

## Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 113  
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**Submitter Comments:**

To: The Queensland Parliament Health, Environment and Agriculture Committee

May 2024

Dear Committee,

Please find following my submission to the Queensland Parliament Inquiry into the  
**“Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024”**.

I make this submission as a private citizen with an interest in public ethics.

Thank you for holding this important Inquiry and the opportunity to make a submission.

Yours faithfully,

**David A W Miller.**

## **SUBMISSION**

### **Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024**

#### **Queensland Parliament Health, Environment and Agriculture Committee**

##### Introduction

This Bill effectively prevents active or passive infanticide from being practiced, in this case specifically where a baby is born alive due to a failed abortion.

Like many Australians, I was not previously aware that infanticide could be practiced anywhere in Australia. I am sure that many Australians still do not know that infanticide can be practiced somewhere in Australia, and would be equally shocked when finding out about this.

In this submission I document my analysis and support for this bill.

##### Comments on the Bill

I thoroughly support the aims of the Bill, which is to outlaw the horrific practice of infanticide in Australia. Whether or not a baby was intended to be killed before birth is immaterial. Abortion is regrettable enough, but infanticide has no place in a civilised society.

The Bill also brings Queensland into line with other Australian states on this issue.

There is no essential difference between leaving a newborn infant to die, and actively killing it. All babies born alive, whether naturally, by caesarian section, or as the result of an attempted abortion, must be given appropriate medical care and every attempt made to ensure that the baby survives.

This proposed Bill aims to ensure that this is legally required and happens.

Furthermore, Australia needs more babies.

Just think about the potential flow-on consequences if infanticide is allowed. If an innocent and helpless baby can be left to die just because its parents do not want it, then if this doctrine is taken to its logical conclusion, ultimately any human being who does not have anyone who values them, or is regarded as a second-class citizen or of no use to society, can be forcefully euthanized, or denied life support.

Some babies have survived abortion, been born alive and then rescued, and have lived to grow up and find out about it. Some of their stories can be found in the Abortion Survivors Network ( <https://abortionsurvivors.org/> ).

In addition to this legislation, I think women considering relatively late term abortions should be required to be counselled, and warned that their baby is already fully formed, and the baby may even be born alive if abortion is attempted.

##### Denial

I gather that some people deny that any sort of infanticide can happen anywhere in Australia. However, some state governments have kept statistics on the number of babies

left to die after a failed abortion, and documented this information, and the number of such births has accumulated into the hundreds or thousands. So, the evidence is undeniable.

Even if no form of infanticide was occurring, this Bill would still have a worthwhile purpose in ensuring that it does not occur.

All states and territories should be required to record statistics regarding abortion, including how many aborted babies were born alive and what was done to preserve the baby's life, and if the child ultimately survived. If the baby did not survive, the reasons for this should be analysed like any other infant mortality.

### Recommendation

I would urge the Queensland government to pass this Bill into law without delay. To not do so is morally indefensible.

Thank you.