

From:
To: [Abortion Bill](#)
Subject: 2nd Abortion Bill
Date: Thursday, 6 October 2016 3:20:48 PM

Thank you for the opportunity to share the following views regarding the Abortion Bill.

Lack of alternate options:

The Bill has no provisions to ensure that alternate options be offered to women when making a decision. These options include adoption, legal guardianship, parenting support or kinship care. Women deserve to have all options freely available to them so they can make a fully informed choice.

Effect on freedom of speech and public expression:

This Bill would enforce 'safe zones' of 50 metres around abortion clinics and anywhere an abortion is performed. Any form of peaceful protest, including simply handing out alternate information to women, would be deemed an offense. This would deny Queenslanders their democratic right to free speech and freedom of public expression. It would also deny women the opportunity to hear alternate options so they can make a fully informed decision.

Public opinion:

According to a May 2016 Galaxy poll, 'What Queenslanders Really Think About Abortion', 72 % of Queenslanders are opposed to abortions past 13 weeks. 85 % are opposed to abortions past 20 weeks, while 84 % agree that abortion harms women's health. These figures clearly show that Queenslanders are not in favour of this legislation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Lewis Larking & Mrs June Larking

