

*Telegraph Herald*  
Letters to the Editor  
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**Protests can make a difference**

From Elizabeth Heying

As one of many who volunteers to protest Planned Parenthood, I apologize to the angry mother of the 8-year-old boy who saw a picket sign and asked about abortion (letter, Feb. 21).

Two years ago, I, too, was asked by my 8-year-old to explain abortion. I didn't want that conversation yet, either.

To my daughter, a baby was (and is) the ultimate gift from God. How do you explain to a child that some people don't believe this? An 8-year-old is not mature enough to understand the rationalizations for abortion that some adults find persuasive.

As parents, we cringe from words like "death" and "killing" and try not to use them. But children see in black and white, and they are not fooled.

Though my daughter learned of abortion at school, I don't blame the school. Nor do I blame children who talk about this topic (and others) for which they are too young. That's our world these days.

Thus, while I'm sorry this woman's son learned about abortion from protest signs, I'm even more sorry that legal abortion is an ugly reality in our society. I implore the angry mother to place her blame where it truly lies.

Is our protest a waste of time? No, not if our presence causes even one pregnant woman to re-think aborting her baby.

For centuries, many loathed slavery and the racial injustices that remained legal long after the Civil War. Surely some considered protest useless. They were wrong.