

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018  
**Date:** Sunday, 2 September 2018 5:53:27 PM

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To Whom it may concern

In my opinion, the preparation of this Bill represents a gross waste of tax-payers' money, because under the current legislation, abortion in Queensland is already accessible (about 14,000 occur each year) and no woman has ever been convicted for having an abortion.

The Bill undermines values of a civilised society. It is wrong to kill a viable human being. Most people recognise this. A YouGov Galaxy poll in August 2018, shows that only 6% of Queenslanders support abortion after 23 weeks. Having worked on a neo-natal ward, I have seen babies delivered as early as 24 weeks fighting for life. Many of them survive with assistance.

The Bill allows sex selection abortion. We can see the problems in China, where thousands of men are unable to find a wife due to a lack of females, following gender discrimination under their one child policy. Why would the Queensland government consider legislation which allows unborn female babies to be killed? The YouGov Galaxy poll shows that only 8% of Queenslanders support sex-selective abortion.

The Bill would allow abortions to be performed in public hospitals for free. This is offensive to taxpayers who are opposed to abortion. Further, it would put extra stress on the public health system, which is already stretched with long waiting lists for people with painful medical conditions requiring surgery.

I have counselled many women who struggle with grief and depression post-abortion. There is clear evidence that up to 1 in 5 women suffer serious prolonged psychological trauma post-abortion, and post-abortive women are almost 6 times more likely to commit suicide than women who give birth. There are also physical risks, such as infection, haemorrhage, infertility and breast cancer. This should be disclosed so that women can have informed consent. This Bill ignores the right of women to know the real risk factors of abortion.

This Bill does not include any safeguards for women, such as independent counselling, an informed consent requirement and a cooling-off period. There is clear evidence that many abusive partners force women to abort their babies. This Bill will leave vulnerable women unprotected from coercion. Please let us as a nation support women to have their babies and give them up for adoption if they don't want to keep them once they are born. Many childless couples would be delighted to have the chance to adopt a baby.

This Bill denies people the right of free speech by exclusion zones, and goes against the freedom of conscience of medical practitioners who don't want to be involved in abortion. Freedom of speech and conscience are basic elements in a democracy,

This Bill has no protection for the lives of babies who may survive an abortion (between 25 and 30 each year). As a woman, mother and grandmother, I am horrified by this Bill. It is anti-woman, anti-unborn child and anti the baby that survives an abortion procedure. A civilised society is judged by its treatment of its most vulnerable members. The abortion procedure itself is barbaric, carried out without pain relief, when medical science clearly reveals that a foetus has detectable brain activity after 8 week's gestation and experiences pain. Please do everything in your power to ensure that this Bill is voted down.

Thank you for considering the contents of my email.

Regards

Maynessa Lloyd

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