

Young children exposed

MAY 30th Reb. EXAMINER

On the morning of May 16 I had my 10-year-old daughter and my five-year-old son in my vehicle driving down Monaghan Road. When we approached Kenner Collegiate we encountered picketers showing very graphic signs about abortion. My daughter asked what this was all about and wanted to know why these people were doing this? I then had to explain to a 10-year-old child what the pictures were, as well as tell both children what it was all about.

I see no need for children of this age to know or even see such very graphic and uncalled for pictures and be exposed to this kind of behaviour.

I believe people are entitled to their own opinion, but when I have to explain their behaviour to my children I

think it has gone too far. All children should have the right to learn about things like this from their parents when the right time comes. I was very upset and wanted to say something to these protesters but didn't for the sake of my children.

Rosemary Connell who organized the demonstration, was quoted (Examiner, May 16) as saying she "wanted to educate students about the reality of abortion." That's all fine and well, but I feel that my children did not need to know or learn about this right then. I have neighbours who have the same opinions about this situation.

Rosemary was also quoted as saying "The issue is more important than the students' break" and "abortion doesn't wait to have lunch." These

may be statements that she believes in, but when my children have a hard time eating and forgetting what they saw it is not right.

My children have rights too, and on that Wednesday they were violated. My daughter was very upset about the pictures and this encounter is still bothering her. That is not fair!

In future I would like to have the control over what my children see and when they need to learn about these things in life. I am their parent and I would like to have the right to be able to tell my children about certain things in life when the right time comes.

I am an angry parent who is for the rights of young impressionable children!

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