

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [Abortion Bill](#)  
Subject: New QLD Abortion Bill  
Date: Wednesday, 5 October 2016 10:43:11 AM

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**SUBMISSION to the HEALTH, COMMUNITIES, DISABILITY SERVICES**

**and DOMESTIC and FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION COMMITTEE**

**on the**

**"HEALTH ( ABORTION LAW REFORM ) AMENDMENT BILL 2016. "**

**I would ask that this Bill be rejected by the above Committee on the following grounds :-**

**\*That this Parliament made a pre-election pledge to the people of Queensland that it would not change current abortion laws.**

**\*That this Bill allows for the abortion up until birth of viable babies. In my opinion, all abortion is Murder because a child is a living being from conception, having, at that stage, the potential to develop fully into a child, displaying a heartbeat at 3 weeks and needing only blood and nourishment to reach full term. A woman usually suffers for the rest of her life after an abortion, plagued by regrets and feelings of guilt at having agreed to her child's life being terminated. (Even a mother who has had a miscarriage is often tormented by the death of her child for years afterwards. ) If a woman has carried her child for 9 months before it is aborted, she will know that child intimately as a living person, and her grief and guilt will be even harder to deal with than if she had only carried that child for 5 or 6 months. This bill does not recognise the health and rights of women in this situation, and is certainly not considering the child's right to life itself. I acknowledge that abortion can be morally and legally justified if the mother's life is in danger or the embryo is the result of rape.**

**\*Up until this bill was introduced by Mr. Rob Pyne, Member for Cairns, the medical profession had stated that an abortion after 24 weeks was dangerous to the mother's health. If this is still the medical situation, then this bill (by advocating abortion at any time after 24 weeks ) is dangerous and irresponsible.**

**\*That this bill limits free speech for doctors, nurses, hospital staff and the public by adding an exclusion zone of 50m. around the Abortion Clinics. People holding placards in peaceful demonstrations, or praying for mothers and the lives of babies within the Clinic, are prevented from being anywhere near a Clinic. This is effectively limiting free speech, and not respecting people's rights. Peaceful protest is a safety-valve for community distress, and , for the sake of a healthy community, should not be banned. People rise up in anger when oppressed.**

**\*That this bill says nothing about independent counselling and protections for women. Women contemplating an abortion (for whatever reason) are in a fragile state of mind and**

are usually having to cope with outside pressures whilst trying to make the huge decision about aborting their child. Because of their state of mind, (at the time and in the future ) they must have access to counselling and protection, as well as information that there can be other ways to solve their problems, such as not aborting their child but arranging for fostering or adoption after its birth. Many childless couples have great difficulty in finding Australian babies to adopt and yet 10,000 of them are aborted every year in Queensland.

\*That this bill says two opposite things - "Only a doctor may perform an abortion " and "a woman does not commit an offence by performing .....an abortion on herself". One statement is totally irresponsible because it allows "backyard, self-administered abortions." It does not treat this whole question with the seriousness it deserves.

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For all of the above reasons, I would beg the committee to reject this bill.

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Jennifer Conomos

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4/10/16

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