

Kerrie Townsend: I oppose the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018

Tuesday, 4 September 2018 5:00:14 PM

Dear Sir/Madam

I am opposed to the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 on the grounds of conscientious objection as outlined below:

If doctors are allowed to opt out of procedures, they must refer the case of abortion to another doctor. It shouldn't be because it makes the referring doctor morally complicit in the act.

This legislation can make that doctor pass onto another doctor to do the procedure and it places the doctor under pressure to do it, even if they might not want to do it. I have heard this has caused not only the doctor a conflict within their professional and personal conscience but the nurses who have been asked, have nightmares too.

It also raises whether they are able to find someone else to do it too.

And it forces a medical professional to treat somebody when it is not a health care issue.

As this is the only procedure where the woman can demand a referral on her own; it should be that the medical professional be given the respect to provide their professional advice and stand by their conscientious objection to it.

Yours Sincerely

Kerrie Townsend