

From: [REDACTED]
To: [abortionlawreform](#)
Subject: Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Monday, 27 June 2016 8:07:29 PM

I refer to the *Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016* in which it is proposed to repeal Sections 224; 225 and 226 of the Criminal Code.

I wholly object to this proposal for the following 2 reasons.

1. Repealing these 3 pieces of legislation opens the door to abortions being performed up to 9 months of pregnancy. At an early stage of development a foetus is human like and doctors can possibly 'save' a premature baby at 23 weeks. Already we are hearing of babies being aborted and living outside the womb.
2. A woman may have a right to her own body but a foetus is not "her body". It is a separate human being developed and nourished by her body (as she will do physically after birth).

This fact is established by the scientific evidence that the baby produces IDO to protect itself from being rejected by the mother's body. (See more information below). It stands to reason therefore that a woman must not elect to terminate the life of this living human growing inside her.

Humans are unique intelligent beings, not some wayward animal that needs to be culled; terminating a defenceless life is paramount to murder - no legislation can make it morally right.

I do not believe this Bill reflects the current community attitudes and expectations.

Please give careful consideration to the ramifications of this bill and reject it.

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Alan Brown
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IDO

The most recent work in humans has established beyond doubt that indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase, (IDO), is a specific mechanism at the mother-child interface for preventing the mother's immune system from rejecting her child.

However, this research shows very clearly that the baby is *not* part of the mother's body. The baby has a unique genetic make-up—only half its chromosomes come from the mother, the other half come from the father, and each combination of chromosomes is unique. This condition is sufficient to cause the mother's immune system to identify the baby as 'foreign' and it mounts an attack via the killer T cell system.

This research also highlights the fact that the child's individuality—its unique genetic make-up—exists from the moment of conception. At conception, the new person's genetic instructions come together for the first time—in a single cell called the zygote. But it is not until day 6 that IDO production kicks in.

Why day 6? Well, day 6 is a preparation for day 7, when the new embryo first attaches itself to its mother's womb so that it can draw nutrients from its mother's bloodstream. This is exactly the time when the mother's killer T cells would normally begin to attack and reject it—if not for the amazing protection already provided by the baby's IDO production on the previous day.

Kudo, Y. *et al.*, Indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase: distribution and function in the developing human placenta, *J. Reprod. Immunol.*