

**From:** [v.hofmann](#)  
**To:** [Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018  
**Date:** Wednesday, 5 September 2018 7:31:32 AM

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Dear Members of the Health Committee,

re: Proposed Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018

As an illegible voter, I am requesting that the contents of my email be considered after my reading through the proposed Termination of pregnancy Bill 2018.

Presently, abortion is illegal in Queensland. With the proposed 2018 bill, under Part 2 S5 and S6, a medical practitioner would now be able to perform an abortion up to 22 weeks for ANY reason and after 22 weeks for certain reasons. Part 2, S6 (3) allows an emergency abortion to be performed, only if it is necessary, to save the mother's life or the life of another unborn child. According to a YouGov Galaxy Poll held between 6th and 8th August, 60% of Queenslanders would not allow abortion after 13 weeks and 62% of WOMEN in Queensland oppose abortion after 23 weeks for reasons other than Part 2, S6 (3).

Having read the proposed bill, I notice that no provision is made for any pre-counselling for the pregnant mother whatsoever. Surely there needs to be a pre-operative appointment, as is done for all other operations, when all the risks involved are made known to you concerning the operation. There is the added emotional damage that can affect the mother in years to come. The pre-operative consultation should include making known the developmental stages of the baby, the physical and psychological risks and the nature of the procedure. Surely the mother should be able to make an informed decision after the facts are made known to her. It is widely accepted that abortion can harm the mental and physical health of a woman. 87% of all Queensland women have made this known according to the poll taken. (MyGov Galaxy Poll).

According to Part 2 S5 and S6, a woman would have the opportunity to have an elected abortion based purely on her disapproving of the sex of the baby. This is outlandish and is discrimination against the unborn child. It is a known fact now that China has a problem with too many men and not enough women to marry. This is as a result of babies being aborted due to being the 'wrong sex' as only 1 child per family was allowed.

Part 3, S10, states "Woman does not commit an offence for termination on herself" Despite any other act, a woman who consents to, assists in or performs a termination on herself does not commit an offence" - This surely opens the door allowing women, who might feel desperate finding out that they have an unplanned pregnancy to try abortion methods that would not only kill the unborn baby, but bring harm to herself too.

Allowing women to elect to have an abortion for whatever reason up to 22 weeks, is certainly not a "health issue" !

Dear sirs, I ask that you deny this bill outright. This bill is not "modernising", but merely allowing abortion willy-nilly. I have no doubt that if a woman's life is in grave danger, an abortion is allowed now. In the early stages of pregnancy, many women's bodies have self-aborted for many reasons known only to nature, but to allow abortion up to full term is simply outrageous

Yours faithfully

Venessa Hofmann

