## Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016

Submission No. 1182 Received 6 Oct 2016

From:

To: Abortion Bill
Subject: Abortion harm

Date: Thursday, 6 October 2016 2:12:16 PM

Please allow my voice to be heard in relation to this latest abortion bill tabled.

I did feel strongly enough to write a letter to the last bill that was tabled and again would like to have a voice on this important decision concerning Queensland women.

I trained as a General nurse for 3 years in the mid 1970s where abortions were routinely performed in the hospital theatre. I will never forget the day as an 18yr old scrub nurse I accidentally dropped the suction jar on the way to emptying it. The effect of seeing tiny human bones and body parts in a bloody pool on the floor have never left my mind, even after 40years! I also trained as a midwife and enjoyed helping women to give birth. As a health worker trained to uphold life and good health, the destruction of life in abortion causes ethical dilemmas. Abortion can therefore have detrimental effects on medical staff as well as the women and families involved.

I have also seen first hand the negative mental health effect in a close family member who had 2 abortions in 2013. Abortion causes harm and is not a healthy option, women and their children need support and not a quick surgical answer to a complex situation.

Joy Chegwidden