

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Labor's Termination of Pregnancy Bill  
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Labor's extreme Bill would allow abortion past 22 weeks gestation until almost birth. Although the current law makes abortion an offence, no woman has ever been convicted and Freedom of Information shows that 14,000 abortions were performed last year. I am concerned about the ramifications of this broad approach to modernising this law.

Despite their claim that it supports women's health, I believe it actually does the opposite. What's more according to a recent (August 2018) 1000 person You Gov Galaxy poll the majority of Queenslanders do not support the extreme aspects of this Bill (only 6% support abortion after 23 weeks (including 3% of women) with 76% opposed.

Some reasons why I believe this approach to abortion law is bad for women's health and the unborn child:

- The unborn child dies! They have no say in this as it is all about the 'rights' of women. 62% of Queenslanders agree that the unborn at 23 weeks is a person with rights.
- The very real risks of mental anguish and depression that women may and often do experience. Post abortive women are 6 times more likely to suicide than women who give birth.  
(British medical journal, 1996)
- The current Bill does not include safeguards for women considering an abortion such as independent counselling, informed consent and a cooling off period. This does not help women make an informed (including the possible ramifications) decision at such a crucial time.
- Women are sometimes coerced into making a decision to abort. 26% of Queenslanders personally knew of one woman who was coerced to have an abortion (You Gov Galaxy poll, 2018) This often from a partner, is a form of domestic violence. Isn't our Queensland government trying to stamp out domestic violence as a health and safety scourge affecting women.