Dear Sir/Madam,

Please accept my submission to the *Abortion Law Reform* bill. Please note my views below on making abortion more readily available and during the full term of pregnancy:

1. Of course in an abortion a child dies. I would not be alive today if my mother had aborted me.

2. A woman who has had an abortion suffers psychologically regardless of her views on abortion prior to her abortion, sometimes for the rest of her life. Studies around the world have clearly demonstrated the often devastating effects of abortion on women, which, unfortunately, include suicide and life-long depression.

3. As a nation our birth rate is now below replacement level. We need more children not fewer.

It is a fact that often women are coerced into abortion. There should be protection (not easy abortion) for such women, just as we have shelters for women fleeing domestic violence. It could be argued that abortion is a form of violence against women as the early feminist pioneers argued.

And can I just make one recommendation that the committee could consider, and that is to make **adoption** of children in unwanted pregnancy cases easier and as humane as possible. That, I believe, is a much needed reform.

Kind regards,

Robert Osmak

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