

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Abortion Bill](#)
Subject: Submission on Abortion Bill
Date: Tuesday, 4 October 2016 2:22:22 PM

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to express my most vehement opposition to the abortion bill being proposed by the Member for Cairns Mr. Rob Pyne.

It is a medical fact that the unborn child is a separate person (not part of the mother's body), and as such should have basic human rights guaranteed to it. The fundamental right for all of us is the right to life.

An abortion is a violent and heartless solution to an unwanted pregnancy. This solution often does serious harm to the mental well-being of the mother who should be protected if at all possible. The vast majority of abortions are carried out for social or financial reasons, which are not grave enough to warrant such a severe solution.

The provisions of the Bill for late term abortions are completely inadequate. The requirement for 2 doctors to approve a late term abortion provides no protection whatsoever, given that in an abortion clinic, the matter would be rubber stamped by two doctors employed by the clinic. There would be a strong financial motivation for this to occur and this is unacceptable from the point of view of transparency.

There should be mandatory independent counselling for the mother prior to the procedure to ensure that the mother is not being coerced by others to go ahead, and to ensure that she understands the consequences of going ahead and the reality of what is to happen. The mother must be protected.

Abortions are carried out with no anaesthetic for the baby, which is a barbaric practice. The method employed by some doctors for late term abortions are too horrific to describe.

Based on the reputable Galaxy opinion poll, the vast majority of Queenslanders are opposed to late term abortions. The law should reflect community standards.

The law should be logically consistent. If a pregnant woman is murdered, the law requires that the perpetrator be charged with the two deaths. It is illogical therefore for it to be legal for the mother to simply arrange for the killing of the unborn child. She does not "own" the child. No one has the right to simply kill a baby once it is born - why would that be different just before the child is born?

According to the report by the Minister for Health, babies that inadvertently survive the abortion process are left to die, presumably of cold, dehydration or starvation. In the same hospital, premature babies not the result of an abortion are treasured and no effort is spared to save them. This is inconsistent and illogical - this proposed law will perpetuate this problem.

The arguments against legalising abortion are strong. The law has a significant educative role, such that if a practice is legal, many will reason that it is also morally ok. The decriminalisation of abortion will send this signal and there will be an increase in the number of abortions carried out. This has proved to be the fact in other jurisdictions.

Yours faithfully

Michael Taylor
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