Address the acute problems of children, inter alia, by supporting efforts in the context of the United Nations system aimed at adopting efficient international measures for the prevention and eradication of female infanticide…
2. **The World Conference on Human Rights** reaffirmed clearly that “the human rights of women throughout the **life cycle** are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights.” And science declares that the cycle of human life begins at the moment of conception.[[13]](#endnote-13)

Everyone has a fundamental RIGHT TO LIFE, NO MATTER HOW SMALL. Why should pre-born children be killed because of their temporary residence for 9 months? Why should they die because of their level of development? “Fetus,” Latin for the “little one” is another stage of human development like infant, toddler, adolescent, adult and senior.

Therefore, we appeal to the UN Human Rights Committee and all Member States to prioritize these plans of action immediately to save women and children:

* Enact Education and Awareness Campaigns on the value of all human life, no matter how small, the value of the girl child, fetal development, and the research on the damage of legal abortions to women's bodies, minds and souls.
* Enact measures to end violence against pregnant women and babies.
* Produce accountable and protective measures against perpetrators of forced and coerced abortions.
* Enact legislation and policies condemning gender-selective abortions.
* Enact screening and fully informed consent laws for pregnant women seeking an abortion that include options and practical help to support her and her baby, as well as prenatal support.
* Procure accountability in the full reporting of abortions, complications/deaths and pregnant minors for possible statutory rape, rape or incest.
* Provide the basic human right to life for babies in the womb according to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights & Declaration on the Rights of the Child.

On behalf of thousands of former ‘abortion patients’ around the world who have had legal abortions and who have suffered irreparable damage to our bodies; who have deep sorrow and regret, who have endured years of depression, substance abuse, anxiety disorders and pain because of our abortions; we urge you to defend pregnant women and children in the womb. A mother’s womb used to be the safest place for a baby to be, but today it is the most dangerous place for many to be. We are a voice for our aborted children who had no voice. A person is a person, no matter how small. We should honour motherhood and bring back a culture of Life to this earth. Abortion is not a black and white issue, it is blood red.

Warm Regards

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CITATIONS: available on request (see below)

CITATIONS:

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