

**Submission by:**  
Helen Loudon

To: Research Director, Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Protection Committee

**Re: Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016 and Inquiry into laws governing termination of pregnancy in Queensland**

I wish to voice my concerns and objections to this bill. Abortion is currently easily accessible to women in Queensland up to 12 weeks. Beyond 7 weeks gestation, the unborn child has a definable heart beat and already their little body is taking shape.

**Concerning "Benefits of Bill"**

1. To be allowed to live is a basic human right not to be allowed to kill. Who will speak for the unborn and their rights? Medical procedures are to protect and prolong life not end lives. Our responsibility as those who shape legislation is to protect the most vulnerable in our society and ensure that the voiceless have someone to speak for them. Polls show that 70% of Queenslanders do not want to have more abortions or abortion beyond 12 weeks.
2. Why should we be embarrassed about protecting life? To have protection for life in a criminal code is something to be proud of not ashamed.
3. How can a law be dangerous when it protects life, no matter how "archaic"?
4. "Control over their own bodies"? The life of an unborn baby is not part of the mother's body. It is entirely separate, but dependent on the mother for blood supply.
5. "This Bill will protect vulnerable Queensland women" – there are other ways to protect vulnerable women other than destroying their babies. Research has shown that the majority of women who have abortions suffer with mental health issues and depression after abortions.

To allow abortion to full term is heinous and murderous. Rather than destroy the unborn child, vote to support the mother until full term. If she cannot continue to care for her child after birth, there are many childless parents who would seek to adopt. Our efforts to enable adoption to be more readily available would be a better expenditure of our efforts than destroying young Queenslanders.

The only ones to benefit from this law reform are the abortion clinics who are motivated by profit not love for vulnerable women.

Please protect women and their unborn babies by voting against this bill.

Yours sincerely

Helen Loudon