

From: [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission to Committee reviewing the latest Abortion Bill before Parliament
Date: Saturday, 1 September 2018 8:34:45 PM

Dear Committee Secretary

Re Abortion Bill tabled in Parliament on 22nd August 2018

I note that this committee is named the Health, Communities, Disability Services and **Family Violence Committee** and it is appropriate therefore that this Committee would review legislation which deals with the plight of the most vulnerable members of a family. Under this legislation, children would be destroyed in very inhumane ways right up to what would have been the normal time of their birth.

I understand that under current legislation there have been 14,000 abortions in the last year in Queensland. This figure is alarming. May I ask the questions:

1. Are there good research records being kept to ensure that this issue is addressed with appropriate measures to decrease those numbers going forward?
2. Is support being provided to these women after the abortion has been performed to review any medical complications they may be experiencing and more importantly to review how they are tracking emotionally? Anecdotal reporting would seem to suggest that many of these women experience an enormous psychological burden which is then medicated through some form of substance abuse or medication.
3. Is a routine follow up provided to all women who have an abortion by the abortion clinic or a government agency with funding for such needed support?

Stretching the boundaries to now allow for abortions up to full term for social reasons, allowing for sex selection and for no conscientious objection by a referring medical practitioner, would perpetuate the number of abortions in Queensland and not decrease the figures.

What is of grave concern to me is that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] under no other circumstance would this be allowed. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Most pet owners would not allow their pet to suffer in this way, and yet we as a society have determined that our most vulnerable are not afforded these rights. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] here would be an outcry against this process which largely goes unseen.

I am aware that I have been outspoken in my submission. It is an issue that I have held great concern about since [REDACTED]

This debate is about protecting the mother and the baby, both of whom have rights. Does the right of the mother supersede the right of the child or can measures be taken to ensure that the mother is cared for in such a way to support her through the

pregnancy to when the baby can be delivered for adoption? Does the research provide answers for how many of those 14,000 mothers who felt they had no option but to terminate the pregnancy, did so for social reasons and how many if they knew they would be provided with good support and someone to walk the journey with them, might consider keeping the pregnancy?

A flourishing society is built on the sanctity and respect of human life. I hope I have presented a case for consideration of a no vote to this latest abortion legislation and for some better government support of women to ensure that there are less abortions going forward.

Thank you in advance for the diligence and thoughtfulness you will provide on this matter to the Government.

In appreciation for your service to the community.

Kind regards

Lois McLaughlin

