

Submission to the
Parliamentary Committee for
Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence
Prevention to assist in their Inquiry into Abortion Law Reform in Qld

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30 June 2016

The Committee of Inquiry into Abortion Law Reform
Health, Communities, Disability Services and
Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee

Dear Committee Members

I am writing to seek your endorsement in **favour of the repeal of the current laws existing around abortion in Qld** ie codes 224, 225 and 226 and to subsequently **decriminalise abortion in Queensland**, in line with similar law reform in other Australian states and territories.

As a woman and a mother I truly believe this law is archaic and needs to change now. It is absolutely vital in this day and age that this decision be up to the woman. It is her right and her body and this decision rests with her and no one else.

There are so many implications to this law and that are not only personal but also social.

This has gone on for too long and this law needs to be changed. Too many woman are dealing with an unwanted pregnancy in terrible ways and the correct treatment needs to be made readily available to them.

I understand that some individuals do not agree with abortion and they have the right to those beliefs. But I do not believe they have the right to block access to women, particularly in publically funded facilities. These clinicians do not have to be involved in the actual procedure, but surely they have a duty of care to refer her to someone else who can assist the woman.

I have noted with concern that the little media interest this topic has been given since the Bill was introduced by Mr Pyne has been on the lack of gestational limit in the Bill. There is ample evidence provided by other submissions that women do not seek terminations in late pregnancy unless advised to do so by their medical provider, usually because the fetus is incompatible with life, or the life of

the woman is threatened. I ask the committee to consider the far more common scenario (supported by evidence) that the vast majority of women present early in pregnancy because they choose, for whatever reason that it is not in their best interests to continue the pregnancy.

I request that my name and details please do not get published.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the sender's name and signature.