From:

To: <u>abortionlawreform</u>

Subject: Submissions to the Abortion Law Reform Bill (Women's Right to Choose 2016)

Date: Wednesday, 29 June 2016 6:45:51 PM

Dear Committee,

Thank you for giving us an opportunity to voice our opinion on abortion.

We strongly oppose the introduction of the Bill which Qld M.P. Mr Rob Pyne has introduced, namely the Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016, which if passed, would replace the current legislation on abortion in Queensland. Decriminalising abortion will increase abortion numbers in Queensland. It has been recorded that since the legislation was passed in Victoria, there has been an increase in abortions up to the late stage. It is becoming a means of contraception.

This Bill which is similar to the Bills in place in Victoria and Tasmania, states that a baby can be aborted for social and economic reasons and it removes the right of doctors and nurses to object to performing or attending an abortion procedure.

Statistics also show that late term abortions are only performed for babies with congenital abnormalities. Late term abortions for psychosocial reasons are 50% of late term abortions in Victoria. This introduction of this Bill begs the question, who is driving it and for what purpose. Since these Bills have been passed in Victoria and Tasmania there has been an alarming decrease in babies for adoption.

We firmly believe that human life begins at conception and to terminate a pregnancy at any stage from that incredible moment is denying the birth to life of a fellow human being. The argument that it is only the right of the mother to decide whether that defenceless child should exist is to believe that rights are something to be accessed rather than something inherent, which needs to be defended. Anyone's rights cannot be confused with common positive law.

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

We therefore, in opposing this Bill, choose to speak out in defence of the innocent, beautiful and precious human beings. Those of us who have been given the gift of life should work towards a more compassionate and supportive attitude towards persuading a woman not to go through with an abortion.

Yours Faithfully,

Sam & Vilma Spina

Submission No. 1092 Received 29 June 2016