Dear members of Parliament,

Thank you for inviting the input of Queenslanders on this issue - it is the first time I have participated with government in this way.

I am a naturalized Australian, and consider it a privilege to be part of this community. To me, this matter in question is vitally important to the health of our state, and Australia as well. Here are 3 key points of my opinion on the abortion issue:

A "woman's right to choose" is a deliberately misleading term. The vast majority of rapes in western culture are due to unplanned pregnancy rather than rape. The woman does have the right to choose -- at the point of conception. Let's require our young people to take full responsibility for their actions. Young people that do not respect the ultimate importance of commitment and family will not form the bedrock that our state needs for healthy growth in the future. By removing consequences from young people's behaviour, we are only setting them up for disappointment and pain. Only by taking responsibility can you gain control over your future and your freedom. We as a community need to be firm on this, while stepping up and offering compassion, support and resources to women grappling with unplanned pregnancy.

My Australian Citizenship handbook champions our concepts of 'Equality of Opportunity' and of everyone having a 'fair go' (p.19). Given this, what could be less Australian than ending the God-given life of another human being? Even the term 'abortion' is a distraction from the reality of this act, which is infanticide. This goes against our values as Australians. Let's give these tiny Australians a fair go; you yourself are only drawing breath and reading this because you were granted the dignity of being allowed to live and be born, at the most vulnerable point in your life.

The community of Queensland is losing approximately 12,000-15,000 individuals per year due to this practice. This segment of Queenslanders would no doubt include specialist physicians, ambulance officers, world-class entrepreneurs, tourism operators, petrochemical engineers, web developers, accountants, Olympic athletes, members of Parliament, special forces operators, and cancer researchers. Consider for a moment the scale of the loss of their innovations, discoveries, votes, and impact on the Queensland economy. We need every single Queenslander we can get.

Please, please have the bravery to speak up in protection of those who are the very most vulnerable Queenslanders, the unborn.

-- Sincerely, Jake Funnell M.