



Subject:
Date:

Commit Secretariat - Submission for Abortion Reform
Tuesday, 4 September 2018 6:08:12 AM

Attention: Committee Secretariat

Hello,

There has been technological difficulties with the online form when pressing 'submit' on my devices, so I would like to submit a few concerns directly to you.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regarding the reform to the current QLD Abortion Laws:

Firstly, the safeguarding of all medical professionals through upholding conscientious objection is a necessity in this abortion law reform. Please keep this as a priority.

Futhermore, omitting the cases of abortions associated with domestic violence victims, rape victims, Australians suffering poor mental health, vulnerability or fragility through disability; these proposed changes to the existing laws give way, significantly, to abortions for social reasons ie. gender selection.

Undoubtedly, the perceived great need for change to current law is linked to the large scale associated issues such as Domestic Violence, Incest, Rape, Mental Health, and in support of vulnerable Australians. However, there is a great sense that these reforms will not safeguard the pregnant woman, nor safeguard medical professionals, should conscientious objection be altered.

I question, are we making effective social change by this reform or is this grasping at a large scale, blanket solution?

Furthermore, there is pressing need for social change, through a social effort and government-level support, toward rebuilding Australian society in relation to the institution of the family.

If the family unit, in all it's complexities, was recognised more fully for its crucial role in the shaping of society - being the solid foundation of where Australians are first educated and formed in their conscience - and safeguarded because of its role, we would be fertilising the soil for the future generations, so to speak.

Significantly, education has its role in combatting the cycle of domestic violence, incest and rape. However, a blanket law reform gives way to the purely social justification for full term abortion and we would be mistaken if we passively sustained the notion that abortion does not harm women, men and children - the emotional and psychosocial implications of abortion at any stage is significant and needs to be reviewed by law makers.

A reflection on the very real, more psychological response, worth sharing:

As a mother of three, it gravely concerns me that there isn't more governmental push for social change surrounding the associated issues, as first priority.

As a woman, it concerns me that, if I were in a fragile vulnerable, and very hormonal state, such as pregnancy, I could be given the weight of power to terminate a nine-month-old unborn child because I decided that another boy or girl wouldn't suit my family. Or in my vulnerable, hormonal state, I could fleetingly end a nine-month, long awaited journey because of emotional reasons. We are placing a lot of trust in the humanity of two doctors discernment in a fragile moment in time. Has this been properly discerned?

A significant premise is that human life begins with conception. Therefore, an uncomfortable truth is that abortion, at any stage, is the act of ending a human life and should carry with it the grave consequences associated with its action, as if it were the taking of an infant or toddler, or teenager's life. I'm aware that this premise is in a grey area for society, as the definition of the beginning of human life and validity causes division in opinion, however, scientific facts remain.

As an Australian woman who votes very consciously, thank you for receiving my submission.

Thank you for consideration.

Lisa de Weger,

