

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee](#)
Subject: Oppose the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018
Date: Wednesday, 5 September 2018 11:53:22 AM

To whom it may concern,

I write to you today in a hope that one voice with the many others will be heard in the fight to whole-heartedly oppose the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018.

After researching the details and fine lines of this bill there were multiple aspects that occurred to me.

The terms and conditions of performance of a termination is clearly stated in sections 5 and 6 of the bill. This was the first red light. Section 5 states that "A medical practitioner may perform a termination on a woman who is not more than 22 weeks pregnant", while section 6 states that "Termination by medical practitioner after 22 weeks" may be performed under certain circumstances. Does this not sound hypocritical? That firstly, a termination can not go ahead if the woman is 22 weeks or more however, if the medical practitioner sees fit, then any termination at any time can be performed. This is assuming that the medical practitioner holds no bias, conscious or sub-conscious and that there is no conflict of interest between patient and the practitioner.

Section 10 of the bill is rather concerning in regards to health. All individuals have the right to health and a safe environment. However, Part 3 Section 10 of the bill is provoking and supporting all women to perform a DIY termination. This raises a number of health concerns, not only physically but also mentally. The bill states that there is no informed consent necessary before the termination is performed. This means that not only may the women be uneducated as to the performance of the termination itself but life afterwards and consequences of such a surgical procedure. If a woman decides to perform a DIY termination there is no offence linked to the action, nor informed consent necessary. This woman may see the procedure as a convenience to her but may not understand the many health implications that may arise during and after the procedure. This bill seems to have several loopholes in regards to conducting the procedure as well as the health of the woman afterwards. It appears that there will be a wider path made to welcome numerous issues along the way that, if this bill is passed, will be your responsibility to fix. No pressure.

I implore that this bill is not pursued further but eliminated in parliament.

I hope that you may take this in the highest consideration. Thank-you for your time.

Regards,
Miss Anna-Claire Murphy

[REDACTED]
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