

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018
Date: Monday, 3 September 2018 6:02:22 PM

To those in Queensland Government,

It is with much concern I write to you regarding Labor's Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018. The Act of Abortion involves more than 1 life, it affects the family at all levels and discounts the value of one life over another.

Abortion on demand up to 22 weeks gestation for any reason is horrific to contemplate. The life of a darling child hangs in the balance and for the law to allow this to happen tells much about our society and how little we care for those who cannot speak for themselves.

62% of Queenslanders agree that the unborn at 23 weeks is a person with rights, according to a YouGov Galaxy poll in August 2018.

Therefore, the law must protect the right to life of unborn babies if the Labor Government is representing those who have voted them into power.

It is abhorrent that Labor is prepared to discount the fundamental human rights of the most vulnerable members of our human families.

Labor's Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 holds no safeguards for women contemplating an abortion. Informed, independent decisions are not possible at this crucial time as there is no independent counselling offered, no informed consent required and a cooling-off period is not viable. How does this protect or empower women?

A YouGov Galaxy poll in August 2018 demonstrated 88% of Queenslanders agree women seeking a termination should have free independent counselling before a decision is made. Information on the development of the unborn child, nature of the procedure & physical and psychological must be made known, along with support available should she wish to continue with her pregnancy.

1 in 5 women who have an abortion experience serious, prolonged, psychological trauma after abortion ie: Anxiety, Depression, Suicidal tendencies. Post-abortive women are

almost 6 times more likely to commit suicide than women who give birth (British Medical Journal, 1997 [REDACTED])

The facts of abortion must be disclosed to all women & men as existing Queensland law against abortion has a vital educative role. It is **both parents rights to** the know the risk factors involved in having a pregnancy terminated.

I ask you only to change the law as safeguards for ALL whilst a much-needed policy change is for Government funding to be significantly expanded to include pregnancy counselling services (such as Priceless Life) which offer real choice and support for women including post-abortion counselling.

Sincerely yours,

Melinda Rau-Wig,

[REDACTED]

Ph: [REDACTED]