

From:
To: [abortionlawreform](#)
Subject: re-think
Date: Monday, 27 June 2016 10:02:50 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

Over the last couple of days it has been brought to my attention that a bill has been presented in parliament to have Queensland's Abortion Law's changed that would result in late term abortions being permitted.

Without any hesitation I can honestly say that I am outraged, saddened and disappointed that something like this should even be considered.

I find it bad enough that Australia has permitted abortions, but pushing this law even further to allow a baby that is alive to die is taking it way too far.

Some might say that I do not have the mother's best interests in mind, but I can assure you that I do.

It is one of the reasons why I take the time to write this letter.

A woman who has fallen pregnant and who is finding this challenging to face and accept for numerous reasons, should not be encouraged to make such a rash decision at a sensitive and challenging time in her life.

There have been moments in all of our lives where we have made mistakes.

We can all look over our past, and if we are honest with ourselves we know that there have been times we have regretted the decisions we have made.

What if a mother aborting her child looks back one day and realises she has made the wrong choice?

This is where depression and regret can set in.

Considering my life so far, I know there are numerous times I have made decisions in a moment that can affect the rest of my life forever. Looking back, I would make different decisions had I known then what I know now. As we are all human, I'm sure many of us feel the same way. When I consider this thought and apply it to women who may be considering an abortion, I pray they have the opportunity to think twice before they act, to think of the outcome afterwards as opposed to the outcome of their current situation.

I believe that to change the abortion laws in Queensland, and across Australia does not encourage women to think twice, but rather leads them down a path of further troubles, mentally, emotionally and physically for their future.

Had my mother chosen to abort me, I would not be here writing this letter. Had your mother chosen to abort you, you would not be here reading my letter. Because we were born, you and I both have the opportunity to live, to experience life and impact, inspire and challenge those around us. If this bill is brought forward and encouraged more, many lives will be lost. Not only the children's life, but the mother's life also.

As I'm sure you can tell I am 'pro-life.' But I do not say this in a proud way. I say this in a passionate way because I am certain we are all here for a purpose – some of us have already entered the world and are alive and living, while there are still many more lives to enter the world to experience life and to fulfil their purposes. I believe without a doubt that the 'days of our life were already written, our days had been shaped before any existed.' – Psalms 139:16.

Rather than being encouraged to abort the baby as if it was a problem that needed to be 'done away with', a mother should be encouraged that people are there for her to help her through this trying time in life.

There are numerous organisations who are more than willing to help and be there for the mother.

If this bill is passed, it's not just a matter of a child being lost. It's also a matter of a child being legally murdered. It would be no different than taking the life of a toddler. If someone killed a toddler they would have to be held accountable for its murder. And yet our parliament is considering making it legal for a baby to be aborted at a later stage in its development. What is the difference between a baby being murdered in a clinic because the mother felt she could not handle it compared to a parent murdering a child in their own environment because they felt they could not bring the child up?

What is the difference between a baby being murdered in a clinic because of a disability it had compared to a parent who murdered their disabled child because they felt as though they could not bring it up or that it would not experience quality life?

Rather than the parent illegally murdering the child, this bill is basically opening a doorway for a parent to have their child legally murdered by someone else for them.

The following information has been taken from <https://www.emilysvoice.com/get-informed/> and I encourage you to read further to learn more:

"Most Australians are unaware there are at least 80,000 surgical abortions each year in Australia, directly affecting a third of Australian women of child-bearing age, or that abortion causes severe and long-lasting psychological effects, not just on women, but also men.

Many are unaware that in 2011, there were less than 50 local adoptions of children who may otherwise have been aborted, yet more Australians than ever are seeking artificial reproductive technologies to conceive.

They are also unaware that about 70 per cent of women said they would have continued a difficult or unexpected pregnancy if a significant "other", usually a partner or close relative, had encouraged them.

Few Australians realise that most children (about 97%) who are aborted are perfectly healthy.

Most people are unaware there are hundreds of late-term abortions each year (after 20 weeks), and about half are performed for social reasons.

Most Australians say they wish there were fewer abortions, and that women should receive independent advice, but nonetheless believe the choice is ultimately a woman's to make.”

Here are also some interesting facts found on the same website, just to mention a few:

- About a third of all Australian women will have an abortion. This represents about one-in-four pregnancies.
- Various studies show about 97% of all abortions are performed for psychosocial reasons, including half of late-term abortions (after 20 weeks gestation).
- Less than 3% of abortions are performed because the child has a disability.
- Less than 1% of abortions are performed on women who are the victims of rape. One study of 192 women who conceived as a result of sexual assault showed 78 per cent of the women who chose to abort (representing 30% of the total) regretted their decision. None of the 70% who continued their pregnancies regretted the decision.
- Women of any age, including teenage girls, do not require parental permission to have an abortion.
- The majority of women and girls who have abortions do so because of a lack of support from partners, parents and friends. 70% of women say they felt they had no alternative to abortion.
- Abortion not only ends the life of a child (the foetal heartbeat is detected at 22 days from conception), but often leaves a woman and others deeply wounded, affecting existing and future relationships.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. You have blessed with a good position within the community, our country and nation to lead and inspire people. I pray you take this letter into consideration.

Kind regards and blessings,

Bernice Stirling.

If you wish to contact me please see details below: