From: John Ross
To: Abortion Bill

Subject: Opposition to Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016

Date: Thursday, 6 October 2016 8:03:04 AM

To whom it may concern,

Re: Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016

I share my great concern over the proposed abortion Bill changes from a Christian world view in which our Creator God has made us in His own image. It is the Lord who gives life (yes even to the baby in the womb) and the Lord treasures the life He has given.

It is the Lord and He alone who has the right to fix a beginning and an end to our days, for the Lord gives and the Lord takes away, blessed be the Name of the Lord.

I also wish to point out the adequacy of the existing Queensland laws against abortion:

- 1. The existing Queensland law against abortion stands as a safeguard for women being pressured by their partners. They can and do appeal to the fact that abortion is against the law and is wrong. This allows women to stand up and say "you cannot tell me to do something against the law".
- 2. The existing Queensland law is an essential defence for doctors and nurses who refuse to co-operate in the unjustifiable killing of human offspring. Seventy-nine percent of Queenslanders support conscientious objection for doctors and nurses in regard to abortion.
- 3. The existing Queensland law against abortion has a vital educative role. It instructs society as to the seriousness of the act of abortion, while the removal from the criminal law of any references to abortion would tell society that this form of intentional killing is morally trivial.
- 4. The existing law protects Queensland women against rogue abortionists, just like the similar NSW law did in 2006 when Dr Suman Sood was convicted of illegal abortion in the NSW Supreme Court.

Finally, I would agree with research that:

■ Decriminalisation inevitably would increase the number of abortions - which 87% of Australians already think is too high, according to a Sexton Marketing Group opinion poll in May 2005. It stands to reason that if you legalise something, you get more of it, not less. Poker machines and brothels would be two examples of this. In Victoria, two years after abortion was decriminalised in 2008, on 17 April 2010, Channel 7 News reported that the number of late-term abortions performed at the

Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne had risen six times from one a fortnight prior to decriminalisation to three a week.

• More abortions would hurt more women. With every abortion, the toll is one dead, one wounded. Eighty-four percent of Queenslanders believe that abortion can harm the physical and/or mental health of women. There is overwhelming evidence about the serious physical and emotional effects of abortion on women, and as a consequence, on their families. Physical risks include infection, haemorrhage, infertility and breast cancer. Psychological risks include depression and other mental illness, suicide, attempted suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, sexual promiscuity and general poor self-esteem.

Our Australian society appears to be degenerating at an alarming rate. To pass this abortion bill would only accelerate the degeneration of the moral values and behaviours held within our society and add further costs to the Government's over burdened health and mental health budgets.

Yours truly
John P Ross

Email:
Mobile: