

SANDRA GEDULDIG

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DEAR MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE FEDERAL AND STATE AFFAIRS AND SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEES,

Please vote NO on the constitutional amendment HCR5019/SCR1613 that denies the right to reproductive freedom in the Kansas Constitution. Please don't muck with the sanctity of our Kansas Constitution as a springboard for political gain.

As a woman, my body should not be the fodder for your political machinations. My medical reproductive decisions are personal and private and sacrosanct between me, my family, my spiritual advisors and my physician. Where does your hubris come from? How can the Kansas body politic define when I must have a child?

I am 64 years old. I have 3 grown children. I have grandchildren. All my children graduated college, have excellent careers, pay taxes, vote, give of themselves philanthropically and contribute to the fabric of a better society.

I am retired, having the luxury of a successful career (and supportive spouse) that allows me to volunteer full-time for many nonprofits. I am also fortunate to have the means to make meaningful charitable donations on an ongoing basis.

My sophomore year of college I got pregnant. My boyfriend was in medical school. We were both disciplined students. I was lucky that my working-class parents helped subsidize college tuition while I made up the difference via Work/Study and summer jobs. I had an abortion. Planned Parenthood provided the safety and support.

Because I was not forced to bear a child, I was able to finish school as my family's first-generation college graduate. My boyfriend graduated medical school.

Because I was not forced to bear a child my sophomore year of college, I was able to have children later (when my spouse and I chose to start our family) and give them all of the opportunities, advantages and love of a mature, successful parent.

Please afford other women the same human right I had by voting NO on constitutional amendment HCR5019/SCR1613.

Sincerely,
Sandra Geduldig
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