

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee](#)
Subject: Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018
Date: Tuesday, 4 September 2018 10:43:15 PM

Dear Committee members,

I am very concerned about the consequences if the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 is passed by the Queensland Parliament.

Firstly, there needs to be much more thorough research into the detrimental effects of abortion on the mental health of women. Has the committee sighted any such research? It is crucial that the committee does not recommend this bill until such research is considered.

I personally know several women who have had abortions who 20 - 30 years later are still suffering mental health issues as a result. Less than a day or two after an abortion many women begin to experience regret and depression. Many have experienced severe depression for many months and years after their abortion. This has caused them to be unable to continue in their careers, university studies, and other employment and even normal day to day activities. Many women succumb to self harm including alcohol and drug abuse. In some cases, such severe and acute depression or desire to self harm has provoked post - abortive women to attempt and commit suicide.

The following are resources on this subject that the committee members should read if they haven't already:

[**Detrimental Effects of Abortion: An Annotated Bibliography with ...**](#)

[REDACTED]
Detrimental Effects of Abortion: An Annotated Bibliography with Commentary:

9780964895706: Medicine & Health Science Books @ Amazon.com.

Forbidden Grief: The Unspoken Pain of Abortion

Book by David Reardon and Theresa Karminski Burke

[**A Solitary Sorrow: Finding Healing & Wholeness after Abortion ...**](#)

[REDACTED]
Editorial Reviews. About the Author. Reisser is a marriage and family therapist. ... *A Solitary Sorrow: Finding Healing & Wholeness after Abortion.*

This bill does not properly warn women of the possible mental health issues as a consequence of an having an abortion.

A woman must be properly informed prior to an abortion by an independent counselor who is not associated with an abortion business. Prior to her first visit to an abortion business a woman should be required to visit an independent counselor who should inform the woman that she may experience serious post-abortion mental health issues such as depression and self harm. She should also be shown an ultra sound photo of her unborn baby so that she is fully aware of the developmental stage of her baby. The bill should ensure such counseling.

As well as being harmful to women, abortion is extremely cruel to the unborn child. This

bill is barbaric as it does not consider the pain a late term abortion will inflict on the child in the womb. Surely modern medicine provides ample evidence that a baby at 22 weeks and more so, up to 38 weeks, will feel pain when he or she is killed through the various cruel processes involved in an abortion.

Why is the committee refusing to look at photographs of aborted babies and abortion procedures? By not receiving photos and so forth, a true grasp of the reality of these cruel procedures and the horrific effects these have on the unborn are not fully considered. What court in our Nation would not consider photographs as they weigh up evidence?

Furthermore, to make it illegal for people to gather in protest or even silent prayer outside abortion clinic businesses is also putting the women seeking an abortion at risk. Pregnant women are often co-coerced into having an abortion by boyfriends, husbands and parents and there will not be anyone except those promoting abortion to witness such co-coercion if people against abortions are prohibited. Pregnant women who are still unsure whether to go ahead with an abortion find such caring people helpful and sometimes avoid having an abortion, that they are actually being co-coerced to have, and thus avoiding years of mental health issues that often plague women who were persuaded or coerced into having an abortion.

Current scientific knowledge of the unborn through pre-natal health studies and services, including ultrasounds and stethoscope/ fetoscope which detects a babies heart beat around 15-17 weeks should make it all the more obvious that 21st century politicians should not legalize wanton barbaric killing of the unborn for 'social reasons'. Additionally, many of our laws are not just from the 19th century but from the 12th century BC, such as Moses law, "Thou shalt not kill". This ancient and current law does not allow murder of anybody by anybody for any reason, especially not social reasons. Nor should our laws allow the killing of the innocent unborn for social reasons as this bill does. Serious health reasons, when there are no other options may justify an abortion as a last resort but not for trivial reasons such as sex-selection or the "mental health" of the woman especially when much more serious health issues are caused by an abortion than by giving birth to a baby.

If these and many other worthwhile recommended amendments are not included in the bill, women who suffer mental health issues as a result of an abortion, may in future take out a class action against the government and rightly so.

Finally, I earnestly request that the committee does not recommend the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018 should be accepted and voted on by the Queensland Parliament, as it is barbaric, backward and not consistent with 21st century scientific and biological knowledge of the unborn and the mental health risks to a post-abortive woman.

Kind regards,
Janne Peterson

[REDACTED],

[REDACTED]