

Special Legislative Session

From: Susan Schulz (schulzpsy@yahoo.com)

To: michael.bergan@legis.iowa.gov

Date: Monday, July 10, 2023 at 09:52 AM CDT

Mike -

I'm sending off this quick email to share with you my concerns about the Special Session called for tomorrow. Its my understanding that in the Iowa history of special sessions, we have never had one specifically targeted at a political issue. That in and of itself makes this a suspicious activity.

I share the following personal experience with you. I have had two abortions. In both cases I suffered from an ectopic pregnancy. This occurs when the fertilized egg attaches itself to the Fallopian tube rather than continuing to travel and attach itself to the uterine wall. Ectopic pregnancies cannot be sustained. If not surgically removed, the prescribed procedure according to medical history, the tube can rupture resulting in infertility and possible sepsis. As a result, my OBGYN followed standard procedures to remove the area of my Fallopian tube and sewing the remaining tube back together. Since the pregnancy was terminated, it appears in my medical history as an abortion. This occurred twice.

I am appalled at the number of people who would label me a "baby killer" or "murderer" for following my doctor's advice and prescribed procedures. I am saddened that legislators are trying to regulate the activities of my reproductive rights with little regard to the wide myriad of reasons a woman chooses a particular course of action with respect to reproductive rights.

With little effort you can easily find the testimonials of women who would or have experienced issues related to the legislative position our Governor is trying to impose on Iowa women. For a political party who espouses the desire of not having government regulate private business voting to interfere with the privacy of a woman and her doctor is anathema. As a special educator, I was faced with helping one of our Northeast Iowa school districts to plan and support a returning 12 year old student who had become pregnant by an incestuous step father and whose mother worked with a medical professional to terminate that pregnancy. These are activities happening in our state....not elsewhere.

Please do not support any action with respect to limiting the rights of women and girls by voting for any reproductive legislation.

Your constituent...

Sue Schulz