

**From:**  
**To:** [abortionlawreform](#)  
**Subject:** Abortion Law Reform  
**Date:** Thursday, 30 June 2016 4:01:36 PM

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I am writing regarding the proposed Amendment to the Criminal Code by Rob Pyne.

The proposed change not only removes all restrictions from abortions in Queensland, it also removes any legal protection for mothers from abusive partners, family or other third parties which seek to harm her unborn child against her consent.

Please consider this before removing those sections completely to ensure these women and their children protected.

Regarding proposed limits to abortions in Australia, please consider the European restrictions when determining ranges for Queensland.

Prager University recently compared Abortion restrictions in America and Europe.

<https://www.prageru.com/courses/political-science/whos-more-pro-choice-europe-or-america>

Europe's abortion policies happen to be much more restrictive than that of the United States. Western Europeans (made up of mostly "progressive" and "secular" society) have a much more conservative attitude about abortion than American Progressives do.

Emily Matchar wrote in *The Atlantic* magazine in 2013:

"I assumed that Western Europe would be the land of abortion on demand...But as it turns out, abortion laws in Europe are both more restrictive and more complicated than that. Waiting periods, decried by American pro-choicers as...unreasonably burdensome, are common..."

**In Germany**, nearly all abortions are illegal after 12 weeks. And there is a three-day waiting period and mandatory counselling before a woman is allowed to have an abortion, even during the permitted first 12 weeks.

**In Belgium**, abortions are permissible only until the 12th week. After that an abortion is permitted only if the woman's life is in danger. Furthermore, any woman getting an abortion must wait six days after her first medical consultation before an abortion can be performed.

**In Denmark**, after 12 weeks all sorts of restrictions apply.

**In Finland**, pregnant women have until the 12th week of pregnancy to get an unrestricted abortion, and during those first 12 weeks, a woman must provide a compelling reason for ending her pregnancy.

**In France**, abortion on demand is legal only up to 12 weeks, after which it becomes much more difficult.

**In Sweden**, abortion is allowed until the 18th week of pregnancy, but bans most after the 22nd week. In that four week “gray” period, a woman can get an abortion, but only if it is approved by the National Board of Health and Welfare.

**In the Netherlands**, before having an abortion a woman has to wait five days and attend a counselling session in which she must be informed of the different options available to her, including taking the pregnancy to term and giving her baby up for adoption. A minor under the age of 18 cannot have an abortion at any time unless she has the consent of her parents.

Europeans seem to recognize that abortion is a complex moral issue; that ending a life after a certain point in a pregnancy does not reflect well on a society.

Malessa Brisbane