

To the **Committee Secretary**
Health, Community, Disability Services and
Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee, Parliament House
Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018

To whom it concerns,

We are writing to express our serious concerns about the Abortion Bill before Parliament. Labor's Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 would allow abortion on demand up to 22 weeks for any reason. Rev Dr John Stott wrote that, "*Reverence for human life is an indisputable characteristic of a humane and civilised society. Any society which can tolerate abortion on this scale has ceased to be civilised.*"

We agree that it is a serious wrong to take the life of an innocent child, and for the law to allow this to happen for any reason is abhorrent.

Further, Labor's extreme bill would allow abortion past 22 weeks gestation until birth, even for social reasons. It is shocking that government is even considering this. Some babies are viable outside the womb at 22 weeks gestation, even though the recognised point of viability in Australia is 23 weeks. According to a YouGov Galaxy poll in August 2018, only 6% of Queenslanders support abortion after 23 weeks, including just 3% of women, with 76% opposed.

This extreme bill is also anti-women because it allows sex-selection abortion. Amazing, in this day of such a strong (and often warranted) push for the rights of women and equality. According to a YouGov Galaxy poll in August 2018, only 8% of Queenslanders support sex-selective abortion, including 5% of women, with 83% opposed.

Given that only 6% of Queenslanders support late-term abortion and only 8% of Queenslanders support sex-selective abortion, why is the Labor Government proposing such extreme legislation? Further, 76% of Queenslanders believe that abortion can harm the physical and/or mental health of women. There is plenty of evidence for the serious physical and emotional effects of abortion on women, not to mention potentially on the men involved in the conception. So, given the tiny fraction of the Qld population who are actually supportive of this Bill, to be blunt, who exactly are the Labor Government representing in this Bill?

We request that this Bill receives the serious critical look it deserves and is defeated in Parliament. 62% of Queenslanders agree that the unborn at 23 weeks is a person with rights, according to a YouGov Galaxy poll in August 2018. The law must protect the right to life of unborn babies. It is shameful that Labor wants to ignore the fundamental human rights of the most defenceless members of the human family.

Thank you for your attention to this serious matter. Please represent the people! Please be humane and please be civilised. Thank you for representing the people of our nation.

Sincerely,

Warwick & Kathy Vincent