November 20th, 1980

The Honourable Senator Harry Hays, PC, & Mr. Serge Goyal, MP, Joint Clerks, Senate - House of Commons, Special Joint Committee for the Constitution of Canada, Box 1044, South Block, Parliament Buildings, OTTAWA, ONTARIO K1A 0A7.

Gentlemen:

This is a brief to your Committee a propos the proposed Bill of Rights that may be incorporated into a new Constitution.

We urge that in the proposed Bill of Rights, the first Right shall be the Right to Life, without which right all other rights are irrelevant.

At the present moment the unborn child in Canada has virtually no right to life, though if born, he or she can sue for damage done whilst in the womb and also has certain hereditary rights, but these rights are lost if he or she is killed by abortion.

Some have said that the unborn child is not human, nor a person, and has but "potential" life. However, if he or she is growing in the womb, he or she must be alive and if in the womb of a woman must also be human.

Twenty years ago all of us showed respect to unborn human life. It is in part because both science and the medical profession have made relatively easy abortions possible that we have so many today in Canada.

With each abortion a human life is lost. We all know it is wrong to kill. Only by enshrining the Right to Life in the proposed Bill of Rights, will the killing of the unborn child cease.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Quail
Chairman