

From: [Janne Peterson](#)
To: [Abortion Bill](#)
Subject: Second Bill - the Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill
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Mr Rob Pyne's second Bill - the Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill

Abortion, though it is illegal in Queensland, is still available to any woman who wishes to have one. It is in practice legal "by stealth". So why anyone would think it necessary to make it legal or "decriminalize" it, appears illogical.

Currently woman in Queensland can access an abortion at 10 private clinics, under an interpretation by the court which allows abortion where there is a serious risk to the physical or mental health of a woman. According to Medicare figures there are approx. 10,000 abortions occurring in Queensland each year so why would abortion advocates including Mr Pyne suggest that women in Queensland cannot readily access abortion in this State?

The biggest loophole in the current law is the term "mental health". This loop hole encourages woman to have abortions, not because of physical health issues, but for psychological reasons - which are endless and often imaginary problems. If the woman and two doctors think that going ahead with the pregnancy may effect her "mental health" - even mild depression for instance, she is legally justified.

So so why does Mr Pyne want to change the law? What is Mr Rob Pyne's Abortion bill really about? My concern is that it is about vilifying those who are against abortion. It is a draconian dictatorial attack on freedom of speech and against democratic freedoms such as the right to protest against whatever a group or individual is concerned about. Protesting "by any means" would be prohibited in the protected area, with protesters facing up to three months imprisonment for engaging in prohibited behaviour including intending to stop a person from entering a clinic. This bill is un-Australian and is more akin to laws in tyrannical middle Eastern or Communist run countries. The bill is about silencing those who do not agree with the killing of innocent babies in the womb. The truth is obviously hurting Mr Pyne and those who are for the freedom to kill defenceless babies so they want to shut those who speak the truth up.

The proposed bill to widen the grounds for legal abortion in Queensland is a backward step disregarding current medical practices in many nations around the world and even in Australia. For example in Victoria significant moves are being taken to turn back abortion legislation. We see examples of this particularly as the time of viability when the child is capable of surviving outside the womb, becomes earlier and earlier. For example, in Utah this year the 'foetal pain abortion law' was passed which will now require doctors to provide anaesthesia to babies being aborted at 20 weeks of pregnancy or later.

In Australia, abortion affects one in three women. Sometimes abortion is put forward, even taken for granted, as a 'solution' to the most difficult situations. However, we cannot disregard the fact that this choice involves the taking of an innocent life. Compassionate care for women and the unborn child does not involve providing terminations without medical advice or supervision up to the time of natural birth

which is what this proposed bill purports. Women need to be informed that having an abortion is no guarantee that she will escape the “mental health” issue she was supposedly trying to avoid. There are thousands of testimonies from women who have had abortions that show clearly that the abortion actually caused them deep depression, sometimes lasting years. Many other emotional side effects were also experienced by women after abortion/s such as drug abuse and other self harming addictive behaviours. There needs to be more information given to women seeking abortions and if it remains illegal this can be assured and required much more easily than if abortion is made legal. Unbiased counselling and information needs to be provided from a pro-life perspective, because obviously the “counselling” or “advice” from an abortion clinic’s “doctor” or staff will be biased and in favour of abortion because the staff have a vested financial interest in the woman having an abortion.

The tired old argument that a woman should be able to do what she wants with her body does not hold up as an excuse to have an abortion. This is the 21st century and we know better! We know that a baby is not a woman’s body. It is not an organ in her body or a cancer to be removed. It is a separate human being that is simply housed in her body and in pregnancies as early as 22 weeks can survive outside her body. For example one woman I know of experienced her water breaking when she was 20 weeks pregnant. She spent the next two months in complete bed-rest in the hospital until she delivered her baby son at 22 weeks. Her baby survived. He fit in the palm of her hand- so tiny, but was in the NICU for three months and was able to come home before her actual due date.

If a woman does not want to have a baby because she want’s to pursue a career or studies or for whatever reason why not encourage her to have the child adopted. There are thousands of couples and singles desiring to adopt. Abortion is not only cruel to a baby desiring to live but to the people desiring to bring up a child who can not conceive themselves.

Making abortion completely legal will make it even more uncontrollable and encourage more women to use it as a birth control and inflict more babies in the womb to become victims of this ruthless, heartless, barbaric painful death.

I urge members of this committee to reject this bill and to recommend that this bill should not become legislation. Tragically there is enough blood shed without abortion being legal.

Kind regards,
Janne Peterson