

Susan N Gliko
House Judiciary Committee
SB 374 – 8:00 am in room 137 – March 11, 2009

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Susan Gliko and I am a post-abortive woman who suffered for years with nightmares, panic attacks, flashbacks, extreme grief, and shame after my abortion.

With your permission, I would like to hand out copies of this written testimony to the members of the committee.

I am speaking to you today on behalf of the Montana Catholic Conference, and as the coordinator for Rachel's Hope, a post-abortion healing ministry that offers both Project Rachel Referrals and Rachel's Vineyard Retreats – two of the hundreds of post-abortion healing ministries available to those suffering after abortion.

Today I am asking you to protect the daughters of Montana by voting yes on SB 374.

There is growing scientific studies and voices of women themselves telling the story of abortion as a life-changing, adverse experience for many. Experience is beginning to trump the rhetoric.

I hear many stories and attest to the reality that in Montana, we have good young girls seeking abortion with no parental involvement or knowledge. According to a "Teenage Pregnancy: Overall Trends and State-by-State Information" Report by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, Planned Parenthoods research arm – **40% of teen abortions take place with no parental involvement.**

In 2007, The State of Montana reported that there were 8 abortions performed on girls in the age range of 12-14 and 149 abortions performed on girls in the age range of 15-17. Statistics show that most underage girls are impregnated by adult men. This is statutory rape.

We cannot trust that abortion clinics will report statutory rape. In a series of hidden camera investigations, collected summer 2008, The Mona Lisa Project video captured Planned Parenthoods in several different states covering up the statutory rape of a 13-year-old girl - documenting the real behavior of the abortion industry across the nation.

We need to protect the daughters of Montana by allowing Parental Notification so young girls in crisis get loving support from their families. Most young girls choose abortion out of fear of disappointing their parents. Not fear for their lives.

For example, the Zallie's beautiful daughter Stacy underwent a secret abortion. She never revealed her situation or her solution to her family – the people whose love she needed so desperately. Shortly after the abortion, Stacy asked for psychiatric help, she ended therapy after only 3 months. Not long after, she took her own life.

<http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1469-7610.2005.01538.x>

Abortion in young women and subsequent mental health

David M. Fergusson

<http://www.stacyzallie.org/home.htm>



The Zallie's beautiful daughter underwent a secret abortion. She never revealed her situation or her solution to her family – the people whose love and emotional support she needed so desperately. Shortly after the abortion, Stacy asked for psychiatric help, she ended therapy after only 3 months. Not long after, she took her own life. The Zallies are convinced that had Stacy been better informed about what she might expect following the abortion – both physically and/or emotionally, and if she had been able to share her grief in a safe supportive environment, that she would be alive today.