

Society of shame kills its most vulnerable

To the editor:

Ms. Peggy Loonan starts off very well in her letter appearing in the March 14 edition of the Reporter-Herald. In her opening paragraph, she acknowledges that "abortion does indeed take the life of a fetus." For this admission, I applaud her.

Unfortunately, her letter goes downhill after that. Almost every sentence cries out for challenge or correction.

If I understand correctly, Ms. Loonan ends her sentence regarding the beginning of life with the statement "... birth, which is, by the way, God's determination of when life begins." If Ms. Loonan has received a private revelation from God, then I am ready to listen. If not, we need to look to Scripture to determine what God believes. In the Old Testament book of Jeremiah 1:4-5, we read "The word of the Lord came to me thus: Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you." It sounds to me as though God is involved in this human life process long before birth.

In her next paragraph, Ms. Loonan raises the "quality of life" issue: "Every child deserves more than just to be born; they deserve a quality of life." Who has the right to determine what quality of life means to another human? I would be willing to bet that, if able to do so, every unborn child would vote to take a chance on his or her quality of life rather than being destroyed in the womb.

I guess Ms. Loonan believes that the pregnant woman has the right to determine her unborn child's quality of life when she says that "... pregnant women don't view their fetuses apart from themselves. ..." I don't know whether that's true or not, but how women view their fetuses is not the issue. The unborn child is not a part of the mother's body; that is a biological fact. The unborn child is in the mother's body — of course; the unborn child is attached to and receives nourishment from the mother's body — of course. But the child is not a part of the mother's body. And that means the mother does not have the right to destroy her child.

This whole "right" to abortion on demand throughout the totality of a woman's pregnancy makes for great difficulty for our society to live in this country under the rule of law. Recently in Denver, a young woman has been charged with a crime that could involve jail time for abandoning her newborn son. Yet if she had killed her child through abortion just a few days earlier, our society would shrug its collective shoulders and say "no problem." Does that make any sense to anyone?

It is said that history judges the merit of a society by how it treats its most vulnerable members. No one is more vulnerable than the unborn child. Our society kills more than one million of its most vulnerable members each year through abortion. Shame on us. And may God have mercy on our souls.

Richard A. Grimler
Loveland