


From:   
To: [Abortion Bill](#)  
Subject: Mr Pyne's second abortion bill  
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There are numerous considerations that make the implementation of Mr Pyne's proposed bill undesirable. I will limit myself to the three that concern me most.

1. It appears to allow abortion right up to the moment of birth.
2. The probability of medical staff being legally dragooned into assisting at operations they personally find to be repugnant.
3. The economic and social implications for our country as a whole.

Re 1. We have expensive medical facilities devoted to keeping babies born pre-term alive. They do mostly live, and grow up to be normal people. Therefore to abort babies after the time when they could have survived out of the womb is akin to murder. (Of course, some people – myself included – would claim that all abortions are murder of the unborn, regardless of when they occur).

Re 2. The medical profession exists to care for those with health needs. Abortion is opposed to the ethics of the medical profession, and medical staff should not legally be obliged to be involved in removing unborn fetuses. As is evident already, there will always be some medical persons available to do the job, either for personal financial gain or for ideological reasons.

Re 3. The economic impact for the nation of continually aborting a large slice of the next generation should not be underestimated. Our birth rate is already below replacement level and instead of helping pregnant women to maintain their pregnancies, Government and Opposition policies seem to regard giving birth as a tiresome and expensive interruption to a woman's participation in the workforce.

Some countries are starting to wake up to the folly of this stance, and in time, doubtless when it is rather late, so will we. In Japan, one of the first countries to legalise abortion, we now see closed schools and villages inhabited only by old people. Then the next step, I fear, will be to legalise getting rid of unproductive members of the community such as the aged and the handicapped.

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