

# Letters...

**YOUR FORUM FOR DISCUSSION.** The Gem vigorously encourages dissent and controversy and prints all letters to the Editor except those of a malicious nature. Letters must be signed and include the authors phone number. However, names can be withheld from publication by request. Deadline for letters is Monday, 5:00pm.



## Abortion a right?

Dear Editor:

On the occasion of the Supreme Court's ruling that Canada's abortion law is unconstitutional, the jubilant Henry Morgentaler insulted his opponents (i.e., the anti-abortionists) by calling them "uncomprehending, ignorant, stupid people" and, as a justification of his pro-abortion stance, he said, "Every child a wanted child, every mother a willing mother." ("Morgentaler backers jubilant", Calgary Herald, p. A12, January 29, 1988.) As an anti-abortionist who does not appreciate being called names, and - more importantly - as a Canadian citizen who does not like to see his society duped by lies couched in sleazy slogans, I would like to take this opportunity to forward the following three points:

1. In the current abortion debate the words "every child a wanted child" conjure up in the minds of most people an attitude of compassion and caring. Mr. Morgentaler, however, uses these words to disguise the simple truth that instead of enhancing the wantedness of unwanted pre-natal children, abortion kills them. Consequently, instead of providing an environment of compassion and caring things normally associated with the words "every child a wanted child"), Morgentaler provides facilities for the deliberate destruction of human beings.

2. Of course, every child should be a wanted child. However, aborting - killing - those children who are "unwanted" is a terrible displacement of the responsibility for their wantedness. The point is this: the responsibility for the wantedness of an innocent child doesn't rest with the child, rather, the re-

sponsibility of wanting an innocent child rests with the adult. (to better understand, read the next sentence carefully.)

Because pre-natal children have no control over their wantedness (this is self-evident); because every child should be a wanted child (this is even in accord with Henry Morgentaler's own position); and because adults are the ones who do the wanting (in the child-adult relationship, wantedness is a relational concept, and wantedness is the responsibility of the party who is able to do the wanting): because of the aforementioned, we can correctly conclude that adults (male and female) have the responsibility to provide an environment of compassion and caring for children and that adults should not make efforts to kill children for their (i.e., the adults' irresponsibility.)

3. Finally, in view of the fact that most abortions do not arise out of the circumstance of rape (according to the US surgeon General, rape almost never results in pregnancy), and in view of the above discourse concerning responsibility, Mr. Morgentaler's slogan "every mother a willing mother" can only mean that every woman should exercise her will (re: motherhood) before she becomes pregnant with child - not after.

In view of Mr. Morgentaler's comments, then, I am inclined to think that Canada's supreme Court ruling on abortion marks not only the occasion of a government sanctioned abortion of the innocents, but also the occasion of the corporate abortion of the Canadian intellect. Smarten up, Canada, Morgentaler's slogans apply just as well to the post-natal

abortion of all children... After all, "every child a wanted child, every mother a willing mother."

Mr. Morgentaler has also justified his pro-abortion stance as follows: "One brick is obviously not a house. A human being is made up of billions of cells. How can you consider that one cell is a whole house?" (Morgentaler tells of God's guidance," Medicine Hat News, January 18, 1985, p. 1.; similar reasoning is found in Morgentaler's book, Abortion & Contraception [Toronto: General Publishing Co. Limited, 1982] pp. 143-144.) Because someone may accuse me of less than generously reconstructing Mr. Morgentaler's justification of his pro-abortion stance, I would also like to take this opportunity to forward one additional point - namely, that Morgentaler's analogy is false.

Through his analogy, Morgentaler compares the single cell at conception with a single brick, and then enlightens us with the insignificance of the single cell. In other words, he attempts to make us think that just as destroying a single brick is not the same as destroying a whole house, so too the destruction of the single cell of conception is not the same as destroying a grown human being.

Morgentaler, however, fails to appreciate the reality of his own analogy. A single brick does not become a whole house - but the single cell at conception does become a whole adult. Consequently, just as destroying a single brick that could become a whole house would be comparable to destroying

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- Anon.

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