

## OPEN FORUM

*Revised Headline*  
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# Men also accountable for parenthood

To the editor:

What audacity Jerry Myre showed in his Jan. 26 letter in which he admonished women about their responsibility in the sex act instead of showing the courage of his convictions and admonishing those of his own sex.

How many young boys weekly does Myre teach about controlling their raging male hormones and that respecting the word no, the first time it is uttered by a girl, is an absolute must?

How many young men have seen Myre demonstrate how to put on a condom? How many have heard Myre say that withdrawing right after intercourse is the best protection from leakage? How many young men have heard Myre insist they take their partner to a clinic right away to get the morning after pill if there was leakage or if the condom breaks, and be prepared to pay half of the cost?

Does Myre understand that condoms are a male contraceptive that presents no side effects and can be bought over the counter? Does Myre understand that if used consistently and correctly by men, condoms are 98 percent effective in preventing pregnancy and therefore men could, apart from their female partner, prevent thousands upon thousands of abortions? Why should any women have to demand sex with protection; every man should be of-

fering nothing less than sex with protection, which, as Myre said, "in this day and age is only sensible to start with."

Finally, Richard Grimler's Jan. 24 letter asserts that it's a scientific fact that life begins at fertilization. Not true. The scientific community makes no judgment about when human life begins, recognizing only that egg and sperm are living cells that begin cell division upon uniting and the medical community doesn't recognize a pregnancy until implantation of the fertilized egg.

Opposition to abortion has always been about imposing a religious view about when life begins upon all Americans through civil legislation in the ultimate goal of controlling women's participation in the world outside of motherhood.

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