From:

To: <u>abortionlawreform</u>

**Subject:** Submission against the abortion law reform bill 2016

**Date:** Monday, 27 June 2016 5:02:38 PM

To the Parliament of Queensland:

Honourable Members,

It is taken for granted, in this bill's attempt to legalise abortion as desired by a mother in Queensland, that all parties hold the welfare of the mother more highly than any other consideration.

If that is true, it is important to separate lies from truth & fiction from fact in collective concern for the welfare of the mother that underpins this abortion law reform bill 2016.

## LIES / FICTION

- an abortion solves a mother's problem of unwanted, undesirable, risky and/or dangerous pregnancy.
- an abortion is kindness to an inconvenient and/or possibly unwell/unwanted foetus.
- the abortion is clinical & without trauma for mother or unborn child.
- death is a solution in 21st century medicine.

## TRUTH / FACT

- an abortion becomes part of the personal psyche of the mother, who in the short & long term needs to reconcile within her ongoing life journey, full of unknowns, that she personally chose (or allowed) death over life for her unborn child.
- sonography shows that abortion is anything but kindness to any foetus, regardless of the mother's feelings or attitudes towards him/her.
- abortion is achieved through clinical procedures involving chemical & surgical techniques aimed at destruction of life [just as doctors chemically & surgically attempt to destroy disease (unwanted life eg tapeworms, cancer cells, fatty plaques) that threatens the life of any infant, child and adult of any age]. These procedures & techniques always carry risk: some minor, some great, some temporal, some permanent. Abortion carries great risk to the mother. Any category of risk can be measured in hindsight as a percentage of overall risk recorded thus far. It can be safe-guarded against with best medical & psychological practice. It needs to be spelled out prior to abortion. It can never be guaranteed not to occur in the short or long term. Abortion is (I estimate) 90-100% certain to cause severe trauma to the developing foetus in most cases resulting in death within minutes to hours. Abortion is (I estimate) 2-100% certain to cause trauma (minor, major, temporal or permanent) to the mother and she carries that trauma through part or all of her life privately or publicly.
- 'death as solution' is chiefly born of fear of:
- \*the unknown
- \*humiliation
- \*losing face
- \*suffering
- \*confronting something grossly unpleasant
- \*hurting someone
- \*inability to cope/pay/manage
- \*being punished for not complying with another's wishes or demands.

Attempts to eradicate fear can result in harming self and/or others. If this is the 21st century's medical remedy for not only fear, but also inconvenience, our humanity is in a pitiable state.

From personal observation, I can say that abortions have taken place legally in Queensland Health since I commenced nurse training in 1981. Some were nature's choice, a miscarriage or still birth, that brought great

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Received 27 June 2016 trauma to many mothers & fathers. Some were choices made very early in a pregnancy by a doctor & patient in liaison with significant others in the patient's life & with medical colleagues and other health professionals. Or they were made in patient - doctor confidence alone. As a student nurse at the time I was not privy to the details. I've never worked in operating theatres post graduation. They cases presented in operating theatres as clinical procedures among other such procedures for different reasons & were unremarkable, but never without risk. They were born of medical professional judgement & doctor-patient privacy was maintained.

This was before any parliamentary involvement. Patients were considered, not political campaigns pushing political agendas.

I ask you, Members of Parliament, to consider your grave responsibility in debating & voting on this bill.

Sincerely, Loree Rudd

Sent from my iPhone