

Submission to Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016 and Inquiry into laws governing termination of pregnancy in Queensland

I support Abortion Law Reform and ask the Queensland Parliament to pass the *Abortion Law Reform (Woman's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016*.

I am deeply concerned that doctors and the women they are assisting can be prosecuted under Queensland's antiquated abortion legislation. What is even more disturbing is that women and their partner's have been prosecuted under these laws.

Women's decisions about their reproductive health are an important matter to be determined between them and their doctor. Women should be able to access abortions without fear of criminal prosecution. Fetal anomaly is not a reason supported by the current legislative settings in Queensland. Women who are pregnant as a result of rape or incest are not able to access abortions under the current legislative settings.

I am afraid for the future. What if the law doesn't change? What if a government is elected like the Bjelke-Peterson Government of the mid 1980s. The government raided the Greenslopes Fertility Control Clinic, interrogated women and stole confidential patient information.

It is 2016 and I do not have full reproductive rights nor do I have the right to decide whether I become a parent. Pregnancy and parenthood are serious matters and the current legislation makes a mockery of this.

It is about time our elected representatives stood up for women's rights and gender equality in Queensland.

Submission by:

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Key Sources: <https://prochoiceqld.org.au/abortionfacts/> and being a woman.