

From: [REDACTED]  
 To: [Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee](#)  
 Subject: Please recommend against the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018  
 Date: Saturday, 1 September 2018 5:02:03 PM

---

Please accept my submission:

I hope that the committee will strongly recommend MPs vote against the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018.

This bill allows for abortion up until the day of birth, with just the technicality of requiring two abortionist doctors to authorise the death of babies more than 22 weeks old.

There is at least some means for nurses and other medical staff to declare a conscientious objection and opt-out of performing abortions. However, this protection is not as comprehensive as section 8 might suggest, because clause 8(4) compels all doctors and nurses to kill babies by abortion ‘in an emergency.’

The problem here is that this clause could easily be invoked by hospitals and clinics where an abortionist believes or pretends to believe that a woman may become suicidal or may self-harm if her baby is not killed. This belief cannot be challenged by any objective test and could simply be invoked to force doctors and nurses employed by the facility to perform abortions without any real fear of legal consequences.

Queensland would then be left in a similar position to Victoria when similar legislation was passed in 2008. Medical staff there were left severely traumatised after being ordered to kill unborn babies by their employers. The following article, for instance, documents the case where a trainee was told to [REDACTED]

I therefore urge you to point out the horrific consequences of this bill to MPs in order to protect both babies and medical staff from these horrors of abortion.

I also point out that the fathers of children are not in any way considered or consulted. This means that even in marriage or any relationship abortion can be used for revenge or emotional blackmail to name just two possibilities. I know personally of a young married woman who had two abortions without the knowledge of her husband with the encouragement of her parents because they thought she had married beneath her social level. He was a simple hard working tradie and good provider and was devastated. Also sex selection abortions are immoral. Finally why in the world can this be allowed when in 21st century with modern methods of contraception every woman in qld can and should be responsible in that area. Instead of being allowed to use abortion as birth control!!! The consequences of abortion reverberate through the family and our medical system and the consequences to our society mental health system and medical system are enormous. Please stop these horrendous consequences!!!

Yours faithfully,

Helen Selke

[REDACTED]