From:

To: <u>abortionlawreform</u>

Subject: submission to the Abortion Law Reform Date: Thursday, 30 June 2016 3:20:07 PM

To Whom it may concern,

It seems to me many of us are either confused or refuse to acknowledge that a 'foetus' is a living thing. Living things are determined by a list of characteristics. All of which a foetus has. These characteristics are: the ability to grow, respond to stimulus, take in and use energy, and excrete waste, (being able to reproduce is another but not all humans can reproduce so it's not applicable).

In history when people wanted to excuse (feel better about) their despicable behaviours towards others they often dehumanise their victims in their justifications. Racist violence was justified by means of viewing people with more melanin (dark skinned people) in their skin as being less human than those who had less melanin (fair skinned people). This justification made it easier for people to commit such appalling acts as murder and torture without the guilt. It is sad we haven't learnt from history and we are now repeating it with this bill which will allow torture and murder to be carried out on unborn babies.

These babies are separate beings to their mothers as they have their own DNA, their hearts beat at a different pace to their mother's, they move and respond to stimulus in a different and separate way to their mothers'. Why should the mother's choice be considered more important than the child's life?

Please don't take Queensland backwards in morality. Say 'no' to this bill.

Kindest regards,

Carla Toonen

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