

TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY ACT 2018

A review of the bill shows deficiencies which indicate a disregard of human rights which a democracy should uphold. Such a blatant attack by elected representatives of a government in Queensland tells a sorry tale that your committee should put right.

Part 2,S8 forces medical practitioners to act contrary to their conscience should they not agree with the killing of a baby in utero. The right to take a stand in light of one's conscience has been an inalienable right even in times of war and yet we have this bill removing this right so that a killing can take place, be it under the guise of a medical procedure. In the case of myself I have been told not to come back for further consultation as I was told I was wasting my money and the doctor's time because I was not following fully the treatment prescribed. The doctor in my case could follow what his conscience dictated but in this bill which deals in death he/she is comprised.

The bill is constructed to allow the killing of a baby in utero whenever (even up to just prior to the time of natural birth) the woman freely or otherwise decides to do so. The so called condition of a second consulting doctor is just window dressing and really no safe guard. This has been shown to be the case in the killing of patients in countries that allow euthanasia. The second doctor's signature is just perfunctory. What a tragic situation for a life to be treated with such disdain!

The subject of this bill is very emotive and this is especially the case for a woman who is considering the action of killing her child, yet this bill does nothing to help psychologically a female in this situation. The natural instinct of a mother to be is to nurture the child that she is carrying. So what has happened to cause her to consider harming her offspring?

We hear plenty about bullying in all walks of life today through the media. It is well known that when an unexpected pregnancy occurs the female can be subjected to pressure to terminate the life of the baby she carries even though it is against her maternal instincts. She may not know which way to turn. She may give way to the selfish outside pressure not knowing there are alternatives i.e. choices, not just one choice. She knows little about the procedure of abortion and its after effects on her mental wellbeing. You would think that a government that is caring of women would firstly be caring of their psychological state. For this to happen there needs to be unbiased counselling for women who may be considering a termination. This would need to be done through specially established clinics with no ties to those who stand to gain financially. These clinics should also cover the other stake holder not considered, the unborn child.

This bill is not worthy of consideration by parliament and should be withdrawn or voted down.

Bernard John Bartsch

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]