

From:  
To: [abortionlawreform](#)  
Subject: Abortion Reform Bill  
Date: Tuesday, 28 June 2016 9:27:30 PM

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To the members of the Committee,

My husband and I are the biological parents of 9 children aged between 24 and 4 years of age and are well aware of the challenges that face adults and adolescents in raising children and the long term commitment that this entails. We are happy to acknowledge that not all people who find that they have become responsible for bringing a new life into existence feel equipped to raise this child but we are firmly convinced that it is neither in the interests of the common good, the good of the parents and least of all the good of the child to put into law the right for that life to be knowingly done away with.

The skills developed in relation to understanding and becoming skilled at parenting, humanise society as a whole and it is documented that mothers and fathers who have had/supported previous abortions or who abort after having children do not respond as compassionately or personally as parents who have not. This issue affects society as a whole and one cannot help connecting the incidence of domestic violence with the flagrant disregard for the sanctity of human life in general. Abortion does violence to the female psyche and this affects society as a whole.

Post traumatic shock syndrome affects more women who have terminated the life of their very own children than are prepared to admit. I would direct the committee to Melinda Tankard Reist's book, " Giving Sorrow Words." The subjects of the case studies in this book are not christian people who realise that they've done the wrong thing after the fact, but rather readers of Cleo women's magazine. It may be a difficult decision to give up a baby for adoption but it is also a very difficult reality to live with for the rest of your life when you have killed your own baby in your own body- the place where women intuitively know there should be safety and nurture.

Finally, just because an unborn baby is dependent upon its mother for survival is not a reason not to respect and protect what is essentially a completely separate and unique human being. Any of us if we were involved in an accident may be dependent on others for a time in order to survive: as are the elderly and the very young. It seems completely incongruous that doctors will do all they can to ensure the survival of a baby born prem. anywhere from 20 weeks gestation on that is 'wanted' and yet would be expected to co-operate in the deliberate killing of a human being who for all we know could be a future prime minister or discoverer of a cure for Aids simply on the whim of 1 or 2 people. If we want to end violence against women and children, then we have to start valuing the tremendous capital we have in perfectly healthy unborn babies.

The thought of health professionals performing the procedures required to kill a human being up to term are abhorrent to us and we would ask as strongly as possible that this bill as it is not be passed. In addition to what we have raised in relation to abortion at all stages of human development, we wish to register that it is totally unacceptable to think that any health professional would not have the right to not participate at any stage in an abortion.

Yours sincerely, Michele and Warwick Adeney.