

**Subject: Queensland Abortion Law Reform**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The inclusion of abortion in the Queensland criminal code is archaic and unjust. Until this is changed, women experience a disproportionate amount of adversity in the realm of reproduction in comparison to our male counterparts. An amendment to this law would alleviate some of the strain on women in rural areas, women experiencing financial hardship or women who are victims of domestic violence. It would provide choice and opportunity.

While these archaic laws remain in place, we do not live in a modern, democratic and secular state. Giving women choice over their bodies and future is vital. This is a stepping stone on the road to gender equality.

As a 23 year-old woman, I hope one day if I choose to have children, I will be able to raise them in a world where their biology doesn't define their scope of choice.

Providing women with safe and legal access to abortion benefits all members of society. Giving women the choice to seek any future they want will undoubtedly benefit everyone in Queensland. Women will be able to pursue education, leave abusive relationships and feel a sense of relief that their biology no longer defines them.

A uterus is not a choice, but a baby should be.

Yours sincerely,

Josephine Zavaglia