

From:
To: [abortionlawreform](#)
Subject: Re Abortion Law Reform(Women"s Right To Choose) Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Tuesday, 28 June 2016 11:02:37 AM

28/6/2016

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

Dear Committee,

Last Sunday's Melbourne Herald Sun (25th June) had a wonderful story on page 11. I would love the Committee to read it.

It's the story of a young man who has Down syndrome who is the waterboy for the Cats- the Geelong Football Club. The photo of the smiling face of young Sam Moorfoot says it all. It just shows that if there is good support for families and communities, children with disabilities can lead happy lives. His mother is quoted at the end of the article, "He says to us all the time, 'I love my life', and as a parent how good is that?"

Michelle Payne was the winning female jockey of the 2015 Melbourne Cup. Her brother Stevie was the strapper of the winning horse. He is another great example of a person with Down syndrome having a great life. The Payne family are a great example of how families and society should aspire to care, develop and value the talents and abilities of each family member. By doing this, each person within the family and community grows. We want caring families and communities where each person is valued. I'm sure Michelle Payne is the strong person she is because of the her family values. And Stevie is certainly having a great life doing what he does.

It would have been such a shame if these boy's lives had been denied them through abortion. Many babies are aborted because of a disability - this is eugenics, and discrimination against those with a disability.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights - Article 3 declares "Everyone has the Right to Life". The International Convention on the Rights of the Child reads, "The child by reason of his physical and mental immaturity needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth".

Yours faithfully,
Josephine Gordon