

Termination of Pregnancy (Live Births) Amendment Bill 2024

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Committee Secretary
Health, Environment and Agriculture Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2006
AUSTRALIA
Wed May 08 2024
Public Submission by Majella Eva.

It is the Government's duty to uphold the human rights of each individual. A child born alive following an abortion should be afforded equal protections under the law to receive medical care. These should include (taken from Dr Joanna Howe):

1. Ensuring that newborn babies are immediately assessed for gestational age and viability by a medical practitioner.
2. The provision of medical care should be based on a formal-equality principle. All newborn babies are entitled to equal treatment under the law. The basis for this equality principle is that a newborn baby possesses independent human rights upon its separation from its mother.
3. If the death is unavoidable, the baby must always be given palliative care, with proper attention given to pain relief and the emotional needs of the dying baby.

All babies born alive following an abortion who die in hospital after their birth are entitled to a birth certificate, death certificate and proper burial or cremation.

The erosion of the dignity owing to a human being diminishes us all. A society is judged by how it treats its most vulnerable members. A newborn baby is the most vulnerable of human beings. Leaving babies to die following a botched abortion is morally wrong.

I urge the committee to recommend that the Parliament pass this legislation.

Hi, I'm Majella from the Sunshine Coast and I work as an allied health professional.

"Abortion is healthcare the way abortion is lovemaking".

Abortion is the brutal and violent ending of a defenseless and voiceless unborn child. Both the unborn and born child are human beings. The only differences between the unborn and born are size, level of development, environment, and degree of dependency. To even contemplate leaving a child that survives this barbaric act to die (sometimes for prolonged periods of time - median time of 32 minutes but up to 4 hours) is deeply disturbing. Dr Joanna Howe states, "Although the intention of an abortion is to end the life of an in-utero baby, there are occasions when a baby is born alive. Signs of life in a baby which may be present following a failed abortion include the presence of a heartbeat, breathing and crying. These children deserve medical care.

According to statistics available, 328 Queensland babies have been born alive following an abortion procedure and left to die.

Sincerely, Majella Eva



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