

From: _____
To: [Abortion Bill](#)
Subject: Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016 - 17/08/2016
Date: Tuesday, 4 October 2016 10:08:12 AM

To the "Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee"

I'm writing to inform you of my concern for the proposed legislation to legalise abortion in Queensland.

1 - I understand other state have passed such legislation, however that does not make it a good law. Just because others have chosen that route should not mean that we should be compelled to take it as well. If we want the same laws as some other governing body we should just come under their jurisdiction.

2 - Others may say that the foetus is not a human / has no rights under the law. Then maybe the law should be changed to include a foetus as a human.

The fact that the unborn human life start at conception and should be respected and supported. It should be kept a criminal offense to kill an unborn human being. That human life commences at conception can be scientifically demonstrated. Dr. Alfred M. Bongioanni, professor of paediatrics and obstetrics at the University of Pennsylvania, stated:

"I have learned from my earliest medical education that human life begins at the time of conception.... I submit that human life is present throughout this entire sequence from conception to adulthood and that any interruption at any point throughout this time constitutes a termination of human life....

"I am no more prepared to say that these early stages [of development in the womb] represent an incomplete human being than I would be to say that the child prior to the dramatic effects of puberty...is not a human being. This is human life at every stage."

As such why should an unborn baby be treated with such contempt and labelled as "just a bunch of cells" any more than when that "bunch of cells" is born or grows into a child, or into an adult.

3 - Based on the figures I could find as of 2013, there were about 65,000 registered QLD births and apparently about 12000 legal abortions (ie. necessary to preserve the woman from a serious danger to her life or physical or mental health (not being merely the normal dangers of pregnancy and childbirth) which the continuance of pregnancy would entail).

"During the debate today honourable members on both sides of this parliament should not cloud this issue. What we are dealing with is something that is extremely narrow in its application...This is a medical debate. A pregnancy termination remains a criminal offence unless the life of the mother is jeopardised. The fundamental principle is not changed, impinged or affected in any way whatsoever by this bill before the parliament today." - Laurence Springborg, Deputy Opposition Leader

This level of "medically dangerous pregnancies" seem more like "unwanted pregnancies". Thus, either birthing is a very dangerous procedure even with all our modern medical knowledge and equipment, or the current laws are not working or being implemented as originally intended. Any relaxation of this already seemingly unsupervised law should not be relaxed any further.

4 - Those who think that "Queensland women should not be treated as criminals for wanting control

over their own bodies" are missing the point that those women should have controlled their bodies prior to conception if they didn't want conception to happen. It's like saying that you only want to take control of your body after the activity that caused the problem.

5 – While the legislation attempts to legally provide protection for doctors as well as pregnant women who would like to perform abortions, it does very little to protect the unborn child. In fact, the legislation will most likely remove any protection for the woman herself as the legislation will also open the door for pregnant women to perform an abortion on an unborn child herself (Division 2/20 Cl 3). This very wide open door allows for anyone to instruct the women on what to do to herself to perform such an act as well as the supply of required drugs and or other items. As such, the proposed legislation will give any pregnant woman the ability to kill a foetus at any stage of the pregnancy for whatever reason she chooses with no legal offence or penalty occurring. This in turn will mean that there is no protection for the unborn child at all from their mother's choices and actions. Once the unborn baby is dead, it's removal from the womb will no doubt take place as per a natural miscarriage or whatever methods so chosen.

In summary, it appears that the legislation will lead to a dramatic increase in backyard self abortions. This will no doubt lead to much higher risk of both adverse physical and mental side affects for the involved women, particularly their long term emotional and mental heath.

Thank you for you understanding with regards to this subject.

Regards,
Samuel Weinholz

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Ph: [REDACTED]