From:

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

Subject: Changes to abortion laws

Date: Tuesday, 4 September 2018 10:38:53 PM

I am writing today to petition against recently proposed drastic changes to Queensland's abortion laws.

There are many and varied reasons why women reach a situation where they are desperate enough to seek an abortion.

Offering abortion up to birth for any reason does not help that woman deal with her crisis and , in addition, takes the precious life of a fellow Queenslander from this earth.

One of the most misinterpreted phrases in this discussion is "unwanted child". I have close friends who registered to adopt for 9 years. These couple are kind, generous, well-educated and well able to provide a beautiful home for a child or children. Now they are classified as too old to adopt.

During every one of those years, thousands of babies' lives were legally terminated in Queensland. They, and many, many other childless couples would have willing received these "unwanted babies" into their arms and raised them as their own.

The media loves to throw around the term "reproductive rights" but the real right of a woman is to be counselled and cared for during a crisis pregnancy to achieve the best outcome for her and her baby.

Unborn baby women(and men) have rights too- the right to be protected at the most vulnerable time of their life.

In our individualistic age, we love to speak of rights, but these are not truly for every individual- simply(as through every age) the rights of the strong against the weak.

Please use the power that you hold to bravely stand for the weak in our society- to stand for women who struggle with crisis pregnancies by providing funding for counselling and care and to stand for their precious and vulnerable children by simply giving them the chance to keep on living.

As John Donne so elegantly explained it during the days of the Black Plague, all of our actions affect others in the society around us..

The way we treat our most vulnerable is a strong mirror to the state of our society.

"No man is an island

Entire of itself

Every man is a piece of the continent

A part of the main

If a clod be washed away by the sea

Europe is the less

As well as if a promontory were

As well as if a manor of thy friend's

Or if thine own were

ANY MAN'S DEATH DIMINISHES ME

Because I am involved in mankind

And therefore NEVER SEND TO KNOW FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS..

It tolls for thee..."

Yours, respectfully

Mrs Jessica Andersen

Sent from my iPhone