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Submission

To

**The Health, Communities, Disability Services and
Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee**

Committee Secretary,
Parliament House,
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Brisbane Qld 4000
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Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018

By

[Redacted]

Date: 4 September 2018

[Redacted]

This third Queensland Bill to legalise killing of innocent children in the womb – through abortion – should be rejected.

It is outrageous legislation. It legalises abortion for the pre-born who can survive outside the womb, if they have post-birth medical treatment.

I refer to the content of this third bill to amend the abortion law in Queensland, 'Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018'², introduced on 22 August 2018 by the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Hon Yvette D'Ath MP. However, it also is supported by Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk and Deputy Premier Jackie Trad (Calwell 2018) – a member of Emily's List.

1. *Queensland abortion* [REDACTED]

In the three decades from 1984-2014, when abortion was illegal in Queensland, Medicare statistics reported that there were 388,220 'legal' abortions in this State³ (Johnston 2015). That makes [REDACTED] and other persecuted people in the World War 2 look like a blip on the radar.

Reporting for abortions is incomplete; reported abortions include only Medicare abortions, and these figures are incomplete for 2010-2011. Abortion figures are for calendar years, some figures are interpolated from fiscal year figures (Johnston 2015).

What would the number of abortions be in Queensland in a given year if 100% of them were statistically recorded?

There is no gentle way to describe what is happening in Queensland than to say we already have a catastrophic, destructive, devastating annihilation of human life in the womb. In defiance of the law, abortions continue to take place, with federal government financial assistance through Medicare.

It will become a cataclysmic [REDACTED] of mammoth proportions if The Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 becomes law. According to the Bill, unborn human life can legally be murdered up to 22 weeks gestation (Bill §5) and 'a medical practitioner may perform a termination on a woman who is more than 22 weeks pregnant' if two medical practitioners consider 'that, in all the circumstances, the termination should be performed' (Bill §6). There is an exception that requires the approval of only one medical practitioner 'in an emergency' [Bill §6(3)].

So is it possible, under some circumstances, to murder a child right up until birth? It sure sounds like it – in the case of an 'emergency'. Shouldn't the first priority be to save the lives of both mother and unborn child and giving priority

² Available at:

(Accessed 28 August 2018).

³ These are my calculations from the data available from Johnston (2015).

to an emergency Caesarean section or inducing premature birth - if needed in the latter stages of pregnancy?

This is detestable legislation that only increases the number of murdered children annually in Queensland. This State will suffer consequences from what it legalises.

The New England Journal of Medicine in 2015 reported its study of 4,700 infants born prior to 27 weeks gestation and their survival rates:

Outcomes were known for 4704 children (94.3%) at 18 to 22 months of corrected age.... Among those who received active treatment and whose outcomes were known at follow-up (4046 children), 65.0% survived, 56.1% survived without severe neurodevelopmental impairment, and 40.8% survived without moderate or severe neurodevelopmental impairment.... All infants who did not receive active treatment (658 infants) died within 24 hours after birth (Rysavy et al 2015).

These are the unborn children that the Qld Labor Party wants to murder, children who were born at 18-22 months gestation and have active treatment after birth. The evidence is in and this legislation ignores the fact of survival of a majority percentage of the preborn at 22 weeks.

Premature babies are being kept alive in Australian hospitals after birth at 22 weeks. Dedicated doctors and nurses devote untiring hours to the care of these vulnerable new-born children. To allow abortion at this age of development is a shocking and shameful action.

The argument that 'we believe women must have control over their own bodies and choices in their lives'⁴ rings hollow when one ignores the rights of unborn children (human beings) in the womb who need the protection of this Qld government.

Instead, the government should write legislation to end this slaughter of children and makes abortion available only in the most desperate situations. All other abortions should be criminal offences because it is murder of a human being.

The government should encourage 'unwanted' children to be available for adoption.

2. *Reasons already given for opposing decriminalisation of abortion in Qld*

⁴ This is one of the beliefs of members of Emily's List. Available at: (Accessed 29 August 2018). Several Queensland MPs are members of Emily's List and support this philosophy. See the list at: (Accessed 29 August 2018).

The issues I raised in my submission to the Queensland 'Abortion Law Reform (Woman's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016, the first Bill proposed by Rob Pyne MP, and that I submitted on 28 June 2016 are the same kinds of objections I have to this new Bill, along with a few additions. My previous submission was published online as submission No 455.⁵

I refer you to that submission for the detailed reasons why I oppose decriminalising abortion in Qld. In summary, the rationale includes:

3. *What it does to unborn children*

It means the butchering (murdering) of unborn children. In my previous submission, I provided photographs that graphically compared newborn children with the unborn who were slaughtered in abortion. Those photographs were blacked out. Were they too graphic to expose what the murder of unborn children looks like?

3.1 Abortion's negative impact

See _____ for more details on the impact of abortion. These facts include, but are not limited to:

Fact 1: Every abortion kills an innocent human being.

Fact 2: Every human being is a person.

Fact 3: It is just, reasonable, and necessary for society to outlaw certain choices.

Fact 4: The right to not be killed supersedes the right not to be pregnant.

Fact 5: Abortion is to be condemned for similar reasons to why slavery and genocide are denounced.

4. *The rights and wrongs of abortion*

4.1 This Bill legalises murder of unborn children.

Are the unborn really children who are murdered in abortion?

Australia's legal system declares it a crime to murder any human being (reinforced by the Judeo-Christian fifth commandment, 'You shall not murder', Exodus 20:13). How do we know a child in the womb is a living human being from conception? Scientific evidence demonstrates it (see §6 of this Submission)

4.2 Why is it wrong to murder the unborn?

⁵ Available at:

(Accessed 28 August 2018).

As indicated above, it is the murdering of a living human being and should suffer the same penalty as the murder of any other person under the Queensland criminal code.

Even a **leader** of what is now a leading abortion provider in the USA, **Planned Parenthood, Dr Alan Guttmacher**, stated in 1961, '**Fertilization**, then, has taken place; **a baby has been conceived**' (in Shettles & Rorvik 1983:112, emphasis added).

A nurse, educator and founder of Planned Parenthood, **Margaret Sanger**, did not set out as a promoter of abortion. In her autobiography, she wrote of what she told her clients when she opened her Brooklyn clinic in 1916:

To each group we explained simply what contraception was, that abortion was the wrong way—no matter how early it was performed **it was taking life**, that contraception is the better, the safer way (Sanger 1938:217, emphasis added).

She also wrote that abortion caused women to be 'physically damaged and spiritually crippled' (Sanger 1938:87).

What does Planned Parenthood teach in the USA today? In 2016, 'Planned Parenthood vowed to redouble its efforts to fight abortion restrictions across the country [USA]' (Planned Parenthood 2018).

However, there are scientists who disagree with the Guttmacher and Sanger position that any abortion is the 'taking of life' and a baby is conceived at 'fertilisation'.

Dr. Richard Paulson is a professor of obstetrics and gynaecology at the University of Southern California and wrote,

From a scientific perspective, life doesn't begin at any one point, it is a continuum. For HHS⁶ to define it as beginning at conception is a transparent attempt to justify restrictions on certain contraceptives as well as abortion (Paulson 2017).

What is the situation in Australia concerning the advocacy of when human life begins? Children by Choice (Australia) defines according to personhood:

In the absence of specific legislation or scientific consensus, this [whether or not the foetus is a person] is very much a matter for individual beliefs and values, and it is up to each person as to when they (sic) believe life begins (Children by Choice 2016).

What would happen if that was the ethical position of a group of Australians who go on a crime spree of breaking and enter of houses 'because they believe this is what is OK for them'. Why should we reject this relativistic

⁶ This refers to the USA Department of Health and Human Services.

example since Children by Choice leaves it up to people to decide 'when they believe life begins'. This latter example demonstrates that Australians are inventing autonomous values that are similar to those of Israel during the period of the Judges: 'All the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes' (Judges 17:6).

Anatomists Keith Moore, T V N Persaud, and Mark Torchia in *The Developing Human* (10th ed) concluded differently to Paulson: 'Human development is a continuous process that begins when an oocyte from a female is fertilized by a sperm from a male' (Moore et al 2015:1).

See §6 below for further proof of human life commencing at conception.

4.2.1 Parliaments legislate, but God sets the boundaries of what makes abortion wrong.

'You shall not murder' is one of the Ten Commandments and it is a fundamental of Australian law. These commandments are the pillars of our Judeo-Christian-based Australian society. 'You shall not murder' also was reinforced by Jesus Christ (Mark 10:19).

But the Qld parliament proposes to scuttle this legislation that is a fundamental of a just Australian society.

Ms D'Ath has introduced a system of values in this abortion legislation that is based on the committee's relativistic ethic that human beings can start from their own reasoning and develop standards of justice to judge what is right or wrong about murdering the unborn.

For this legislation, there is no unchanging standard of behaviour to determine if murder of human beings – from conception to natural death – is right or wrong. A secular society – like Australia has become – replaces absolute values with what seems like more necessary and common opinions that seem right to individuals and groups.

Autonomous reason is the lord of values in Australia!

4.2.1.1 Violation of the Hippocratic Oath

This proposed legislation violates a fundamental of the medical profession's Hippocratic Oath (which has a 2,000 year history) by which the medical profession affirms, 'I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from the time of conception' [The World Medical Association Declaration of Geneva (1948) Physician's Oath].⁷

⁷ Center for Injury Research and Policy (CIRP) 2002. Available at: (Accessed 28 August 2018).

Some have told me that Queensland medical schools no longer require graduating students to affirm the Hippocratic Oath. I know a medical graduate from a Queensland university in recent years who affirmed the Hippocratic Oath at graduation.

The Australian Medical Association 'has adopted the World Medical Association's (WMA) Declaration of Geneva as a contemporary companion to the 2,500-year-old Hippocratic Oath'. This WMA set of principles is a voluntary code, but in my view it compromises the Hippocratic Oath's, 'I will maintain the utmost respect for human life from the time of conception'. It adds to the Hippocratic Oath a number of statements, including, 'I will maintain the utmost respect for human life' (Australian Medical Association 2006).

No indication is given in the new Oath of when human life begins. This seems to be a way of excluding the unborn as a human being.

4.2.2 God's absolutes guarantee justice

The Ten Commandments are God's guarantee for a just society. This teaching applies to Queensland as this parliament votes on legislation to decriminalise the murder of unborn children. The proposed legislation clearly violates God's instructions to make Queensland a place of justice: 'Justice [righteousness] exalts a nation, but sin is a people's disgrace'.⁸ The footnote for this verse states, 'In measuring the greatness of a nation, one is tempted to consider territory, wealth, history, but the most important criterion is its relationship to God ("justice")'.

Will this legislation to murder the unborn and to decriminalise those who authorise and perform it, be a just treatment that will bring Queenslanders closer to God? Certainly not! This legislation demands rejection, for the good of Queenslanders and of the Qld government.

5. *This will be what will happen for many Qld children if MPs CHOOSE to reject the Bill.*

You will choose the beautiful life of a newborn child over death through slaughter of the unborn!

5.1 Laws omitted by 'Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018'

These sections relate to the existing act on abortion:

⁸ Proverbs 14:34, New American Bible Revised Edition. Available at:

(Accessed 29 August 2018). See further exposition below.

- Section 224 Attempts to procure abortion⁹
- Section 225 The like by women with child¹⁰
- Section 226 Supplying drugs or instruments to procure abortion¹¹

5.2. Life of the mother is protected in the existing Act.

Section 282, 'Surgical operations and medical treatment' protects the mother in the current law.¹²

5.3 What are the attitudes of the Qld community?

Why isn't the Queensland government listening to people in this great State? **Queenslanders are opposed to more abortion** (see information below).

6. *Politicians: What do Queenslanders want?*

MPs, are you listening to 'What Queenslanders Really Think About Abortion'? If you were, you would not support the decriminalisation of abortion. This is what Galaxy Research discovered in a randomised telephone opinion poll of 400 Queensland voters, conducted from 6 - 8 May 2016, with 13 questions. The research concluded that a majority of Queenslanders do not want abortion decriminalised. Here are the ...

6.1 Results from 2016

- 55% agreed that abortion takes a human life;
- 66% agreed that the unborn is a person with rights at 20 weeks gestation;
- 84% agree that abortion harms women's health;
- 87% support a cooling off period of 2-3 days;
- 94% agreed with independent counselling for someone seeking an abortion;
- 72% opposed late term abortions past 13 weeks;
- 79% support conscientious objection to abortion;
- 85% were opposed to late term abortion past 20 weeks;
- 75% supported parental consent for abortions on minors;

⁹ Queensland Consolidated Acts, Criminal Code 1899 - SECT 224. Available at: (Accessed 17 May 2016).

¹⁰ Queensland Consolidated Acts, Criminal Code 1899 - SECT 225. Available at: (Accessed 17 May 2016).

¹¹ Queensland Consolidated Acts, Criminal Code 1899 - SECT 226. Available at: (Accessed 17 May 2016).

¹² Queensland Consolidated Acts, Criminal Code 1899 - SECT 282. Available at: (Accessed 19 May 2016).

- 45% opposed, 38% agreed, 17% were unsure of abortions for non-medical reasons;
- 49% opposed and 43% agreed with the decriminalisation of abortion;
- Views on the current law: 39% too restrictive, 42% about right, 11% not restrictive enough;
- There was a potential swing of 6% against pro-abortion MPs (Galaxy Research 2016:2).

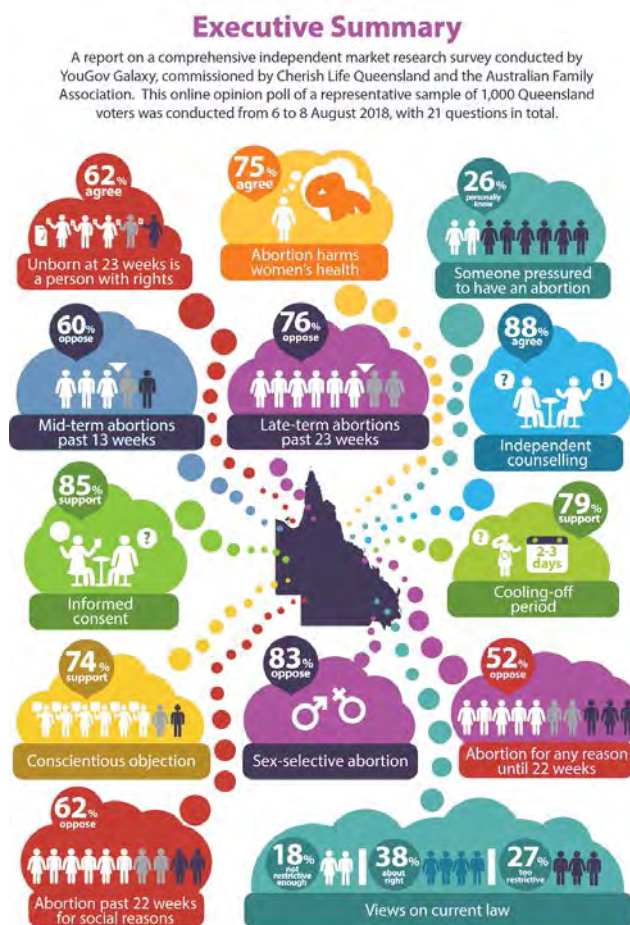
That was the Galaxy poll in 2016.

6.2 Results in August 2018

What are Queenslanders concluding about abortion in 2018?

[There was] a comprehensive independent market research survey conducted by YouGov Galaxy Research, commissioned by the Australian Family Association and Cherish Life Queensland.

This study was conducted online among a representative sample of voters in Queensland from **Tuesday, 6 August to Thursday, 8 August, 2018**. The sample comprises 1,000 respondents, distributed throughout



Queensland including Brisbane, regional and rural areas. YouGov Galaxy designed the questionnaire (Cherish Life 2018, emphasis in original).

Therefore, this latest poll does not provide comfort and support for the Queensland Government's overhaul and decriminalisation of abortion. The August 2018 survey indicates that **55% of Queenslanders who vote consider the current abortion law should become stricter or stay the same**. Sixty-two percent of those surveyed consider the unborn at 23 weeks is a person with rights (Cherish Life 2018).

Queensland Government: Why aren't you listening?

Both medical science and the Judeo-Christian Scriptures confirm that human life begins at conception. Therefore, murdering the Queensland unborn at the rate of 15,000 (2009) and 10,000 (2014) per year is an **abhorrent** [REDACTED]. These were statistics recorded by Medicare (Johnston 2015).

In figurative and poetic language, the Psalmist wrote:

¹³ You formed my inmost being;

you knit me in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I praise you, because I am wonderfully made;
wonderful are your works!

My very self you know.

¹⁵ My bones are not hidden from you,
When I was being made in secret,

fashioned in the depths of the earth.[figurative language for the womb].

¹⁶ Your eyes saw me unformed;

in your book all are written down;

my days were shaped, before one came to be (Psalm 139:13-16

NABRE, emphasis added).¹³

6.3 What people WANT should never be the standard.

The popular vote should not determine if abortion is right or wrong because that would commit the [REDACTED]. However, these polls are indications of how people judge the facts known to them concerning what the Qld government is planning to do with changing abortion laws.

7. Human life begins at conception.

I've presented some of the conflicting evidence in §4 above. However, there are specialist voices that conclude that human life begins at fertilisation.

Leading obstetrician gynaecologist and medical researcher, Landrum B. Shettles MD, wrote that the real core of the debate over when life begins is 'the clash between an ethic that makes the sanctity of human life an absolute and a new ethic that renders that life relative and sometimes expendable' (Shettles with Rorvik 1983:107).

Dr Jerome LeJeune, professor of genetics at the University of Descartes in Paris stated:

When does life begin? ... Life has a very long history, but each individual has a very neat beginning, the moment of its conception.... To accept the fact that after fertilization has taken place a new human being has come

¹³ Available at:

(Accessed 29 August 2018).

into being is no longer a matter of taste or opinion. The human nature of the human being, conception to old age, is not a metaphysical contention, it is plain experimental evidence (LeJeune in Shettles & Rorvik 1983:113).

Senator John Crown stated in the *Irish Independent*, on the subject of abortion, 'The early human embryo 'is a form of life in the same sense that a sperm or a cancer cell growing in a dish is a form of life'. Dr William Reville of University College, Cork in Ireland objected in a letter published in that paper, stating, 'This opinion is simply wrong – it contradicts elementary biological fact'. Reville continued:

An individual human life begins at conception when a sperm cell from the father fuses with an egg cell from the mother, to form a new cell, the zygote, the first embryonic stage. The zygote grows and divides into two daughter cells, each of which grows and divides into two grand-daughter cells, and this cell growth/division process continues on, over and over again. The zygote is the start of a biological continuum that automatically grows and develops, passing gradually and sequentially through the stages we call foetus, baby, child, adult, old person and ending eventually in death (Reville 2013, emphasis added).

On his current homepage (28 August 2018), even though he died in 1994, in an interview Professor LeJeune was asked: 'From your evidence could we conclude that it is a scientific fact that individual life starts from the first moment of conception?'

My answer is yes. And the reason is, **if I do not say yes, I could not teach genetics. This question is never raised except when you want to discard an embryo.** Never does an expert on mice, cats or cattle ask himself at what moment does begin a mouse, or a cat or ... cattle. **All of them know that they do begin at fecundation [fertilisation]** and they **teach that to their students.** I [trust that] that no people working with [m]ice or with cattle or with any living system will wander (sic) at what moment does occur the beginning of the cat, the beginning of the fly. **Everybody knows that it is at fecundation [fertilisation].** It is only **when they question what kind of respect** should they have for that tiny new being that they discuss beginning, but **scientifically there are no discussions.** The beginning is at the beginning. Nobody discusses the mousification of a mouse (LeJeune n.d., emphasis added)

8. What drives the abortion agenda?

Worldviews influence reality and two radically different worldviews are influencing decisions regarding abortion in Qld. Those worldviews involve (1) the value of human life from conception to natural death, and (2) the life or choice of the mother (the adult) is more important than the life in the womb, i.e. the decision to abort is the woman's choice. Two different philosophies drive these worldviews.

9. Righteousness (God's justice) exalts a nation

Proverbs 14:34 states, 'Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people'. God's message is straightforward regarding any State or nation.

- When a nation practises God's righteousness in national and State actions or in person-to-person relationships, the nation will be exalted in its reputation and in its impact for God and justice.
- However, if sinful government decisions are made (e.g. promoting abortion and breaking God's law against murder) and people act sinfully towards one another, the nation will be condemned.
- Should the State of Queensland legislate for the murder of unborn human life, it will be exalting injustice (unrighteousness) in this State towards the unborn. It will be promoting a route to condemnation and ruin for Qld.

10. Additional issues raised by this new Bill

According to *The Sydney Morning Herald* (Dumas 2016), the first Bill to decriminalise abortion, promoted by Rob Pyne MP, was rejected because 'the committee was unable to support the Bill as it failed to address a number of important policy issues and to achieve a number of its own stated objectives' (Chairwoman and Labor MP, Leanne Linard, stated)'.

Is this a normal procedure for all Bills in the Qld parliament where a Committee rejects a Bill on certain grounds and the Bill is regurgitated in another form? It sure reads like a strong pro-abortion, left wing agenda is being pushed by some MPs in the Qld Parliament in this third Bill!

10.1 Issues that should be added to the Bill

Have you forgotten about these?

10.1.1 Parental consent for underage abortion

What did the Galaxy Research in May 2016 find? 'Three-quarters of Queensland voters (75%) believe parental consent should normally be required for girls under the age of 16 to have an abortion. Support is strongest in the 35-49 age group, with 82% agreement. Just 20% of all voters disagree' (Galaxy Research 2016:6).

Because 16 is the age of consent for sexual relations, making 16 the age of parental consent for abortion is reasonable for a just society as parents (wherever possible) should be involved in this major decision. Therefore, I consider that it should be compulsory to have parental consent for children and youth under age 16 who seek an abortion. Otherwise, you will undermine the fabric of that family's cohesion.

10.1.2 Compulsory independent counselling

One of the essentials that should be added to this Bill is compulsory, independent counselling before an abortion is performed. Information about informed consent should be included in such counselling, which should not be conducted by any abortion providers as counselling in that environment could be regarded as advocacy for an abortion. The benefit of independent counselling is that it helps deal with the possibility of interference (coercion) by parents, partner or husbands and those promoting abortion services.

You should follow the South Australian example of 2003 'when the Women's and Children's Hospital in Adelaide introduced mandatory independent counselling for women before having an abortion, [and] the number of abortions over the next 12 months fell by 25% ("Advice Curbs Terminations", *Sunday Mail* - Adelaide - 25 July 2004).¹⁴

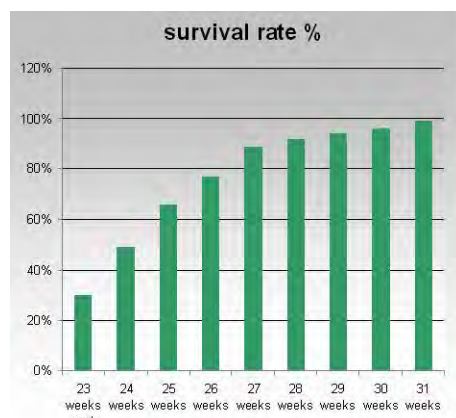
11. Flawed content in this Bill

I want to raise six issues of faulty elements that need to be removed from this Bill. They are:

11.1 Two doctors taking coal to the Galilee Basin

When it is stated in the Bill that two doctors are needed to sign for a late term abortion, it suggests that something fishy is going on. This is a ploy to try to convince us, the general public, that if two doctors approve abortions after 22 weeks (Bill §2.6), then that makes such abortions legitimate. There is absolutely no need for a second doctor's opinion or signature.

In August 2014, a world first Melbourne based study to determine how being born prematurely affects your adult life, has shown that premature babies born at 24-weeks gestation have a 60% chance of survival and that survival rates have never been higher.



(Table source – NSW Neonatal Intensive Care Study (NICUS) data for 2001 – 2004)¹⁵

There is no need for two doctors to approve an abortion after 22 weeks.

¹⁴ This was cited in Baker (2010).

¹⁵ L'il aussie prems foundation (2007-2016). Survival rate for premature babies (online).

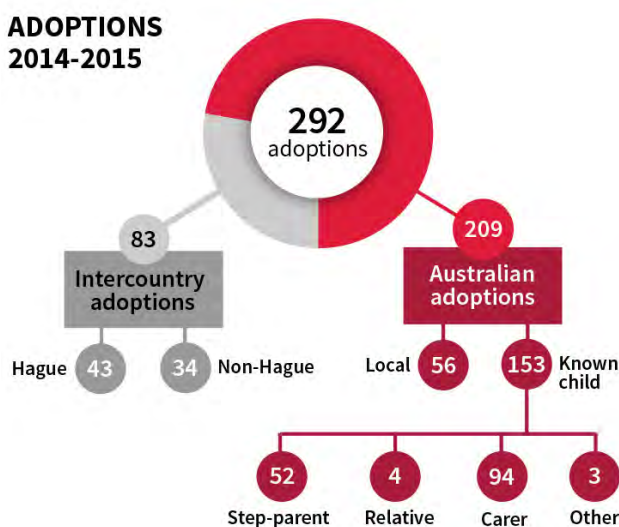
Available at:

2 October 2016).

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No viable unborn child ever needs to be murdered to protect the mother’s health when early delivery may be possible or Caesarean section as another option.

If the birth mother does not want to keep the child, there are infertile couples waiting in line who are prepared to adopt such a child. In December 2015, *The Sydney Morning Herald* reported that ‘in Australia just 292 adoptions were completed in the past financial year, a decline of 8 per cent on the previous period’. Graphically, this can be portrayed:



(Preiss 2015).

Please remove this requirement for two doctors to approve an abortion after 22 weeks when it is not necessary. This will not protect viable pre-born children. It will cause them to be murdered. Encourage women to carry these pre-born children to full term, give birth, and allow the children to be available for adoption.

11.2 Mandatory advice on the risks of abortion

Galaxy Research (2016:5) found that ‘there is widespread belief in Queensland (94%) that before having an abortion a woman should receive free independent counselling and information so that she can make a fully informed decision. Only 5% disagree’. Therefore, while it is recommended that only doctors should perform abortions, the law should require that doctors provide women with comprehensive details on the risks of abortion prior to the abortion. This should be in conjunction with independent counselling.

11.3 Freedom of speech eroded

Regarding the requirement that there should be ‘safe zones’ around an abortion facility and that this prescribed distance should be at least 150m from the abortion facility’ [Act, Part 4], is an attack on one of the fundamentals of a democratic society.

What other business in Australia has this kind of prohibition put on it? It is especially important that freedom of peaceful protest should be allowed around a killing facility such as an abortion clinic or hospital.

'Hundreds of farmers marched on Queensland's parliament house in Brisbane ... chanting for "fair laws for farmers"', according to *ABC News* (Gregory 2016). It's suitable for farmers to protest in downtown Brisbane, but not acceptable for reasonable human beings to protest against the slaughter of unborn children in a clinic. This is a travesty of justice that should be removed from the legislation. Australia's thriving democracy depends on freedom of speech.

11.3.1 Right to Protest Aborted

Why is the Queensland Government violating its own 'Right to Protest' legislation? This states:

Under the [Peaceful Assembly Act 1992 \(Qld\) \(PDF\)](#) (the PAA), you have the right to hold peaceful public assemblies in Queensland.

Public assembly is any rally or demonstration held in a public place, whether or not it is held in just one place or it moves between an assembly point and another location.

A public place includes a road, a place usually open to or used by the public, or a place that is temporarily open or being used by the public.¹⁶

So it's convenient for this new Qld legislation to dodge this Peaceful Assembly Act 1991 (Qld): 'This part applies despite the *Peaceful Assembly Act 1992 (Qld)*' [Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 (4.1.12)].

This is another example of legislation for convenience, driven by a pro-abortion agenda by the Qld government.

An environmental activist won his case, involving direct protest in Gladstone:

'Gladstone Harbour is sick, and protest action from the community has been validated.... Federal Environment Minister Burke and Queensland Environment Minister Darling, Fishery Minister Wallace, and the Premier Bligh have been slapped in the face today by the Queensland courts'.

On the 9 Nov 2011 environmental activist Derec Davies boarded and stopped the controversial dredging in Gladstone Harbour. Gaining national media attention and connecting dredging impacts to the Great Barrier Reef and the activities of Queensland's coal and coal seam gas industry.

'No fine, no conviction, and the damages claim thrown out. This is an exceptional win and sends a clear signal to Minister Darling that the

¹⁶ Queensland Government 1995-2016. Right to protest (online). Available at:

(Accessed 3 October 2016).

environment and the concerns from the community will come before industry in the eyes of the law', said Davies.¹⁷

Farmers can take their protest right to the doors of Queensland Parliament House. An environmental activist can board a dredge with legal approval, but when abortionists murder unborn human beings, Queenslanders will be removed by 150 metres to protest against those slaughter houses. That's not only an unjust requirement in this legislation but it abrogates the democratic freedoms we have in this country. Please delete this part of the legislation.

If you pass legislation that restricts the right to protest, in light of this law of the Peaceful Assembly Act 1992, you have promoted the [law of non-contradiction](#). The right for peaceful protest outside an abortion provider should be our democratic right in Queensland. Why do you want to stop this from happening? Does the Qld Labor government, with this new legislation, have agendas and worldviews to protect?

Shame on the Qld government for allowing legislation to be presented that infringes on our right to peaceful assembly outside an abortion facility! Requiring a 150 metre distance from the facility is promoting a pro-abortion agenda and its bias.

Of course there is the need for female clients to be protected from those who might abuse, harass, or intimidate the person. Such should never be supported or encouraged. However, there should be every right in this country of freedom to be able to hand out literature, pray and engage in peaceful protests outside such providers – right up to the pavement outside the facility. It is a threat to freedom of speech to have a protest free zone for 150 metres outside these clinics.

I object to the Qld Parliament including a criminal provision against those who want to peacefully counter abortions, but this legislation agrees to provide protection for those abortionists who kill unborn children for financial gain.

11.4 Conscientious objections

According to the Galaxy Research (2016:7), 'Eight in ten voters (79%) support conscientious objection provisions allowing doctors and nurses to opt out of having to perform abortion operations against their will'. Therefore, it is not necessary to have a conscientious objection provision added to the law. That should be automatic for us in our just society.

I commend this legislation for its allowing conscientious objection (Act §2.8).

However, I object strongly to the exclusion of the right to conscientious objection for an emergency abortion: 'This section [conscientious objection]

¹⁷ Friends of the Earth Brisbane 2012. Environmental protests given green light in Queensland (online), 19 January. Available at:

(Accessed 3 October 2016).

does not limit any duty owed by a registered health practitioner to provide a service in an emergency (Act §2.8.4).

The need for conscientious objection to be allowed without exception is a fundamental that must not be violated by this new Act. In the case of an ectopic pregnancy where an embryo is lodged in the fallopian tube, this is a situation where the embryo cannot survive and the removal of the embryo to save the life of the mother is not an abortion.

There is no ethical issue here as any doctor or nurse who objects to abortion would not be participating in the killing of an unborn human being who could go on to become a birthed child. However, if such a medical person wants to be exempted from the procedure for conscience reasons, such should be allowed automatically, with no threat to employment or criminal sanction.

11.5 Queensland's '██████████',

This legislation has overtones of the ██████████ (the Nazi plan to exterminate the Jews in World War 2), because it allows abortion right up until the time of birth. This is an abomination.

I find what this legislation wants to authorise to be monstrous for any civilised society.

In the Galaxy Research (2016), it found that:

- 85% of Queensland voters oppose late-term abortions after 20 weeks.
- 72% oppose abortion after 13 weeks of pregnancy.
- Of the 50% who would allow abortion in the first trimester, 45% of these are opposed to abortion for financial or social reasons.
- About 98% of all abortions are for financial and social reasons.

This Queensland Galaxy Research (2016) makes it clear that the majority of Qld people do not want abortion more freely available in this state. I call on you as MPs to agree with Queenslanders and quit playing into the left, pro-abortion, Emily's List, agenda.

11.6 Legalise abortion and watch numbers increase further

Making abortion more freely available through this Act will lead to more abortions and escalate the medical costs. The example of poker machines should be an example of what can happen.

Legalising them has led to more drastic use. Monash University's Charles Livingstone, an authority on gambling issues, told *ABC News*, Brisbane, Qld., concerning the reduction from \$10,000 to \$7,500 in the maximum amount pokie players can insert and store in machines: 'This is supposed to be a harmless entertainment. Why on earth would you need to put \$7,500 in a

poker machine in a club or pub if it were genuinely merely harmless fun? The only impact of this is to make money laundering slightly more difficult, but only slightly' (Steketee 2015).

Legalising brothels is another example of what positive legislation can do. It has led to more use of prostitutes. Victoria's sex industry was described in 2011 in *The Age*:

CHINESE organised crime syndicates are running multimillion-dollar prostitution rackets across Melbourne by bribing officials and exploiting abysmal regulation. The syndicates are linked to human trafficking and arrange for dozens of Asian women to travel from interstate and overseas - often on student visas - to work in brothels.

In several instances, figures linked to the illegal prostitution syndicates - including Mulgrave woman Xue Di Yan - are also licensed by the Victorian government to run legal brothels....

Victoria's illegal sex industry has enjoyed a decade of unparalleled growth due to a systemic failure by police, Consumer Affairs, the Immigration Department and local councils, which are variously hamstrung due to inadequate powers, legal loopholes and under-resourcing (McKenzie & Beck 2011).

The Age reported in 2015 that 'in Victoria, abortion was decriminalised in 2008. It is legal up to 24 weeks for any reason, and requires two doctors to agree after 24 weeks' (Medew 2015). How did that affect the number of late term abortions?

Scores of women are flying into Victoria to have late-term abortions each year because of prohibitive laws in other states and territories.

The demand for the controversial procedure is so great in Melbourne that the main service is flying doctors in from South Australia because there is a shortage of doctors trained and willing to do it in Victoria.

Marie Stopes International, the only private organisation that provides terminations for women 20-24 weeks pregnant in Victoria, said about 46 per cent of these procedures were done for interstate women.

The group declined to say how many it performed each year (Medew 2015).

Do you want to see Queensland's abortion facilities flooded with appointments for abortion for social and financial reasons and not for medically urgent reasons? Then go ahead and decriminalise abortion as planned in this Act. Responsible governments should know not to do that when we know that killing the unborn is murder and that most do not seek abortion for necessitous reasons. What are the reasons? *The Sydney Morning Herald* reported:

BAD timing is the most common reason for women seeking abortions at Royal Women's Hospital [Melbourne], the first report on women using its pregnancy advisory service has found.

An analysis of 3018 women seeking terminations between October 2006 and September 2007 showed 1026, or 34 per cent, listed their primary reason as "does not want children now" or "not the right time".

- **'Bad timing' most common reason for seeking termination**
- **Most Pregnancy Advisory Service users aged 18 to 38**
- **Socially disadvantaged women contacting service later**

Another 547, or 18 per cent, said they already had enough children, 263, or 9 per cent, said they were caring for a young baby, and 339, or 11 per cent, said they were too young.

Financial, relationship or medical reasons together accounted for 19 per cent of cases, and rape for 1 per cent (Medew 2009).

So, 92% of this sample over 12 months of 3012 cases of abortion were for non-urgent, social, and convenience reasons. There is no reason why this kind of abortion-for-convenience situation would not be the case in Queensland with decriminalisation of abortion. Let Victoria and other states take the 'abortion tourism'. Queensland does not need to promote murder of unborn children for the sake of the mother's and/or partner's convenience.

11.7 Need for cooling-off period

After a pregnant women has been counselled by a doctor or professional counsellor, providing details of the impact of abortion on her and the unborn child, there should be a compulsory cooling-off period of 3 days. This allows her (and her partner/spouse) time to consider their decision and its ramifications.

All counselling should be by a doctor or counsellor who is independent of an abortion clinic which is financially benefitted by the abortion procedure.

12 MPs are you ready?

Galaxy Research (2016:8) 'suggests a potential average swing of 6% against MPs who vote for decriminalisation of abortion'.

13. Conclusion

This Bill should be thrown out because it murders unborn children who are human beings and has a negative impact on the mother-to-be, child, family and society.

As a group of State MPs, you will be judged on how you treat all people, including those from conception to birth.

Removing abortion's criminality from the law means that Queensland approves the slaying of the unborn. It is wrong (yes, immoral) to murder human beings. God's absolute standard against murder guarantees justice for Queenslanders. You, as Queensland MPs, need to uphold God's justice, 'You shall not murder'. Don't you understand the seriousness of what you are doing to society with the authorisation of the killing of the unborn?

To legalise abortion means Queensland prefers slaughter of a human being to the birth of a beautiful newborn child. Current laws protect unborn children from murder and offer the mother a way out in case her life is threatened.

Queenslanders in the majority oppose abortion that takes a human life (Galaxy Research 2016). Human life begins at conception, which is a medical and biological fact. A worldview of murdering human life is driving this agenda to promote abortion.

God's righteousness exalts a nation (including Queensland) and the sin of abortion would condemn Queensland MPs who legislate this sinful behaviour and those who practise abortion.

What should be added to this Bill? There needs an insertion of parental consent for underage abortion and compulsory independent counselling should be introduced for every person seeking an abortion. There needs to be a cooling-off period of 3 days after independent counselling.

The defective content in this Bill includes: The need for two doctors to approve late-term abortions. This should be removed. There should be mandatory, independent advice given to all women who present for an abortion.

Freedom of speech in our democracy is devastated when a protected area of 150 metres around an abortion facility is required. Queensland's Peaceful Assembly Act of 1992 prevents this kind of oppression. It doesn't happen with other protesters for other issues and it should not happen with those who protest outside abortion facilities.

Conscientious objection to any medical procedure automatically exists for staff. There is no need for it to be eliminated for an emergency abortion.

Queensland's alternative to a [REDACTED] is advocated with abortion on demand allowed in this Bill right up until full term (for some). This is obnoxious legislation that has a severe, negative impact on the health of a State.

Legalise abortion and the numbers of abortions will climb. In other jurisdictions, it has been shown that a majority of abortions are for social, convenience and financial reasons. They are not medical emergencies. Is this what you want to support – abortion for any reason?

You support murder of the unborn when you advocate for abortion in this ACT. Queensland MPs will be judged by their answers to this question: 'How did you treat all people, from conception to natural death?'

This [REDACTED] for unborn children should be terminated NOW!

Former surgeon general of the United States, C Everett Koop MD, wrote:

'Protection of the life of the mother as an excuse for an abortion is a smoke screen. In my 36 years of pediatric surgery, I have never known of one instance where the child had to be aborted to save the mother's life. If toward the end of the pregnancy complications arise that threaten the mother's health, the doctor will induce labor or perform a Caesarean section. His intention is to save the life of both the mother and the baby. The baby's life is never willfully destroyed because the mother's life is in danger'
(*Moody Monthly*, May 1980)

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