

**From:**  
**To:** [abortionlawreform](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016  
**Date:** Tuesday, 28 June 2016 8:08:20 PM

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Tuesday 28th June 2016

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

Dear Committee

**Re: Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016**

I wish to express my strong opposition to the above bill introduced by Rob Pyne MP.

I have personally known some women who have had abortions and greatly regretted it – it has left deep emotional scars which time did not heal. These abortions had been conducted “for social convenience” not for health reasons.

I am particularly horrified by the potential for late term abortions up to 9 months, the normal gestational period when a the child has a very high chance of survival. Today, when premature babies can survive even when born at 24 weeks, why do we allow termination of pregnancies in the same time frame or later? The media has recently reported that the number of “botched” abortions resulting in live births in Qld has greatly increased over the last 5 years (I cannot remember the exact statistic), and these babies are just left to die without any sustenance or assistance. This is infanticide, and we condemn other cultures for this practice. In Victoria, some babies aborted are older than those in neonatal wards following premature birth.

This bill copies Victorian and Tasmanian legislation which are extreme - a baby can be aborted for a social or economic reason. What is needed is guidance and help for expectant mothers. Existing practices allow for abortion if the mother's life or health is threatened.

If the bill is passed, I also believe strongly that the right to conscientious objection must be included, for individual doctors and nursing staff, and even entire hospitals, without recrimination or threats to remove state funding, as has already happened in Victoria and/or overseas. This is not a matter that should be over-ridden by state law, or we are no better than the Nazis.

Yours faithfully

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Lindsay Fell