

Name: Duncan Hickey

To the Inquiry Secretary, HCDSDFVP Committee

First, thank you this opportunity for the community to voice their opinion on this divisive issue regarding the decriminalisation of abortion in Queensland.

On this issue, I believe that the current law should remain unchanged. During pregnancy where the child's life is wholly dependant on the mothers I do not believe this gives the mother nor any others involved the right to decide whether the child should be allowed the right to live.

Personally I see no difference between terminating a pregnancy and child abandonment, however one is far more vilified over the other. Though every person has the right to use their body in a way they see fit, I believe this freedom should stop when that incurs on another's freedom, opportunity and life. It is a key purpose of a democratically elected government to ensure the safety and wellbeing of its citizens, including those who at the time are wholly dependent on their mother and are unable to defend themselves. Because of this I ask that the current law on abortion remain the same and that is should not be decriminalised regardless of how old the baby is.

Thank you
Duncan Hickey