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Date: Mon. 27th June 2016

The Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee of the Queensland Legislative Assembly

Dear : Committee

My name is Pastor Craig C. Ireland and I am writing a submission to be considered by the committee in its inquiry into aspects of the law governing termination of pregnancy in Queensland.

My submission is to respectfully request the committee to find pregnancy termination as abhorrent as God does as He has clearly stated in His Holy Word; the bible. Further to this, I request the committee to not only find the termination of pregnancy abhorrent, but to enact laws protecting life in the womb at all costs.

I recognise that there may be members of this committee who do not share my conviction that God's opinion matters in this discussion, and some might regard God's opinion not only irrelevant but utterly obsolete. Please allow me to disagree and show why.

God, being entirely holy and righteous, has in His Holy Word reinforced the value of all life, regardless of age, size, development or maturity, and has decreed it sinful and atrocious to illegally destroy life, especially the life of those people who are in the most innocent and vulnerable state, i.e. infants (pre-birth or otherwise).

God shows that He considers life in the womb every bit as valid as life outside the womb. We, who are born and have lived, do not, according to God, merit the right to life over those who are not yet born. Neither do we obtain the right to decide that those yet to be born are invalid, inhuman, unwanted or unneeded. We who are living today have the right to life as much as those who are growing in their mother's womb (who are also living today) and due to the fact that we are living today, with a voice and the ability to take action, must also bear the responsibility to protect all life that does not have a voice and/or is unable to take action to protect itself.

"For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb... Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be." —Psalm 139:13, 16

"Your hands shaped me and made me... Did You not clothe me with skin and flesh and knit me together with bones and sinews? You gave me life." —Job 10:8-12

"This is what the Lord says—He who made you, who formed you in the womb." —Isaiah 44:2



I request the committee to recognise and endorse the value of all life.

God, the giver of life, commands us not to take the life of an innocent person:

“Do not shed innocent blood.” —Jeremiah 7:6

“Cursed is the man who accepts a bribe to kill an innocent person.” —Deuteronomy 27:25

“You shall not murder.” —Exodus 20:13

It is a weighty prospect to be part of a committee that holds the power to decide between life and death for so many thousands of innocent victims. These children have not committed any crime, broken any laws, failed in any way, to deserve our utmost protection.

I request that the committee tread very carefully. God mandates that we honour Him and His valuation of life and obey Him entirely in such matters. If not, then we will not be held guiltless on the great and final day of His Judgment.

I want to thank the committee for its consideration and would welcome any remarks or further correspondence from any member therein.

God Bless you all

Sincerely,
Craig Ireland
Minister of Religion