

Committee Secretary
Health, Communities, Disability Services
and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Committee Secretary,

RE: Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018

I write to raise my concern at the proposed Termination of Pregnancy Bill, which is also known as the 'Jackie Trad Abortion Bill'. I oppose this bill for the following reasons:

1. Government's first obligation is to the care of the vulnerable.

This bill neither protects the lives of the unborn, nor the women who find themselves in the difficult situation of an unwanted pregnancy who would now face increased pressure to abort, often by the men who played a part in the child's conception. Thus, the government is neglecting its most foundational obligation should it approve this bill.

2. A person's a person, no matter how small.

Inherent in any discussion on abortion is the question of when life begins. Science makes it undeniable that human life begins from conception. At whatever stage a life is at in its development toward birth, it has intrinsic value regardless of the wills of the parents. Human life should always be protected. This bill fails to do that.

3. Both Lives Matter.

The proposed bill, whilst purporting to be in the interests of caring for women, does not recognise that there is more than one life involved in the discussion. The life of the unborn child is growing within the mothers body, but is not the mothers body. This life must be recognised. The unborn life is voiceless and vulnerable. It needs our care, not our termination. We would do better in legislating for a better adoption processes, foster care arrangements, and care pregnant women.

4. Gender Selection Abortion is the height of Gender Discrimination.

I find it remarkable that the Labor Party seems to be interested in developing laws that allow the termination of human life based on biological gender. This is remarkably inconsistent if the Party is serious about dealing with inequality. To abort a child based on their gender is the darkest and most insidious gender discrimination I have witnessed in the modern world. I'd like to think our State, and indeed the Labor Party is better than that.

All that is to say, I wish to live in a Country and in a State that values and protects all people regardless of gender, race, or religion and regardless of whether they are unborn or approaching old age. Every life matters. Thus, I oppose this bill and ask that this legislation be thrown out. We can do better than this.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Pellican', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Peter Pellican

Four horizontal black bars of varying lengths, redacting contact information such as a phone number and email address.