

**Health (Abortion Law Reform)  
Amendment Bill 2016**

**Submission No. 1142  
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**From:**  
**To:** [Abortion Bill](#)  
**Subject:** Submission for Amended Abortion Bill  
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I write today to express my concerns about the decriminalisation of abortion in Qld.

I wish you to be aware I do not support any changes to current Qld Law in this regard, indeed, I would prefer abortions not to occur at all.

It appears to me that we wish to promote a compassionate and just society where all members of our community are cared and provided for. We have many organisations that seek to help those in need and distress, those unable to fend for themselves adequately and those with disabilities. These organisations are to be commended for their selfless work. It is strange to me, therefore, that we allow the killing of our most defenceless, the unborn.

In 2014 , 223 people lost their lives on Qld roads. We see the tragedy and grief it brings to families across our state, we read it in our newspapers frequently. In that same year over 10,000 babies lost their lives in Qld.. We would like to think that the womb is the safest place to be - in Qld it is the most dangerous place to be.

The Queensland Government has put in place many initiatives in order to reduce the road toll for which I am grateful. In regards abortion, the proposed bill offers no provisions for women to consider other options than the finality of abortion. It must not be assumed that the only choice is abortion. We need to consider alternate strategies that are designed to support women with an unplanned pregnancy. We must protect women from those who may coerce them into having an abortion.

We hear many conflicting messages about abortions. Some say the feotus is a parasite, just a collection of cells. Some advocate that it is the woman's right to do with her body as she will. I would say everyone needs to care for their own body, but the unborn is not the woman's body. The unborn is a separate person. The egg from which life springs was not even made by the woman - it was made when that woman was safe in her own mothers womb. The other half of the unborn comes from the father - he too has a responsibility to the child. His voice needs to be heard also in regards to abortion.

We need to provide support and assistance to those facing unwanted pregnancies. These women need to know that there are other solutions to the finality of abortion. We must be aware of the long term effects of abortion, not only possible physical risks ( such as sterility and infections) but also psychological damage as women reflect on the loss of their child in the years to come.

May I encourage the Committee to stand against any bill which demeans life by decriminalising abortion. Let us support those not born yet that they may take their place in our society.

Yours faithfully

Warwick Anderson