



Subject:

Proposed Legislation

Date:

Tuesday, 4 September 2018 2:08:48 PM

The Health Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane. 4000. Q.

I am writing as I am concerned about the proposed legislation to decriminalise abortion which will be coming before parliament.

I understand that it is in our Criminal Code but it should remain there as a deterrent to doctors and as a moral compass for all.

Even though there are currently many abortions performed in this state each day, no woman has ever been convicted for having an abortion, so why is there a need for change?

Since 1986 when Judge McGuire ruled that an abortion was legal where there is a serious risk to the physical or mental health of a woman, it has been legally available in Queensland.

So why the need for change?

The extent to which an abortion can be made under the new legislation to me is of concern.

The baby's heart starts beating at 22 days and from six months the unborn baby is a complete human being.

In a recent court decision in Queensland, a man was charged and found guilty of killing his partner and also her unborn child.

Under your proposed legislation, would the unborn child in such a case be regarded as of no value and the charge be only for taking his partner's life?

Shouldn't we be seeking to give women a balanced view based on informed advice?

That advice should come from a doctor or professional counsellor independent of an abortion facility which receives financial benefit from the abortion procedures.

This would have to be a practical safeguard for women?

What about counselling services to women who have had an abortion; is that in your legislation too?

Finally, there is no need to change the current laws even though it is in the Criminal Code as the unfortunate truth is that abortion is highly accessible and being utilised in Queensland now.

Yours faithfully

Frank Vessey

