

Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and
Family Violence Prevention Committee
Ph: 3553 6626 Fax: 3553 6699
Email: health@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Members of the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family
Violence Prevention Committee,

Re: The Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018

I categorically oppose changes to the law in Queensland regarding the liberalisation of
criminal termination laws through The Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018. I specifically
consider the time of commencement of life is at conception and thus any termination or
abortion of this life is a criminal act of killing an unborn child.

I fundamentally believe the impact on our society is yet to be experienced, such as the
expense of trauma and grief; and the spiritual consequence on the individual and the nation.

I recognise the rights of the unborn child and want to protect those rights, as well as the
wellbeing of the mother and the father. I do not believe the 'right to health' or the health of
the mother is the reason for the majority of those seeking abortions in Australia, instead
termination is largely a selfish response to an unplanned pregnancy. I do not believe the
perceived right of the mother to autonomy is superior or more important than those of the
father.

I believe termination based on gender alone should not be decriminalised, gender is not
sufficient reason to kill an unborn child.

I do not believe the majority of Queenslanders agree with the current proposed bill. For
example a Galaxy Poll "An executive summary of the findings of a comprehensive
independent market research survey conducted by YouGovGalaxy and commissioned by
the Australian Family Association and Abortion Rethink. This online opinion poll of a
representative sample of 1,001 Queensland voters was conducted from 6 to 8 February
2018. Its sampling variation is plus or minus 3% at the 95% confidence interval." Findings:
76% agree abortion harms women's health, 73% oppose late term abortions post 23 weeks
gestation, 85% oppose sex-selection abortion, and in response to view of the current law –
19% responded not restrictive enough and 36% responded 'about right', only 26% said too
restrictive.

Thus I would prefer governments fund pregnancy prevention and education programs, and
support programs to support the mother for the gestation period, encourage adoption in
Australia, and support the parents beyond gestation with e.g. parenting allowances if the
child is kept.

Request: Please do not change the current laws regarding abortion in Queensland.

Thank you for your consideration of my submission.

Anna Johnson

