

### **OBJECTION TO PROPOSED ABORTION LAWS**

I write in response to the proposed abortion law amendments, in particular to lodge my objection to the laws.

A recent court case involved the brutal murder of a 36 year old woman by her estranged 38 year old partner. The woman was 10 weeks pregnant. The circumstances of the case are tragic, but they highlight a gross inconsistency in the law of Queensland if the proposed law is enacted.

The proposed law is to allow abortions up to 22 weeks under some circumstances, and to allow full term abortions in others. The issue that has been argued back and forth since the US enacted legislation in 1973 is to whether the unborn foetus has any status at law. In the case mentioned above, the unborn foetus, at 10 weeks, was given the status of a person; otherwise a second murder conviction could not have been recorded. The law works on the setting of a precedent, and in this case, the precedent is that an unborn foetus has the status of a person.

To now enact legislation that would not recognise the status of the unborn foetus is to go against this precedent. At the most, it is unlawful. At the very least, it is the height of hypocrisy.

The two options available to Parliament are to enact the laws and go against precedent, or to enact supplementary legislation that would decriminalise the act of murdering an unborn foetus and make it a non-offence. You must surely agree that the latter course would be the height of immorality.

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