

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee](#); [Inala Electorate Office](#); [Jordan Electorate Office](#); [Bundamba Electorate Office](#)  
**Subject:** Submission on Abortion Bill  
**Date:** Tuesday, 4 September 2018 2:19:39 PM

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Dear Anastacia, Joanne, Charis and representatives from QLD Health

Thank you for the opportunity to write to you regarding the abortion laws in QLD.

I know it is difficult to legislate around life and which life has priority and to what extent. I do not support newly proposed bill because of my beliefs that an unborn child is a real person with rights. I have some thoughts, comments and questions which I would like to have considered.

I agree that a woman's life should be prioritised above that of an unborn child (if the mother is at serious risk of death or permanent disability) but struggle with the looseness of this new legislation which seems to be opening the gates even further to valuing a mother's **preferences** (or their chief influencers') **ahead of the priority of unborn child's right to life.**

If the law is to be changed could it be modified to remove the criminal side of things for abortions before the sex of the child has/can be determined and before a certain milestone? ... But then after that milestone, keeping it illegal to have an abortion for merely preferential reasons?

For example, by:

- a. keeping the criminal code in place for those who don't comply with the rules around abortion and take the life of an unborn child .
- b. making it harder to receive permission for an abortion, meaning more than just one doctor + a distant second, calling a child's life to an end.. especially if the matter is a mental health issue rather than an urgent medical issue (where the mother's life is more obviously at risk),

Could you please consider the following safeguards.

ie Physical Life of Mother is at Risk.. - Guidelines 2 Doctors + Mother

Mental Health of Mother is at Risk - Guidelines 2 Doctors + Mental Health professional ( professional has been consulted over .6 sessions and agrees that mental health of patient is seriously at risk (eg suicidal)

Something like this would aid the mental health of the mother who would nearly certainly appreciate support of this nature regardless of her final decision and decision of the health professionals. It also provides more safe guards to protect the high value for the child's life... This may not soften resistance from some anti abortionists but it may work to addressing some of the most common community concerns....

Thank you again!

God bless you  
Phil Cutcliffe

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