

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee](#)
Subject: Abortion bill
Date: Wednesday, 5 September 2018 5:41:35 AM

Abortion letter.

This is not a letter from a qualified professional or from my own personal experience, just from a concerned citizen who witnessed the experience of others at the Abortion forum recently held in parliament house. Each Story below is important as each person clearly explains the dangers in voting YES to the proposed legislation on abortion. This covers a wide range of issues presented by the bill which need careful consideration.

Here is a summary as I saw it.

Dr Katrina Neal. From the prospective of GP and clinical phycologists. She discussed the current effects on her practice now of women pre-abortion and post abortion. She discussed the mental and emotional issues post abortion. In fact, she highlights the current lack of support for the existing patients now. Changing the laws will only enhance the demand on GP's and mental health services.

Jaya Tikl. She discussed her personal journey with an abortion. The trauma does not stop post abortion. The abuse does not stop post abortion. The support, care and alternatives were not provided for her pre or post abortion.

There is no informed education on the long-term effects on abortion. Indeed, no studies appear to have been done on the effects long term on abortion.

Her story is probably the experience of many women.

Racheal Leslie. She discussed the effects on her family having disabled children. A child with Down Syndrome. If we open the legislation there will be less children born with disabilities. However, we will also rob parents from the lessons of living with the experience these children bring. The daily struggles of parents in these families unites them and strengthens their bonds. Indeed, our communities are better for these families in our society as we become more INCLUSIVE. In fact, this type of abortion devalues those already born with existing disabilities in our society.

Robert Clarke. Here is the experience of a father who experienced the abortion of his child. The role of fathers is NOT even considered in any of legislation, indeed the child would not exist without a father. Fathers (men) need to be included and considered as part of this debate. They too suffer trauma and anxiety as the result of abortion. They too need to be provided with counselling and positive alternatives.

The roles of Nurses and others in the abortion process was discussed. The whole process is quite graphic and "unreal", especially in late term abortions. It seems strange we spend large amounts of time and money to preserve life, yet ask our professions to take a life? Our professionals and any involved also feel for the life of the child. They too already experience anxiety in this process. The opt out process needs to be clear, so this includes anyone working in process of an abortion. Even post abortion some may need support or counselling.

Good News – Eva's Place. This group and other similar groups in our society including the role of foster parents and adoption all provide positive alternatives to mothers and fathers now. These options exist now and need more support not less. The bill seems to want to

make less of these options available?

Conclusion. The bill seems to provide a quick and easy solution for some. However, should this pass it only highlights enormous risks we take as a society and in fact increases the effects on many others including those seeking a quick solution. Does this really help Men, Women and unborn children in our society long term? No, it only seems to create MORE drama, MORE issues and effect MORE people at MORE cost to us all. Therefore, I recommend this bill should be ABORTED at all cost.

Sincerely,

Kevin Jensen

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