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Loss

We've all encountered those painful moments when we learn of a mother who is backing her car out of the garage only to find that her toddler, unbeknownst to her, was somehow playing in the driveway. Or, we hear of a father mowing the yard, hitting something that propels a projectile into the chest of his son. I went through high school with a young man who, during a hunting trip, passed his rifle over the fence to his younger brother only to have it discharge in absolute tragedy.

How does the "survivor" of a moment like these adjust and make it through life? I, personally, cannot imagine the load. For me, "What if I had only . . ." would always run through my heart.

Yes, "accidents happen." And these were all accidents . . . but the weight is still great.

Now imagine that the loss is real, but that someone had knowingly and deliberately allowed the tragedy to take place and could now only look back, not only to the loss, but also to the fact of having direct and purposeful responsibility.

Because it really is not their job, I doubt that a legislator often hears the pain of a woman who has had an abortion and now believes/realizes that she had a significant role in the termination of her pregnancy – the demise of her unborn child. Unfortunately, I have heard more stories than I care to share. Candidly, there is nothing that has moved me more in life than to hear a mother's pain about her role in her child's death. On one hand, it is so unnatural, and on the other, it so deep, so moving that it is almost incomprehensible. It is like the description of a very, very bad dream.

Thirty-eight years after Roe, we must face the simple statistics that in any gathering of adults, it is likely that one third of the women present have had an abortion. Surely, not all feel the pain that I have described above . . . but some do . . . in fact many do – quietly and all alone.

Let us all do the honest thing. Let us shed full light on the subject so fewer will carry the life-long regret. Let's pass The Ultrasound Bill. Let us let them all know the scientific, medical truth before they decide.

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