

From:
To: [abortionlawreform](#)
Subject: Abortion Law Reform Amendment Bill 2016
Date: Thursday, 30 June 2016 3:25:11 PM

To whom it may concern,

I write to express my concern, as a Queensland resident, to the proposed changes to legislation regarding abortion, per the Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016.

I hold concerns about what principles it establishes in our communities about the value of an individual if abortion is allowed up until birth.

For instance, if a woman is pregnant, then is attacked and the baby killed, the woman and those around her would rightfully consider it a trauma, and an injustice. The life of that child was taken from her, against her wishes, and we would, as a community, consider that something of value has been lost.

Similarly, if a woman, as many of my friends have, gives birth several weeks early, and all the attendant care is being given to ensure that child is given the best start in life, yet only a week or so later, that child is killed by an attacker, it would be, again, a grievous tragedy and a legally culpable offence. Something of value had been lost.

The difference, of course, between these scenarios and the potential scenario of late-term abortions, for instance, is the wish of the mother, and the fact that she does not want the foetus in her life as a child.

However, if this is the only distinguishing difference, then what principle does it establish in our society and communities if your value and protection under the law depends on whether or not you are wanted by another person? What does this say to our elderly, those who are isolated, those who suffer a significant disability?

I believe it does harm to the underlying social principle of the intrinsic value of humanity to change the law in Queensland to allow for abortion at any stage.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback to the committee, and appreciate their consideration and the responsibility they carry on behalf of the community to examine the issues raised by the Bill in question.

Kind Regards,

Sarah Starrenburg

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