

Mrs Kerry Barham



3 September, 2018

To: Chair of the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee, Mr Aaron Harper MP
Queensland

Re: Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018

Dear Sir,

Please accept my submission to the Committee of Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention relating to the matter of the recently tabled Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018.

I would like it registered please that I DO NOT AGREE with this tabled Bill. I believe the laws in Queensland relating to termination of pregnancy should remain as they are, thereby protecting (as much as is currently possible), the right to life of the unborn child. A late term termination of a healthy pregnancy being made lawful for any reason other than a medical emergency is abhorrent, and is in fact a backwards step, rather than a progression for women's rights and human rights in general.

I experienced for many, many years the heartbreak of not being able to have my own children, and being told that the waiting list for adoption in Queensland at that time was 10 years. My husband and I were unable to afford overseas adoption and so therefore, having our own family seemed impossible for us. The very thought of babies being killed for convenience sake is just so incredibly grievous that I can hardly find the words to express such a deep sadness for the would be mothers and for a society that would deem this acceptable, let alone lawful. I implore you to please, please, please consider these little lives, consider the devastation of those couples who are not able to have their own children but would dearly love them, and consider a society where it is deemed OK to 'terminate' the innocent.

Thank you for your time. I wish you and your committee wisdom and understanding in your considerations.

Yours sincerely,

Kerry Barham