

PRESENTATION COLLEGE

1500 NORTH MAIN • PHONE (605) 225-0420

Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401

October 6, 1978

Dear Tom:

We have followed your career since you left us with growing admiration. Personal character and honesty matter. Humility before our Lord matters. We saw and continue seeing these things in you.

Those who would tear you down, those who spread untruths about you, surely cannot know you. Their actions speak sadly about themselves, but not at all about you.

We have heard your convictions against abortion, and seen them in the press. We know and we tell those with whom we speak of your abhorrence for abortion---and of your commitment to life. We see in your forthright campaign, and in your own life, a testament to fairness and honesty that speaks so much more loudly of a respect for human beings than the charges of your opponents.

We hope you can forgive those whose words are spoken in ignorance against you and send our prayers for them, and a special prayer for you in the days ahead.

With all good wishes,

Sister Maurice Crowley
Sister M. Patrick O'Rielly
Sister M. Loretta Joyce
Sister M. Veronica C. Eden
Sister M. Ambrose Muldoon
Sister Marie Estime Moriarty
Sister Elaine Goodell
Sister Celine Kelly

Part of a group of People Supporting Tom Dasch
for Congress Tom Kinkel & Elaine Wylw. Aberdeen
Co-chair

Tom & Laurie Daschle
626 East 21st Street
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57105

Dear Friend:

Over the last month people have walked door-to-door and mailed letters across our District in an organized campaign to distort my position on abortion.

I regret very, very much that this most personal and emotional of issues has been brought into this campaign. From the day I announced my own candidacy I have worked to try to keep this campaign positive and to avoid the kind of distortions that are now being directed against me.

I have no way of knowing whether those who have spread untruths about my feelings on abortion have contacted you. But I believe, whether they have or not, that you deserve to know my position on this issue.

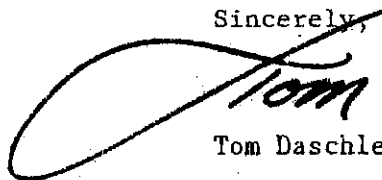
I am opposed to abortion. I do not support it. I have never supported it. It is an abhorrent practice. As a citizen and as a lifelong member of the Catholic faith I will do everything in my power to persuade others that abortion is wrong because I am firmly convinced that persuasion, not legal action, is the only proper, and the only truly effective way to limit abortion.

I know there are some who disagree with my feelings against abortion and I respect their views. But I feel everyone, whether for or against my own position, has the right to know how I stand.

I deeply appreciate the consideration my wife Laurie and I have received from so many South Dakotans as we have campaigned home to home these past thirteen months and want to thank you for your kindness.

With my very best wishes,

Sincerely,



Tom Daschle

PS If you have a moment to glance at the enclosed letter which I recently received from several very dear friends at a school I attended as a youth, I would appreciate it very much. It says far more eloquently than I ever could how I feel about the abortion issue.

Tom and Linda Daschle

Aberdeen, S.D.

November 1, 1986

Ms. Linda Keefe

Bridgewater, SD 57319

Dear Linda,

I write to you as you prepare to cast your ballot next Tuesday to set the record straight on my views concerning abortion.

This election, as in each election I have faced, my opponents have felt it necessary to spread false information about my thinking on this terribly important matter. In fact, the distortions this year have been more numerous than ever before.

The truth is that I am unalterably opposed to abortion on demand. Never, not once during my years of service to our state in Congress, have I ever voted in favor of unlimited federally funded abortion. To the contrary, I have always supported very tight restrictions on such funding.

I believe deeply that each of us who feels abortion to be wrong must work toward its elimination. We must teach in our homes. We must persuade in our churches. We must offer adoption and other alternatives through our government. We must never give up.

This is a battle over human life. It must be won the only way it can ever be won, by persuading the young woman on whose decision the life or death of an infant depends that the taking of that life is terribly wrong.

This has been my view since long before I was elected. It will continue to be my position in the United States Senate.

No vote I have ever cast has contradicted it, and none ever will.

I am saddened by those who would distort my record for their political gain. But, so long as my feelings are misrepresented, I will do my level best to give you my honest opinion. After that, the decision will rest with you.

With my thanks to you for the privilege of serving our fine state and with my very best wishes.

Sincerely,


Tom Daschle

I would deeply appreciate it if you could find a moment to look over the letter I have enclosed from Reverend James Miller.

Reverend Terry Miller

Box 293

Freeman, SD 57029

October 23, 1986

Tom Daschle
1615 S. 1st
Aberdeen, SD 57401

Dear Tom,

It's distressing that a few hardcore extremists seem so intent on misrepresenting your position on abortion.

My own reputation as an anti-abortion activist is well documented and my affiliation with various right to life groups widely known.

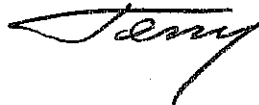
You and I have been close friends for a long time Tom, and maybe it's because I know you so well that I am so perturbed over these distortions of your record.

I remember some of the very personal, deeply soul-searching conversations we've had on this subject. You used expletives like "repulsive" and "gross" in underscoring your abhorrence of abortion. You even said it is a form of murder, and I believe you are right. The bottom line is you are as opposed to abortion as I am.

Tom, you are a kind, decent man, a man of compassion, a man who loves children deeply. I see that when you are around my own little ones. You believe in life! I know you to be a man of deep moral convictions and the utmost integrity.

I know you feel the hurt deeply as those who oppose you continue to misrepresent and distort your position on abortion. As a pro-lifer and evangelical Christian who believes in the sacredness of all human life, I'd have no hesitation in urging every pro-lifer to cast their vote for you on November 4th.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terry". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Reverend Terry Miller