

**From:**  
**To:** [abortionlawreform](#)  
**Subject:** Submission for Inquiry into Abortion Law Reform  
**Date:** Monday, 27 June 2016 5:54:10 PM

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To the Committee,

In response to your call for submissions into Abortion Law Reform and after reviewing the legislation information you have provided I propose the following points for your consideration:

1. Abortion should be legalised under limited circumstances and should be monitored so that it does not provide the opportunity for money making and corruption as has been seen in the USA with Planned Parenthood.
2. Factors to be taken into account in deciding if a termination of a pregnancy is lawful should include: consent of the woman; serious danger to the woman's life; the woman's physical and mental health; and serious handicap of the child.
3. The termination of a pregnancy should be regulated according to the period of gestation. The Law in the Northern Territory has provisions that are very reasonable:
  - \* up to 14 weeks, if the physical and/or mental health of the woman is at risk by continuing the pregnancy or there is substantial risk of the child being seriously handicapped. Must be performed in a hospital. ( Apart from a hospital, another government run facility could also cater for this, to prevent corruption and ensure that women have the appropriate pre and post abortion counselling.)
  - \*after 14 weeks and up to 23 weeks: abortion is lawful if immediately necessary to prevent serious harm to the woman's physical or mental health.  
(With the current medical technology if there are birth defects these can be detected early and the babies aborted, so 14 weeks is quite reasonable and 24 weeks babies are viable outside the womb.)
4. The law in Queensland should provide for conscientious objection by health providers such that no person is under a duty to participate in any such termination operation to which he/she has a conscientious objection.
5. A women should be required to undergo counselling before and after the termination of a pregnancy and must be informed of all the options, and information about the abortion procedure and possible emotional side effects.  
(Abortion should not be allowed as a form of birth control, but the morning after pill should be more readily available to prevent the need for terminations.)
6. Terminations should not be of a barbaric nature.
7. Terminations on a minor (under 16) should not be performed without the knowledge of a parent.

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