

**Subject:**

A Submission to the Queensland Health Committee considering the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018.

Date:

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Dear Committee Members

I would respectfully ask the Committee, in your examination of the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 to give careful attention to the ideologies, including political ideologies and assumptions which might enable members to countenance the extension of legislation and public policies which are inherently and fundamentally concerned with death-making.

A critical question I would like to place before the Committee is: What obscures the reality concerning termination of pregnancy as death-making? In a time when we have abolished the death penalty, have brought child abuse into central political focus, have advocated strongly for human rights, what is the fundamental thinking that can support the death of an unborn child and engage in actions which leave significant long term emotional scars for their mothers.

It is not adequate, or even ethically sound, to argue that Queensland legislation should be brought into line with other Australian jurisdiction. The Queensland State Government has serious child protection responsibilities. When it comes to children, Queensland citizens expect of their legislators and policy makers the highest level of conscience and commitment. If the Queensland Government adopts the proposed legislation, what legal entity is left to protect unborn children?

There are significant ethical flaws in any proposed legislation that, allows for the extension of death-making, compromises the essential values of medical practitioners to do no harm, and curtails the right of public protest in support of life.

I do ask that each member of the Committee give attention to the assumptions, the values and the ideologies they hold on these matters, especially with how they might justify the extension of death-making in the State of Queensland. A serious accountability is required.

Christopher Brown

