

**From:** [Scott Muir](#)  
**To:** [Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Submission Re Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018  
**Date:** Tuesday, 28 August 2018 4:07:15 PM

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Dear Secretary,

We wish to make a submission concerning the Draft Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018.

While we believe that the current laws concerning abortion in Queensland are not ideal and are not enforced, we are gravely concerned at the way the latest Bill denies basic human rights and fails to consider the true cost of abortion. We would ask that you take into consideration the following matters concerning this Bill:

1.

**It does not represent the views of Queenslanders:**

The YouGovGalaxy survey conducted earlier this year showed, *inter alia*, that nearly three-quarters of Queenslanders oppose abortion after 23 weeks.

2.

**It denies human rights:**

The measure of a society is demonstrated in how it treats its most vulnerable members. Australia prides itself on its human rights record and this Bill is inconsistent with our record. An unborn child is a human being but is not yet in a position to defend itself. The underlying assumption of this Bill is that Pro-abortion a child has dignity and value only when declared so by the parent(s).

3.

**It contradicts the science:**

There is no doubt scientifically that the unborn child is a human being. It is not simply a part of the mother's body like a kidney or a limb. It has its own limbs, organs and DNA. Nothing more needs to be done for this child to be human; it is human. It is being strengthened in the body of the mother until it reaches full term. Even after that, it needs the care and help of its mother. Just because it is dependent, does not mean it has no value. The argument that a mother has the right to do what she wants with her own body defies science and logic. She is making a decision about her body and the body of another human being.

4.

**It punishes the innocent:**

Sometimes a child has been conceived through unfortunate circumstances. We live in an imperfect world. But humane societies do not punish the innocent for the evil or unwise actions of others. Better solutions are found in better societies.

5.

**It promotes selective pregnancies**

Some members of our society already seems to consider it acceptable to end a pregnancy where a child is found to have a disability. We would be shocked if anyone claimed those living with disabilities are less worthy of life than others, yet we condone it as a legitimate reason for pregnancy termination. These laws will also open the doors to parents designing their own families, ending the life of a child simply because they have too many boys or too many girls already. We need a law with far greater rigour.

6.

**It is inconsistent with s. 313 of the Criminal Code:**

The irony of the abortion debate was made clear in the recent conviction of ██████████ in the

Brisbane Supreme for killing his pregnant partner and their unborn child. [REDACTED] was given two life sentences on August 6, one for each victim. How can it be that this child was regarded as human enough to be the victim in a murder charge, when thousands of other children are not regarded with equal value? Sadly, the only difference is the attitude of the parent to the child.

Please be assured of our concern for mothers who are in a difficult life situation. Law Reform and policy decisions about how money is spent ought to be focussed on this issue. Mothers need support and help at these times so they can make decisions that are good for them AND good for the child. This is harder to do, but if we believe it is important, we will find a way.

While we have dealt with the issue of human rights in this submission, we long for public debate which is less focussed on personal rights, and more on taking responsibility to care for others. We fear that a future generation will look back at our generation in shock at the atrocities we not only tolerated, but legislated. They will be shocked at our inhumanity as we actively destroyed thousands and thousands of human lives each year.

Regards,

Scott and Rebecca Muir

[REDACTED]