

Columnist's argument off mark

Dear Editor:

Re: Lara Bradley's column,
Prying to Scare Young Girls: Anti-
Abortion Protest Relies on
Misleading Images — June 1.

There were several inaccuracies
and erroneous conclusions in the
column representing Ms. Bradley's
position.

First, let me make it clear that I,
like the majority of those who take
an anti-abortion stand, do not
necessarily condone the methods
that small groups take to make
their point.

That being said, I defend their
right to make a public and peaceful
demonstration of their beliefs. The
problem with Ms. Bradley's column
was simply that she had not done
her homework.

First, she stated that a fetus of 12
weeks has not yet moved.

The fact that the mother has not
yet felt movement does not mean
the fetus is not moving. If Ms.
Bradley had bothered to simply
consult the Encyclopedia
Britannica, she would have learned
that by eight weeks the
neuromuscular system has
attained such a degree of
perfection that it permits response
to delicate stimulation.

I have before me a science
textbook that clearly states that
movement begins at about eight
weeks.

But even long before this time, at
about three to four weeks, the
heart, though not fully formed, has
already started beating.

The article also left the
impression that Pro-Life groups do
not have organizations that provide
prenatal programs, information on
adoption and other consultation
services.

This also is not true.

There are many Pro-Life groups
providing help and care in these
areas, but they do not present
killing human life as one of those
options.

Ms. Bradley indicates that the
size and age of the unborn child
makes a difference in the moral
correctness of the abortion, but
since when do we discriminate
against anyone based on age and
physical stature?

There are a number of doctors
and nurses in this city who are
strongly opposed to the abortions
taking place in our region.
Whether you kill the unborn at
eight weeks or at six months does
not mitigate the horror of the
crime.

As for demographics, the column
suggests that the Pro-Life people did
not do their homework because
they targeted a high school and an
elementary school. What Ms.
Bradley does not understand is that
it is important to reach young girls
before they make a wrong choice.

They need to be aware that
abortion is not an option long
before they engage in activity that
might leave them pregnant. The
article states that pregnancy
should not be forced on anyone. I
am not aware that pregnancy is
forced on anyone except in some
cases of rape and incest. The
majority of those seeking
abortions made a choice to engage
in activity that everyone knows
can, and often does, lead to
pregnancy.

In fact, that is the biological
purpose of it.

As for John Donohue's findings
cited in the column, they offer no
positive proof of a correlation
between access to abortion and a
drop in the crime rate. In absence
of such proof, his theory remains
only a hypothesis. Even if
Donohue's conclusions were
proven, it cannot be a justification
for killing the unborn. The fact
that crime will drop if we kill
potential criminals is a chilling
piece of logic.

As it stands, the only blatantly
inaccurate materials are those
found in the column by Ms.
Bradley.

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