

From:
To: abortionlawreform
Subject: Submission to Inquiry
Date: Wednesday, 29 June 2016 10:00:22 PM

abortionlawreform@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Sir or Madam,

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

I ask that you record my opposition to the above Bill because it removes all protections for unborn children and provides no safeguards for their care.

Community sentiment towards abortion is changing, and this Bill does not reflect the community's views that abortion harms the mental and physical health of women.

The young of our society – especially unborn babies – are totally vulnerable. They are thoroughly reliant on their mother to care for, protect and nurture them. They are also totally dependent on their mother to support their emerging life – they are not a discrete, independent being.

I challenge the view that abortion is in the best interests of the mother. It is not, and the physical and mental health challenges which abortion brings seem not to be acknowledged in society because it seems to be politically incorrect.

To have an abortion is not, I strongly believe, the right of every woman. It involves the deliberate taking of precious life.

There is no doubt that abortion is not in the best interests of the child. I am bemused that thousands of dollars and resources are put into saving the life of a premature baby when that child is wanted, yet tens of aborted babies in Queensland have been born alive and fully formed – and then left to die. How shameful.

What is the difference between these two types of children? It appears that one is wanted by the mother; the other is not.

Allowing a breathing child to die because it is not wanted is torture and in reality, murder. Worse still, if that child were an animal, the RSPCA and the majority of the community would be up in arms because of such cruelty.

But this is a child. One of our own kind. A child in the womb is a human being. It feels pain.

How dare we take another's life simply because of selfishness, our own convenience ... with no thought for the consequences of our actions.

(Rather, women who do not want to fall pregnant should look into the cause of pregnancy. The cause of pregnancy is having sex. One logical conclusion could be that, if one does not want to become pregnant, one should not have sex.)

What price the life of a child? A precious human being with untapped and unknown potential?

The living child born as the result of an abortion may not be wanted by its mother, BUT it is wanted by many others. Those who are childless and want to have their own child – why can they not adopt these children? Why do they have to go overseas when there are unwanted children in our own country?

I know of numerous pregnant women who have been faced with huge pressure to abort because they have been told there is something wrong with the baby they are carrying. Because the medical fraternity considers the child is not perfect! A number of those women who bravely resisted, carried a perfect baby to term. Which proves the medical fraternity is not God and they do not know everything.

But that child is a perfect human being who can contribute to our society in years to come.

There are many people who have been born "imperfect" or become imperfect because of an accident, disease or other momentary event. Many have contributed significantly to our society, often because of that difficulty which has produced in them a determination to achieve and a resilience that few 'perfect' people have.

Well – who is perfect?

Please do not devalue the life of a child who is simply not wanted by one person! This is gross callousness and truly evil – an indication of the shallow thinking and selfishness of our society.

Our society should hang its head in shame for the approximately 85,000 abortions conducted each year in Queensland. Few are done for medical reasons; rather for financial or gender selection or other reasons which are trivial. Many are done under pressure from those close to the mother.

As our lawmakers, I hold you responsible to treasure and value our society's unborn children. We talk about our population being unable to replace ourselves and yet we destroy thousands of children each year? And this is when abortion is not legal! God help us if it ever should become legal.

The strength of a society is determined by how its most vulnerable citizens are treated. On the basis of that statement, our society is pitifully weak.

I understand that research undertaken has indicated that many women would not have had an abortion if one significant person in their life had encouraged them not to proceed. This, to me, indicates that supports should be put in place and genuine alternatives offered to women who are pregnant and feel they do not have sufficient supports to continue with the pregnancy.

I ask that you oppose this Bill. Please stand tall and be strong, and do what is right – not what is popular – for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Yours faithfully

Margaret Lawson

Margaret A. Lawson