

Submission Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 Tuesday, 4 September 2018 4:23:44 PM

## Lawful terminations - not more than 22 weeks pregnant

Clause 5 of the Bill allows that a medical practitioner may perform a termination on a woman who is not more than 22 weeks pregnant. Clause 10 of the Bill provides that a woman who consents to, assists in, or performs a termination on herself does not commit an offence. Clause 22 of the Bill repeals Sections 224 to 226 of the Criminal Code which make it an offence to terminate a pregnancy. Do you agree that terminations should be lawful on request up to 22 weeks? NO – reason: I believe that from conception, we have a REAL Human being developing in utero and I believe it to be morally wrong to take the life of an INNOCENT child.

# Lawful terminations - more than 22 weeks pregnant and with the agreement of two medical practitioners

Clause 6(1) of the Bill allows that a medical practitioner may perform a termination on a woman who is more than 22 weeks pregnant if the medical practitioner considers that the termination should be performed, and has consulted with another medical practitioner who also agrees that the termination should be performed. Clause 6(2) of the Bill outlines the matters which a medical practitioner must consider when considering whether a termination should be performed - these being all relevant medical circumstances, the woman's current and future physical, psychological and social circumstances, and the professional standards and guidelines that apply to the medical practitioner in relation to the performance of the termination.

Do you agree that terminations should be lawful beyond 22 weeks with the agreement of two medical practitioners? NO – reason: some babies are VIABLE after 22 weeks – I believe this to be murder.

### Lawful terminations - more than 22 weeks pregnant and in an emergency

Clause 6(3) of the Bill allows that a medical practitioner may, in an emergency, perform a termination on a woman who is more than 22 weeks pregnant if the medical practitioner considers it neccesary to perform the termination to save the woman's life or the life of another unborn child. Do you agree that terminations beyond 22 weeks should be allowed in an emergency? NO. I don't think that Dr's should be put in this position. What if they are wrong? They are human and make mistakes. Maybe try and save both lives.....who are we to 'choose' which should live?

### **Conscientious objection**

Clause 8 of the Bill allows for a health practitioner to conscientiously object to the performance of a termination. The health practitioner is required to disclose their conscientious objection and refer or transfer the woman to another health practitioner or health service provider. The clause does not limit any duty owed by a registered health practitioner to provide a service in an emergency. Do you agree with allowing a health practitioner to conscientiously object to the performance of a termination, except in emergencies? YES. I thought we lived in a free country. What has happened to Australia that we are attempting to force those that believe abortion is murder – to do this very thing?

### Offences for unqualified persons

Clause 25 of the Bill outlines offences for an unqualified person who performs, or assists in performing, a termination on a woman. Both offences have a maximum penalty of 7 years imprisonment. Do you agree with the proposed offences for unqualified persons who perform or assists with a termination? YES – what has happened to our legal system? We need to protect the lives of our woman and IF this law comes in, then only qualified medical staff should be performing abortions.

On a personal note – I am aware of a woman who became pregnant some years ago, and it was discovered she was carrying a baby with 'severe Downs Syndrome'. Two Dr's suggested she terminate, one Dr rather strongly. They decided to have their baby and she was born with mild Downs Syndrome and has been a blessing to this family and others around her. She is not 'perfect' in some people's eyes I guess, however imagine our world if we didn't have these people around. Would be becoming rather like the survival of the fittest? I believe abortion to be murder. According to British Medical Journal, 1997

post-abortive woman are 6 times more likely to commit suicide than those that have given birth. Not only will be killing our babies, but also – in the long run, killing the woman.

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