Health (Abortion Law Reform) Amendment Bill 2016

Submission No. 1198 Received 6 Oct 2016

Inquiry Secretary Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee Parliament House George Street Brisbane QLD 4000

06/10/2016

Miss Nancy Webb

Dear Secretary,

I am writing to you to ask you to vote against the Abortion Law Reform Amendment Bill. I am a young university student in Toowoomba, and the current abortion law protects me and my friends from the horror of abortion. There are many reasons to leave the law as it is. I cannot enter into all the reasons in this brief letter, but a few areas I will address include the following:

1. The existing Queensland law against abortion has a vital educative role. For those people who have no moral upbringing they look to the law to form themselves. Our laws then need to support them to know that intentional killing is morally evil.

2. Decriminalisation of abortion would mean abortion would be legal in Queensland for any reason at all, effectively until the moment of birth. Yet 85% of Queensland voters are opposed to late-term abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy and 72% are opposed to abortion after 13 weeks of pregnancy. Therefore voting for the bill would be going against what the majority of Queenslanders want. I hope the Committee will not go against the will of the people.

3. The existing Queensland law against abortion stands as a safeguard for women being pressured by their partners. Women have often been pressured by their partners to do things they later regret. When we are in the early stages of pregnancy, we are very vulnerable, and it is important that the law protects us by making it illegal for us to do the wrong thing.

Finally,

4. With every abortion, the toll is one dead, one wounded. There is overwhelming evidence about the serious physical and emotional effects of abortion on women, and as a consequence, on their families. This has impact on the whole of society. I am sure you

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would support structures which enable families to be strong and supportive of one another where relationships are good and encourage each other to become productive citizens.

Again I wish to emphasise that I am against the Amended Abortion Bill. I do hope that you and the Committee will consider all evidence when reviewing the Bill and protect all life by voting against the Bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Nancy Webb