



Subject:



Please recommend against the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018



Please accept my submission:

I hope that the committee will strongly recommend MPs vote against the Termination of Pregnancy Bill 2018.

This bill allows for abortion up until the day of birth, with just the technicality of requiring two abortionist doctors to authorise the death of babies more than 22 weeks old.

There is at least some means for nurses and other medical staff to declare a conscientious objection and opt-out of performing abortions. However, this protection is not as comprehensive as section 8 might suggest, because clause 8(4) compels all doctors and nurses to kill babies by abortion 'in an emergency.'

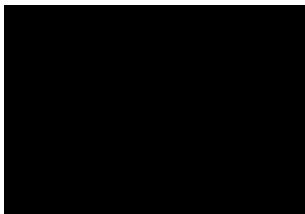
The problem here is that this clause could easily be invoked by hospitals and clinics where an abortionist believes or pretends to believe that a woman may become suicidal or may self-harm if her baby is not killed. This belief cannot be challenged by any objective test and could simply be invoked to force doctors and nurses employed by the facility to perform abortions without any real fear of legal consequences.

Queensland would then be left in a similar position to Victoria when similar legislation was passed in 2008. Medical staff there were left severely traumatised after being ordered to kill unborn babies by their employers. The following article, for instance, documents the case where a trainee was told



I therefore urge you to point out the horrific consequences of this bill to MPs in order to protect both babies and medical staff from these horrors of abortion.

Yours faithfully,



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