

From: [Kathi Robinson](#)
To: [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)
Subject: Proposal to consider ban on TX travel & trade over abortion law
Date: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:05:01 AM

This was reported to be considered on Wednesday, Sept 8, but I do not see it on the agenda. I want to comment as a concerned Portland resident.

1. Portland needs to take care of Portland issues before medling in Texas affairs.
Of many needs I will touch on just a few.

Public Safety

I live in neglected outer East Portland. Maybe most of you live in nice safe areas. Do you hear gunfire at night? All too often I have & it has been worse in the last 2 years. I'm getting creeped out by it.

Thurs, Sept 2, I had to call 911 3 times! around 6, 10:30 & 11 pm.
1st & 3rd were apparently driveby shootings. the 1st one as I called 911 I was really creeped out by how many pops I heard. usually its like 1-4 or so. & even saying "usually" is something else.

Before moving to Portland, I don't ever remember hearing gunshots. Now it is too often.

I called 911 & waited about 5 min before a dispatcher answered. I was creeped out hoping that wasn't gunshots since there were so many. Way more than 10. I couldn't even count them, along w sound of revving engine. Maybe a few blocks away.

Then around 11 I had gone out to check on trash cans to see if I needed to put them out front. I live at the back of a deep flag lot. While I was out there I heard similar to the earlier one only this time it sounded like it was right out front on our street.

I went inside to call & no way was I going out front to the street to put the trash out!
Again, I was on hold for about 5 min both calls lasted 6 min!

I see the standard is to answer with in 15 or 20 seconds!

The 2nd call was for 1 loud explosive boom. That was quicker. Total 4 min, so answered with in 3 min.

I am an active senior citizen. It is very concerning to know that if ever someone was breaking into my place that I can't count on a call being answered soon enough to even be able to talk before I would be assaulted!

I also think of the case last Sept near SE 132nd & Powell. An apparent African immigrant man went out to his car for something mid day. An intruder entered his apt where his 12 year old son was & locked the door. The Dad unlocked & walked in to find the his son behind the intruder who was holding a knife & barbell. The kid darted out the door & the Dad backed out. He then banged on doors to call 911. They did.

The intruder broke out neighbors got him sitting on ground. More 911 calls.

But some East Precinct officers were assisting downtown. Plus there was another incident & canine was helping Gresham. It was 45 min before the canine officer was able to respond! & the intruder had gotten away about 5 min before. The kid was so traumatized he was staying with his aunt! & I bet the Dad was as well. Probably expecting safety here in US!

I am distressed by the level of violence here, especially in E Portland. Last Summer 4 teens were shot in NE & a 16 year old Black boy was killed. Whatever they were doing, his life, their lives mattered.

Our police dept needs more support & to be allowed to do their jobs. Of course they need to treat all with respect & no bullying.

I was very disappointed that there was no leadership after shootings to listen to our local Black communities to hear their concerns, like adults, & then seek to address those. I don't know the situation in Portland. I did ask my little sister from another Mother who survived the Rwandan genocide & has 2 Black sons who are now young men, if she felt there was a problem. She said no.

I'm guessing that different people have different experiences. but it sure seems to me that if instead of encouraging the disruptive & destructive protests it would have been constructive to have a listening session to ordinary members of our Black communities & other POC. & then from that, like adults, share that with the wider community & work to address the concerns.

Instead we had the ongoing demonstrations which provided cover for the violent, destructive protests & riots. With lawlessness being allowed. & the protests were taken as the voice of the community. Really? How many of them were even from Portland? It seems it was more the voice of the mob! NOT a good thing to base policy on.

This is a very diverse community here. We have various races & ethnicities w many immigrants. I think we all want neighborhoods that are safe for our families & neighbors.

It is very obvious though that our police force was already understaffed & then we have lost so many more. & many of us wonder why anyone would want to come for for Portland police with the lack of support they get & not being allowed to do their jobs. Chief Lovell seems like a respected leader & a humble man. But it doesn't seem like he has been allowed to lead his department.

We deserve to have enough law enforcement that there are still enough of them to answer calls if there are more than one incidents going on. & yes, we want officers that treat everyone with respect.

But public safety needs to be given higher priority. Too much violence that immediately went up after the GVRT was disbanded. So many shootings & I'm guessing that many of them have been POC.

2. If you are going to sever ties with those you think are interfering with human rights, have you cut off business with Communist China? They are horrible abusers of human rights. Abusing the Uighers, Falun Gong & Christians as well as most of their people.

If you claim to be pro-choice, you should oppose their policies of forced very late term

abortions as late as 8 mo or later! That most certainly is abusing women & their rights & choices.

3. Proposed Emergency Action Against TX for their law banning abortions after a heart beat is detected. There seems to be some misinformation

- a. It is a ban on abortion after a heart beat can be detected! Does not specify weeks! The heart is actually beating earlier but not detectable until about 6 weeks. So NOT a blob of tissue.
- b. It actually most definitely DOES demonstrate concern for the health, safety and well being of those who may become pregnant—way more than taking her money for killing her baby!
- c. It appropriates additional funds to help care for those girls & women w unplanned or problem pregnancies. & these services are free to them—unlike most abortions which are money making businesses! & many report that they DO NOT really counsel those w unplanned pregnancies about her options. They all know they can get an abortion. Many do NOT know what other choices are available to them in any practical way. This bill helps them with that, with NO PROFIT MOTIVE, unlike PP that is about selling abortions—according to many who have worked there.
- d. Check the constitution. Abortion is NOT mentioned. Roe is widely viewed even by pro-abortion legal experts as badly decided. It 1st inferred a right to privacy. & then from that with rather convoluted language derived an assumed right to abortion
- e. Ignores what pregnancy & abortion are & what causes this
- f. Pregnancy is a new living innocent human being created the moment the sperm enters the egg. This is basic science!
- g. This is NOT based on religious beliefs but science that says human life begins at fertilization & is a continuum from then until death. Pro-life is a big tent. There is a Secular Pro-life group. Over 25% of Dems identify as Pro-life! & even most who identify as pro-choice want restrictions on abortions.
- h. Abortion is paying someone to deliberately kill that innocent living human being they created. Here is a link to diagrams & descriptions of the different types of abortions being done today. This was prepared by an OB/GYN who did over 1200 abortions as part of his practice before waking up that it was wrong. www.abortionprocedures.com
- i. Killing an innocent human being is wrong!
- j. Often legal abortions are not safe even for the woman. Some clinics have horrible records injuring women. Lacerating cervix or uterus, perforated uterus & even perforated colon, incomplete abortion when baby parts are left inside her which leads to infection, severe bleeding, lack of proper sterilization, blood & tissue on table & floors, neglect of patients.
- k. Planned Parenthood also has ignored mandatory reporting laws for child abuse in many states.
- l. When a 13 or 14 year old comes in for an abortion it should be obvious she is below the age of consent. But too many cases brought in by her abuser—father, step father or other. The laws in all 50 states require reporting abuse. But PP seems to be don't ask don't tell. Too many documented cases where they just did the abortion & returned her to her abuser. Several had as many as 3 abortions during their teen years covering up the abuse.
- m. 1 in WA finally came to light when she confided in the college coach recruiting her leading to prosecution of the abuser who was father or step father. Live Action has info on their website documenting these cases.
- n. A large % of abortions result from irresponsible men who want their sex but are unwilling to support the woman. & many even pressure her to get an abortion
- o. 60%+ of post abortive women say they felt pressured to abort.
- p. women deserve better choices than abortion
- q. This bill really does demonstrate & show respect for the human rights of those who may become pregnant!
- r. It appropriates a lot more funding to support those women with unplanned or problem

pregnancies.

- s. There are free Pregnancy Resource Centers & other resources all over TX to provide support & help for those women! (& in OR as well)
- t. Many girls & women in those unfortunate circumstances are desperate. Many do not really want an abortion but that is all they really know about.
- u. They need to be informed of other choices so they really can make life affirming choices.
- v. These resources compassionately talk to these often scared girls & women. They inform them about adoption & that there are many already approved couples eager to adopt her baby if she so chooses.
- w. She can usually choose from among already approved couples who she wants to raise her baby & most adoptions are open adoptions so she can at least be kept informed or even be a part of her child's life
- x. They can refer her to prenatal service & how to get that.
- y. They can also help if she chooses parenting. They usually have parenting classes.
- z. They will provide resources such as diapers, & all sorts of things like at a baby shower & many have ongoing support.
- aa. Men need to keep it zipped if they are not willing to be responsible for supporting the woman & the new human life they might create.

In short, Portland has plenty of its own problems that need attention. I oppose meddling in the affairs of TX. & Justice Blackmun who wrote the Roe decision said that if it could be determined that the fetus is a person, that it would then be entitled to all human rights. Of course the most basic human right is the right to life. A study has been made & at the time of the 14th amendment & other relevant parts, pre-born humans were considered persons. & yet since Roe, Approximately 62 million living human beings were denied that most basic human right & were instead brutally torn apart inside their mother's womb. Set aside the euphemisms. Abortion deliberately kills an innocent living human being. Killing innocent human beings is wrong.

Men & women should make responsible choices BEFORE they participate increasing a new living human being.

But, yes. In the case of unplanned or problem pregnancy, those women deserve better than abortion. They deserve those who will come alongside them & show them other options besides abortion & provide compassionate help for them. TX has appropriated more funding to help them.

Women should NOT be left on their own by those who participated with them in creating a new little life. If men would be men & stand with the women when they discover they are pregnant, there would be a lot less pressure to abort.

But abortion seems to be an easy out for MEN to escape responsibility for creating a new life. Instead, plan ahead. But for unplanned pregnancies there are Pregnancy Resource Centers that can compassionately help her figure out her options. Help get her prenatal care. If she decides to parent, they have parenting classes & help provide diapers & all sorts of other needs for baby. If she is a student she can usually continue her education. Students for Life has Pregnant & Parenting support groups on many campuses.

btw, there are Pregnancy Resource Centers in Portland. Get to know what they offer locally to girls & women w unplanned pregnancies.

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