

From:  
To: [abortionlawreform](http://abortionlawreform)  
Subject: Submission  
Date: Wednesday, 29 June 2016 9:39:20 AM

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28<sup>th</sup> 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**

Thank you for your service to our community .

I wish to oppose the Bill introduced by Rob Pyne, MP. Please do all in your power to protect vulnerable mums and their unborn babies.

I have worked in the health field with pregnant women. Pregnancy is known to be a time when women are more prone to mental health issues such as depression – they need the right support and not life-ending options. The women I worked with needed and received support and care and health information throughout their pregnancy in some very difficult and challenging situations. The support and hope they received made a huge difference to their outlook, their decisions, and how they coped with these unexpected pregnancies.

In places where de-criminalisation has occurred, unborn babies have NO protection. In these places, almost –to –term babies are being aborted by mothers who are obviously in difficulty but who are not being offered better alternatives. In Victoria in 2011, 40 “aborted “ babies were born alive and left to die.(source:

<http://realchoices.org.au/abortion/victorian-late-term-abortion-figures-released/>). In Victoria, since decriminalisation in 2008 late term abortions have increased.

This year in Queensland , the Health Minister Hon. C.R.Dick revealed in question time , that 27 babies aged 20 weeks or more were born alive after a termination procedure in Queensland hospitals in 2015 alone. (**Question on Notice, No. 779,asked on 11 May 2016 by Dr Robinson**). How many more babies will die this way if the law is changed?

We need to do better – there has to be a better way than more women killing their unborn babies.

And have you heard how they do partial-birth abortions, for late –term babies, babies who are very able to live outside the womb? This is what happens when abortion laws are relaxed.

Death is not the answer when there can be life with the right support and help and hope given , and also adoption offered as an acceptable option.

Please do all in your power to protect especially vulnerable mums and their unborn babies.

Please don't change Queensland 's abortion laws. Statistics show that more unborn babies able to live will die if these changes come - late term abortions will increase, and more trauma for vulnerable mothers will eventuate who really needed more support instead.

Yours sincerely  
Kerri-Ann Caswell,