

Concerning the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018

Thank you for holding an Inquiry into this bill, and opening it to the public.

I have an input to the Inquiry, as per below.

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The current Queensland government has done some good things recently. I refer particularly to the new conservation legislation stopping further major deforestation, and preserving the lives of koalas and other wildlife, previously being devastated. I have actively supported that legislation, through endorsing petitions and submissions from various environmental groups.

If the government is concerned for trees, the environment and the lives of wildlife, why then does it have such a pernicious drive to kill human babies?

As science learns more about pre-birth human development, governments should be making abortion laws more restrictive, not more liberal.

Science confirms that the usual medical tests used throughout life to determine whether someone is a living person apply from early pregnancy. For example, heartbeat (detectable in the baby at about 5 weeks pregnancy), brain waves (detectable in the baby at about 6 weeks pregnancy), and muscular movement (apparent in the baby by about 8 weeks pregnancy). There is no rational denial that the foetus is already a new living person.

Easy abortion does not benefit anyone (except abortion providers). Furthermore, easy abortion in Queensland could affect the rest of Australia, by creating a further legal precedent for other states, and also increases the likelihood of women travelling to Queensland from NSW and other parts of Australia to access abortions ("abortion tourism").

Abortion is an obscenity in the modern world, causing colossal loss of life across the globe. In terms of the extent of the slaying of innocent people, it makes ██████████ look trivial by comparison.

Pro-abortion rhetoric often seeks to justify this baby-killing by saying that a woman should have full control over her own body. But this is a "red herring", because what we are talking about with abortion is not the woman's body but the baby's body.

It is often stated that abortion is OK in exceptional cases such as where the pregnancy has been caused by rape or incest. But as well as using the exceptional to justify the usual, in these unusual cases the baby is just as innocent as in any other case, including those pregnancies where the baby is a longed-for and loved child. Why execute the child for the crime of the father? Two wrongs do not make a right. This is no justice. Killing the baby cannot reverse the crime or turn back time. Killing the baby only adds further heartache to the mother, as it is also her baby that is being killed - this effect has been well documented by a number of cases.

Even in cases of real or suspected disability in the baby, it does not give us the right to play God and pronounce that the child does not have the right to live.

Neither is abortion any favour to the mother or father. Abortion regret is becoming an increasingly recognised psychological problem. Abortion often ruins the lives of the aborted baby's parents through guilt and regret. When they realise what they have done – killing their own baby when the child was most helpless and reliant on them – it is not surprising that they often have regrets. I cannot imagine a more potent recipe for guilt. It is not surprising that having an abortion has been described as one of the worst mental health risks that a woman can face.

Medical technology makes babies viable outside the womb from about half term, and they are fully formed even before that, as indicated above. They are people. Killing unborn babies is murder. Abortion is the ultimate betrayal of a baby by its mother.

If you can justify abortion then you can justify any other form of the killing of minors. Babies are just as helpless and reliant on their mother after birth as they are before it. So why not allow infanticide for 38 weeks after birth? Why not allow parents to kill their children right up until the children are 18 years of age? These can all be justified by the same criteria as is used to justify abortion – such as that the child is inconvenient to the parents, is too expensive to bring up, will interfere with the mother's career or prevent her from working, or is just plain unwanted.

The Queensland government should not have blood on its hands – reject any bill for the liberalisation of abortion laws. Instead, encourage and facilitate the birth and adoption of unwanted babies. The fact that childless Australian couples often have to go overseas to adopt children, while other Australians are killing their unwanted, unborn babies, is as big an absurdity as it is an iniquity. Do what is good, not what is bad.

The Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 should be rejected in its entirety by the Queensland Parliament.

Thank you.

David A W Miller.

