Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018

Submission No. 396

Attention:

Committee Secretary
Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Submission regarding the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018.

Under the Queensland Clinical Guideline: Stillbirth Care, prepared by Queensland Health, and updated in March 2018, there is a requirement that where a fetal birth occurs and a stillborn baby is born, which is greater than or equal to 400gm in weight or the birth is greater than or equal to 20 weeks into pregnancy, registration has to be made with the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages. It is also a requirement that a burial or cremation is required.

Given that these guidelines are researched and written by qualified medical people (Membership Table attached of the Queensland Clinical Guidelines Steering Committee), one could arrive at the belief that it is their acceptance that a fetus of 400gm or 20 weeks into gestation is a human being, if registration and burial/cremation is required by law should the baby be stillborn. Whether the baby is stillborn or aborted, it is still a human being, and should be treated as such, an aspect that the Clinical Guideline clearly recognises in the case of a stillborn baby.

I have no medical background, but I believe the facts are sufficient to lead non-medical people to believe that abortion is indeed the deliberate killing of an unborn child for whatever reason, and should remain as a criminal act.

I also attach a copy of a relevant page of the Clinical Guideline, Stillbirth Care, MN18.24-V6-R23.

I believe the law should not be changed and the Bill should be defeated by the Parliament.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Kenneth J Garner



