

tionally or financially prepared to parent. Bruning suggests that bringing an unwanted child into the world, regardless of the quality of life it faces, is necessary so women suffer the consequences of their seemingly irresponsible behavior. What a reason to bring an unwanted child into the world. That child is likely to suffer physical and emotional neglect, live in poverty, and perhaps suffer horrible abuse.

Bruning implies women having abortions are partaking in "irresponsible actions and lack morals." While working in a Planned Parenthood abortion clinic, I saw children who had been victims of incest and raped. I saw young women whose birth control failed. I saw middle-aged women who were being abused and didn't want to bring a child into a violent home. I saw older women who thought they could no longer conceive. Young, old, married, single, rich, poor, of every ethnicity, I saw them all. I can't characterize the majority as irresponsible and none were immoral.

I'll remind Bruning that if she's going to hold her self-righteous standards over women, she better acknowledge that woman can't impregnate themselves.

How many boys has Bruning talked to about responsible sexual behavior including respecting a woman when she says no?

We don't live in an ideal world. Sadly, anti-abortion extremists like Bruning are without the wisdom to know the difference between what they can and can't change. Desperate determined women do desperate things, including circumventing laws that criminalize abortion. Illegal abortion kills women, saves no "babies," and doesn't affect the rate of abortion. Suggesting my evidence is feminist propaganda is easy, but proving my facts untrue is something Bruning obviously can't do.

We should strive to make it a world where birth control never fails, every pregnancy is healthy, and every child is wanted. Until we have an ideal world, we will have abortion, and mainstream America agrees it should be safe and legal.

Julie Hall, board member,
Life and Liberty for Women
Milliken

Cleveland
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Abortion foes are dishonest in remarks

To the editor:

Erika Bruning's April 12 letter provides another example of an anti-abortion extremist who's dishonest in her argument.

Bruning states that out of 1.3 million abortions each year, I would have you believe that nearly all were done to save a woman's life, and only .04 percent were done for "convenience." That doesn't even come close to what I said, which was that .04 percent of abortions occur in the third trimester, after viability because the fetus is incompatible with life, or the pregnancy places a woman's health or life in jeopardy.

Doctors performing abortions are good moral beings courageously doing the right and moral thing in the face of horrible violence directed at them, including being targeted for assassination, which indeed makes them heroes and heroines. Bruning trivializes the reasons women have an abortion, but mainstream America doesn't. A woman may not be prepared to be a loving, committed and involved parent because she's trying to finish her education, has other children, the father is AWOL, she's being battered, or isn't emo-