

Subject:
Date:

Abortion Law Bill - proposed reforms
Tuesday, 4 September 2018 6:55:15 PM

To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice some of my concerns about the proposed changes to Queensland law regarding abortions.

I will do this in reference to the five underlying principles which the QLRC based its recommendations on. (These were sent to me by email from the Premier's office.)

- *abortion should generally be treated as a health matter*

Abortion is far more than a "health matter". It involves the **taking of a human life**. This should never be done lightly.

Also, there is apparently no provision in the proposed law for counselling, for a woman considering an abortion.

It has been well documented that a woman's health, physically and/or mentally, is often put at risk by her undergoing an abortion.

- *women's autonomy and health should be promoted*

Unless a woman's life and/or mental health are seriously endangered by her pregnancy, the unborn child should not be killed!

To terminate a human life merely for convenience or lifestyle reasons should not be allowed.

If a woman asking for an abortion is being pressured by a third party to do this, not having mandatory counselling for her can actually be denying her autonomy!

She needs to have an opportunity to voice her concerns. Without an opportunity to express her deep down concerns, her health (mental and/or physical) is put in jeopardy.

- *Queensland laws should align with contemporary international human rights obligations **AND***
- *Queensland laws should be broadly consistent with other Australian*

jurisdictions that have modernised their abortion laws

To me, these seem to be ridiculous statements. Just because “everyone else is doing it” (but in actual fact not all countries are!), does **not** make it the right thing to do!

If every other state and territory in Australia passed a particular law, that does not mean Queensland has to follow them – what if the law is unjust? Being “modern” is not a valid reason to pass a law!

What about consideration for the “human rights obligations” of the unborn child? These seem to be completely ignored!

- *Queensland laws should be consistent with contemporary clinical practice*

What this says, is that now, regardless of the law, unborn children are already being killed whenever anyone wants this to happen! What a stupid reason for changing the law - simply because it's being ignored!

Thank you for reading this email,

Yours faithfully,

Kathleen Williams

