

Tax Reform, Abortion Issues Stir Readers

EDITOR:
If Michigan voters approve the fiscal reform proposals appearing on the Nov. 7 ballot, at long last it will be possible to finance Michigan public schools on a more equitable and adequate basis.
That tax reform is essential is easily demonstrated by the plight of both the schools and the taxpayers everywhere in the state. Mounting costs for local school districts have collided head on with taxpayer resistance to property tax increases. Taxpayer reluctance to vote more money for schools can be attributed at least in part to the inability of many voters to pay ever-increasing taxes from current income. Particularly hard hit are the senior citizens, those who are unemployed or laid off, and others with limited income.
The League of Women Voters believes it is crucial to the schools in the state to base school financing on the ability to pay. Proposal C on the ballot would permit reduction in property taxes and a state-wide system of school financing. Proposal D would remove the constitutional ban on a graduated income tax. Their passage is essential to the well-being of both the taxpayers and the public schools.
The League of Women Voters of Northville - Plymouth urges a "yes" vote on Proposals C and D on Nov. 7.

I beg you to give more than a token presentation to the pro-life side of the abortion issue before the voters Nov. 7.
Voters must be given the full impact of all that is involved with this proposal so they can vote in good conscience. And please tell it like it is. Tell them that this fetus will look much like a full term baby, and that many of them will feel and cry out at the pain of their own killing.

Extend Right Of Abortion

EDITOR:
Many people seem to agree that abortions should be available to women during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. They become hesitant, however, to approve abortions beyond that time limit. The right of abortion must be extended to at least the 20th week of pregnancy for women in exceptional circumstances.

Many pregnancies are not confirmed until they are past the 12th week point. These pregnancies occur in women who are in menopause; women who have stopped taking oral contraceptives and have irregular, if any, periods for an extended length of time; women who have naturally irregular periods; and the very poor and young who because of the lack of knowledge or money do not seek medical attention immediately.

During the 12-15 week period, the only method for terminating an unwanted pregnancy is a hysterectomy.

This requires an incision in the abdomen similar to a Cesarean section. It requires surgery and is subject to complications, and, therefore, unadvisable by many doctors.

The ability to terminate a pregnancy at the 20th week, forcing a woman who is fearful of bearing a defective child time for medical assistance.

Detecting fetal abnormalities cannot be done before the 16th week through removal of amniotic fluid through the uterine cavity. The fetal cells must then be analyzed - which may take as long as six weeks. Forcing a woman to bear a child which she knows to be defective by not allowing her an abortion would indeed seem inhumane.

As the New York facts bear out, women in the above circumstances are by far in the minority. For example, 88 per cent of the abortions performed in March were sought during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. However, these women with special problems must have the same right to abortions as those who are not trapped in such circumstances.

EDITOR:
The question of the abortion proposal is a question of human rights.

READERS' FORUM

Please type (or write clearly) and limit letters to 300 words.
• Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause.
• The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

Another point not realized is that public tax funds will be needed for this service to welfare cases. In New York \$15 million was used during the first year of legalized abortion.

If you think there are many unwanted children, just look at the waiting lists at adoption agencies.
This letter is necessary because the unborn cannot speak for themselves.
MR. and MRS. GLENN A. WILSON
Plymouth

Crime's Pals' Votes Rejected

EDITOR:
I should like to comment on "Independent Voters'" observations regarding President Nixon's policies on "preventative government" or more precisely, in his context, Nixon policies in combating crime in this country.
He cites preventive detention as some sort of crime against innocent citizens. This is in total disregard to the fact that a significant number of crimes are committed by criminals

Who will benefit from this? You give a brief reason on each proposal and at the end you say that Proposal D represents the fairest and most just manner to finance public education in Michigan. That's fine, but what does it do for parents who have children attending parochial schools?

You state that abortion is a personal decision and a person votes according to his or her own conscience. Isn't it ridiculous that suicidal people, those dying of incurable diseases and people too old to care for themselves are being saved in every conceivable manner, yet an unborn child should be put away?

Drug addicts are sent to rehabilitation centers; criminals cannot be given capital punishment, yet an unborn child without any say, because it cannot do anything for itself, should be put away. It takes a conscience to say that this child should be aborted. Who are you trying to deceive that you leave it up to an individual to say, here, kill me, I'm lifeless.

Any Christian knows that life comes from God and only God can take it away. Is this country so low on morals that we have to say it is up to you to let a child live or die, but all those who have a say in later years are kept alive?

You are neutral on Proposal A, yet in G you state that the total juvenile population will be great in 1990 and we need facilities for juveniles. Where is the reasoning to rehabilitate juveniles and yet be neutral on abortion? Where is the logic? Even though people suffer or know they are dying, the

majority fight for life to the end.
JOHN MARDEUSZ
Redford

Ability To Pay Policy Exists

EDITOR:
I feel Proposal D is both misleading and absurd because it insinuates we don't already have a flat tax rate and it opens the door for other taxes.

Proposal D substitutes one unfair tax collection for another. The "ability to pay" concept is very detrimental. We already have that in the form of property owners. Those who can afford to buy and live in the suburbs are, in fact, exhibiting their ability to pay.

Under Proposal C, the lower income people should reflect this increased benefits they'll get in regard to their ability to pay. The flat tax rate will accomplish an effective

"ability to pay" system. It will also gain money from non-property owners and give a break to retirees.
I feel society as a whole benefits from education. The tax exemptions parents get are returned to the community. The single children's shoe store owner who says, you had the kids to you pay for their education, makes a mint at Easter time.

An essence of busing is your money or your schools. For any tax schedule to be fair, the monies must be doled out equally. The Bible teaches us to tithe and the same approach should be taken in school financing.

I would like to see, say, two per cent of our income applied to school operation and the stipulation that the first \$10 million the state takes from the lottery would also go to education. This should be in the Constitution so we can vote on changes. This area is the drawback of Proposal C.

ROBERT O. BRUNER
Livonia

Take A Stand For Life

EDITOR:
As a wife, mother and nurse,

Area Deaths

ELMER L. BROWN: Services for Mr. Brown, 87, of 20444 Inkster Road, Redford Township, were held in the Charles R. Siep Funeral Home with the Rev. Maxwell Brown of Waco, Tex., officiating. Burial was in Roseland Park Cemetery, Berklely.

ETHEL BURGER: Services for Mrs. Burger, 84, of 28556 Middle Belt Farmington, were held in the Charles R. Siep Funeral Home with the Rev. George D. Jaffee officiating. Burial was in Grand Lawn Cemetery.

MARJORIE B. LASECKI: Services for Mrs. Lasecki, 41, of 25547 Gairland, Redford Township, were held in St. Agatha Catholic Church following prayers at the Charles R. Siep Funeral Home. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

ERNEST E. DANIELSON: Services for Mr. Danielson, 72, of 21526 Eford, Farmington, were held in Thayer Funeral Home with the Rev. Howard F. Sroll of First United Methodist Church of Farmington officiating. Burial was in Roseland Park Cemetery, Berklely.

VINCENT J. COLLOPY: Services for Mr. Collopy, 31, of 1731 Holbrook, Plymouth, who died Oct. 20 were held in Garrettsville, Ohio, with burial in Maple Grove Cemetery, Ravenna, Ohio. A Plymouth resident since 1951, he was employed as an auto industry assemblyman.

HARRIS FUNERAL HOMES
GARDEN CITY CHAPEL
31551 Ford Rd., nr. Meridian
LIVONIA CHAPEL
15451 Farmington Rd.
near Five Mile

JAMES A. BROCKLEHURST: Services for Mr. Brocklehurst, 79, of 684 Harding, Plymouth, were held in the Charles R. Siep Funeral Home with the Rev. Arthur Beutler officiating. Burial was in Redford Cemetery.

DIANE PIETRZYK: Services for Mrs. Pietrzyk, 20, of 15572 Galloway, Livonia, were held in St. John's Catholic Church with the Rev. Fr. J. Robert Schabert officiating. The funeral mass followed prayers at Fred Wood Funeral Home. Burial was in Parkview Memorial Cemetery.

GEORGE H. DONNELLY: Services for Mr. Donnelly, 57, of 8246 Woodcrest Drive, Westland, were held in Thayer Funeral Home with the Rev. Thomas P. Behan of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Farmington, officiating. Burial was in Parkview Cemetery, Livonia.

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An unborn child has a discernible heart beat at six weeks and has all organs developed at 12 weeks, and the reformers would have thousands of them killed at 20 weeks (five months). Whether a child is killed four months before birth or four months after birth, it is murder, and the mother does not have the right to this decision concerning another human being.

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