

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* AMERICA
OF KANSAS

**To the Special Committee on Federal and State Affairs
In Support of the Kansas State Constitutional Amendment on Abortion
October 30, 2019**

Kansas State Constitutional Amendment on Abortion
Special Committee on Federal and State Affairs
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Chairman and Members of the Special Committee,

My name is Barbara Saldivar. I am the State Director for Concerned Women for America (CWA) of Kansas. Concerned Women for America is the largest public policy women's organization in the nation with hundreds of thousands of members across the country.

I would like to thank you, Chairman Barker and members of the committee, for discussing this important amendment. Concerned Women for America has as one of its core issues the sanctity of life. And a great number of Kansans agree that the sanctity of life is one of the most important social issues of our time.

Five activist judges sitting on the Kansas Supreme Court struck down a 2015 ban on the dismembering of children still in the womb. These five activist judges ruled unconstitutional a law that outlawed the medical "practice" of dismemberment abortion where "doctors" knowingly dismember a living unborn child by extracting the unborn child one piece at a time from the uterus.¹

These five activist judges based their decision on the "right to autonomy," stating "women have a constitutional right to abortion." And while I understand that today's hearing is not to debate abortion as a whole, it is important that you hear from women who do not believe women have a constitutional right to destroy a life inside the womb. As a woman, mother, and state leader of a women's organization, I do not agree with this interpretation of the Kansas state constitution. As women and mothers, we believe that pro-life is pro-woman, and pro-abortion advocates are, in fact, science deniers.

In a recent article by CWA's Legal Counsel Mario Diaz "Pro-Life is Pro-Science," Mr. Diaz stated this: "Pro-choice advocates are exploiters who know the power of connection between mother and child is so explosive, it is dangerous. That connection starts from day one, at

conception. As most woman who have been pregnant would testify, there is a connection (a deep relationship) that starts while the baby is inside the womb. It is a majestic mystery that is undeniable, whatever the pro-choice propaganda tells us.

Pro-choice exploiters cannot deny reality. Being pro-life is being pro-science. Only mothers have abortions. That mother/unborn-child relationship, though in its infancy, has already commenced, and the separation will have inevitable consequences.

It is no wonder many women suffer greatly after an abortion, even when they cannot make the connection to the traumatic event. Consider that:

- Women who have an abortion are three times more likely than women of child-bearing age in the general population to commit suicide.
- The increased risk percentage of women who have an abortion compared to women in the general population of having at least one mental health issue: 81 percent.
- Teen girls are up to 10x more likely to attempt suicide than their counterparts who have not had an abortion.
- Teen girls who have had an abortion are up to 4x more likely to successfully commit suicide when compared to older women who have had an abortion.²

CWA of Kansas see it as very necessary that an amendment be added to the Kansas state constitution to assure that the unborn have the right to life and pursuit of happiness. We say, let the men and women of Kansas decide. Put the amendment on abortion on the ballot.

Thank you again, Chairman Barker and Committee, for your time and consideration for discussing this amendment. I sincerely hope Kansans will have the opportunity to vote on this amendment in the next election.

¹ <https://www.nrlc.org/uploads/stateleg/DismembermentFAQJan15.pdf>

² <https://healthresearchfunding.org/19-shocking-post-abortion-depression-statistics/>