

From:
To: [abortionlawreform](#)
Subject: Re: Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Wednesday, 29 June 2016 7:11:43 PM

Dear Committee,

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

As a registered nurse and midwife for over 30 years, I have seen the damaging effects of women trying to come to terms with their previous decision to abort their child, often, many years later. My husband, who is a registered psychologist, has also experienced this same scenario on multiple occasions within his private practice. I have many friends and family members who have been unable to successfully adopt, due to the almost non-existence of local babies being available, due to the multitude of babies being aborted on a daily basis. Their disappointment and grief at being unable to adopt is incredibly difficult to observe and hard to come to terms with when so many babies are being aborted.

I write to you to formally express my opposition to the bill that Rob Pyne MP is attempting to introduce.

A myth commonly held is that late term abortions are for babies with congenital abnormalities, but in fact, 50% of late term abortions are for psychosocial reasons in Victoria.

According to the Consultative Council on Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity, Victoria, In 2010 there were a total of 366 post 20wk terminations, 2011 a total of 378. Of 366 in 2010, 191 were for psychosocial indications, of 378 in 2011, 183 were for psychosocial indications.

In 2010, 184 of these were carried out between 20-27 weeks, and 7 between 28 and 31 weeks.

In 2011, 172 were carried out between 20-27 weeks, 10 between 28 and 31 weeks and 1 after 37 weeks.

Of the terminations for congenital abnormalities there were 24 and 40 babies born alive following premature labour induction without intention to resuscitate in 2010 and 2011 respectively.

As a nurse, I find it truly abhorrent to think of the process involved in killing these precious babies. My midwifery training included many hours spent in Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICU), which was a wonderful and rewarding experience; to see a premature baby as young as 24 weeks gestation survive and grow into a healthy child. Some of the babies aborted are older than the ones I cared for in the NICU unit! How this procedure can be legislated is beyond my understanding as a nurse, mother and someone who has been given the opportunity of life.

As a previous resident of Queensland, currently living in Victoria, but soon to return to Queensland, I am deeply disappointed that Queensland is trying to head in the same direction as Victoria. I will certainly be voting in this election for those candidates who stand for the right of everyone from conception through to death.

Yours faithfully,

Sharyn Saville

