

Danielle Davis

June 27, 2016

The Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic Family Violence Prevention Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear The Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic Family Violence Prevention Committee:

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to the Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016. Also, I wish to submit to you just some of the many reasons why I oppose this Amendment Bill in hope that this Committee will also choose not to support this Bill alongside majority of Queenslanders.

There is clearly no consensus to change the current Abortion laws, except that Queenslanders want safeguards introduced to protect women. This is shown through the results of a comprehensive opinion poll conducted by leading independent market research firm Galaxy on 6-8 May 2016 for the Australian Family Association (<http://www.abortionrethink.org/>). Its result show:

- 1) 53% of Queenslanders want the law to stay as it is or are in favour of making it stricter
- 2) 85% of Queenslanders are opposed to abortion after 20 weeks
- 3) Only 6% of Queenslanders support Rob Pyne's extreme position of abortion after 20 weeks
- 4) 49% of Queensland voters are against decriminalisation of abortion, only 43% are in favour of decriminalisation.

These figures undoubtedly show the majority of Queensland voters oppose the Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016.

These figures also indicate a significant level of uneasiness with what decriminalisation would mean, even among those who say they support it. This is evident in the 45% of Queenslanders whom are opposed to abortion in cases where a healthy mother is carrying a healthy unborn baby, with only 38% in favour. Further, we know that the vast majority, an estimated 97%, of abortions are performed for financial or social reasons, not for medical reasons. Therefore, support for abortion is highly conditional.

It is my hope that the Committee carefully consider this submission when making your final decision. Please, vigorously recommend against abortion in Queensland.

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Sincerely,

Danielle Davis