

**Saskatoon:**  
Unit 3, 844-51st St. East  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 5C7  
Tel (306) 975-4725  
Toll free (888) 844-8886  
Fax (306) 975-4728  
vellacott.mp@shawlink.ca



**Ottawa:**  
Suite 610, Justice Bldg.  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6  
Tel (613) 992-1899  
Fax (613) 992-3085  
Vellacott.M@parl.gc.ca  
www.mauricevellacott.ca

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CANADA

**Maurice Vellacott, MP**  
**Saskatoon-Wanuskewin**

### **Letter to the editor**

**Calgary Herald – March 10, 2006**

#### **Time for limits**

Law – Re: “Choice, yes, within reason,” Editorial, Feb. 26.

I want to commend the Herald for the thought-provoking and well-reasoned editorial. Canadians not only want limits on abortion, they want laws that protect women from being misled.

A 2005 Environics poll found 70 per cent of Canadians support requiring physicians to give women contemplating abortion information on fetal development, health risks of abortion, alternatives and an ultrasound scan.

A woman also has the right to know abortion can harm her future children. A French study reported last year in the British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology concluded abortion almost doubles the risk of future pre-term birth.

Women are also not told the fetus feels pain. Dr. K. S. Anand, an expert on pain perception in fetal and neonatal children, says the fetus feels pain by 20 weeks, and perhaps even earlier, and that the pain caused by abortion would be “prolonged and excruciating.” In 2002, at least 308 children were aborted between 21 and 40 weeks gestation. We must all share in the blame for the more than 100,000 abortions annually in this country. We should help with crisis pregnancy centres and other programs to support women so abortion becomes a rare thing in a compassionate society.

**Maurice Vellacott**  
**Ottawa**  
**Maurice Vellacott is MP for Saskatoon-Wanuskewin**