

My name is Rebekah Kuk, and I live in Baltimore City. I am submitting my testimony to oppose SB 798.

It is my firm belief and conviction that life begins at conception. This truth is backed by science:

"Almost all higher animals start their lives from a single cell, the fertilized ovum (zygote)... The time of fertilization represents the starting point in the life history, or ontogeny, of the individual."
[Carlson, Bruce M. *Patten's Foundations of Embryology*. 6th edition. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1996, p. 3]

"The development of a human being begins with fertilization, a process by which two highly specialized cells, the spermatozoon from the male and the oocyte from the female, unite to give rise to a new organism, the zygote."
[Langman, Jan. *Medical Embryology*. 3rd edition. Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins, 1975, p. 3]

SB 798 seeks to make legal the dismemberment and death of a baby inside the uterus. It is barbaric and abominable that the state of Maryland should expand abortion, an act already immoral, to now include the dismemberment and death of full term babies inside the womb. This should not be done. This is wrong. Humans want to use logic and selfishness to redefine right from wrong, but the killing of innocent lives is always wrong.

Proverbs 24:11-12 says "Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter. If you say, "Behold, we did not know this," does not he who weighs the heart perceive it? Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it, and will he not repay man according to his work?"

Please oppose SB 798.