

Submission

To

**Queensland Health, Communities, Disability Services
and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention
Committee - Abortion Law Reform inquiry**

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**Abortion Law Reform (Woman's Right to Choose)
Amendment Bill 2016**

By

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Queensland Bill to legalise slaughter of innocent children in the womb – through abortion

1. *The Terms of Reference for the Committee:*²

- a. existing practices in Queensland concerning termination of pregnancy by medical practitioners;
- b. existing legal principles that govern termination practices in Queensland;
- c. the need to modernise and clarify the law (without altering current clinical practice), to reflect current community attitudes and expectations;
- d. legislative and regulatory arrangements in other Australian jurisdictions including regulating terminations based on gestational periods; and
- e. provision of counselling and support services for women.

2. *Summary of submission*

Rob Pyne MP's private member's Bill submitted to the Queensland parliament for consideration removes abortion from the criminal code. It allows abortion right up until the time of birth. He said that he was prepared to negotiate with other MPs as to the period of gestation when abortion was allowed. The deputy Premier, Jackie Trad, has publicly declared in the media that she will support the abortion Bill, claiming that what a woman decides to do with her body, in consultation with her doctor, should not belong in the criminal code. The QCCL claimed this was a conscience decision for the woman.

This submission shows that another person has been ignored by the Bill. That is the unborn child who is a human being from conception. Photographs demonstrate the beauty of a child whose life is saved and the devastation to children in the womb who had been killed by abortion.

Results of a recent survey demonstrated that the majority of Queenslanders believe abortion takes a human life, but this submission concludes that the majority should not determine whether abortion is legal or not.

It was shown what Rob Pyne has deleted from the criminal code and it was validated that the life of the mother is protected in the existing legislation. Thus, there is no need for a change of law. This change is designed to satisfy the promoters of abortion and not those who want to save the lives of the unborn. A different ethic is being promoted and the contrast is stark between abortion promoters and those who want to save the lives of the unborn.

² The Terms of Reference are at: Queensland Parliament 2016, Abortion Law Reform (Women's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016 and Inquiry into laws governing termination of pregnancy in Queensland (online), 26 May. Available at: <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/work-of-committees/committees/HCDSDFVPC/inquiries/current-inquiries/AbortionLR-WRC-AB2016> (Accessed 5 June 2016).

What is being promoted here is a worldview issue where the pro-abortionists did not respect human life in the womb and those who were anti-abortion most often promoted a Christian worldview and its ethical requirements. 'You shall not murder' was the Christian response against abortion but that value was not endorsed by the abortionists. It was shown how God's righteousness (i.e. justice) exalts a nation. A nation that promotes the killing of the unborn is not practising justice and the nation will suffer consequences.

Counselling and support services should encourage both sides of the issue to be presented so that a pregnant women and her spouse/partner are encouraged to consider the devastation on the unborn child.

3. What it does to unborn children

As a Queensland and voter, I am concerned by the content of this Bill that proposes changes to decriminalise Qld abortion laws and what that will mean for unborn children. The impact on children in the womb seems to be minimised or forgotten by this Bill and the promotion of the Bill by pro-abortion advocates in this debate.

Pro-abortion politicians and others are quick to promote what abortion means for the would-be-mother who is pregnant and that it is her decision to abort. Deputy Premier, Jackie Trad, told *ABC News*, 'I am unashamedly pro-choice.... What a woman decides to do with her body, in consultation with her doctor, does not belong in the criminal code.... I fully respect that my caucus colleagues in the Labor Party will have different views to me'.³

In this article in *ABC News*, not a word was reported from Ms Trad about the unborn child and his/her rights. Was the unborn child deliberately eliminated from consideration in this killing of his/her life in this news story? Yes!

Ms Trad's support for abortion should not be surprising as she is a member of Emily's List.⁴ One of the beliefs of Emily's List is 'Choice', by which it means:

We believe women must have control over their own bodies and choices in their lives.

Reproductive freedom empowers women and men to choose if, when and how to begin the important journey into parenthood, without fear of discrimination, coercion or violence.⁵

What would the Queensland Council of Civil Liberties (QCCL) state about the need for a change in the abortion legislation? Again, *ABC News* reported that QCCL considered Qld's abortion laws to be 'antiquated and draconian'. The

³ ABC News 2016. Queensland abortion bill: Rob Pyne says procedure 'should not be a crime' (online), 10 May. Available at: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-05-10/queensland-abortion-bill-to-be-introduced-by-rob-pyne/7399368> (Accessed 19 May 2016).

⁴ This is confirmed on Emily's List 2015. 'Our State & Territory MPs' (online). Available at: <https://www.emilyslist.org.au/614-2/> (Accessed 19 May 2016).

⁵ Emily's List 2015. 'What we believe in' (online). Available at: <https://www.emilyslist.org.au/about/what-we-believe-in/> (Accessed 19 May 2016).

President of QCCL, Michael Cope, wanted Qld to have the Victorian system where abortion is legal after 24 weeks gestation, but it requires approval from two medical practitioners. Cope said, 'It's time we had this discussion and it's time we brought some certainty to women's right to choose in this state,' he said'.⁶

What is the philosophy of the QCCL? Its view on civil liberties is: Its 'Abortion law reform media release' stated that it

believes the current laws do not reflect the status of women in Queensland.

Mr Cope said, "The QCCL contends that the abortion decision is one to be determined in accordance with the conscience of the individual woman. Having said that, the QCCL also acknowledges that the unborn foetus has certain rights which should be recognised but which are less important than the living women's rights".⁷

Notice the libertine, utilitarian ethic that 'the unborn foetus' has fewer rights than that of the pregnant woman. Who said so? In my view, that seems to be an autonomous decision.

3.1 Abortion's negative impact

See <http://www.abortionfacts.com/> for more details on the impact of abortion. These facts include, but are not limited to:

Fact 1: Every abortion kills an innocent human being.

Fact 2: Every human being is a person.

Fact 3: It is just, reasonable, and necessary for society to outlaw certain choices.

Fact 4: The right to not be killed supersedes the right to not be pregnant.

Fact 5: Abortion is to be condemned for the same reasons that slavery and genocide are.

4. *The rights and wrongs of abortion*

Who or what determines if abortion is right or wrong? It is rare to hear discussion of the morality of abortion. However, abortion is wrong for these reasons:

4.1 This Bill legalises slaying of unborn children.

Rob Pyne stated this about his proposed Bill, according to *ABC News*:

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ No date was given for this media release, but it is estimated to have been in May 2016 after the release of Rob Pyne MP's private member's bill. Available at: <http://qccl.org.au/wiki/abortion-law-reform-media-release/> (Accessed 19 May 2016).

He would compromise with MPs on when the cut-off should be.

"What I'm saying is a majority of MPs can surely see the current laws are not acceptable, and hopefully we can [arrive] at some compromise that will be acceptable at second reading stage," the former Labor MP said.

"It's not 1899, abortion should not be a crime. The world is changing very quickly and unfortunately our politicians aren't".

"I have not made any suggestion in relation to gestation periods — whether it be 24 weeks, 20 weeks or whatever — because my main concern is that this Parliament get together and pass law reform in this area, so we need something that a majority of MPs can support".⁸

This proposed Bill in its original form nowhere states the time during gestation after which abortion should not take place. Although Mr Pyne expects some compromise with other MPs at the Committee stage, the fact is that he has placed no time limit in his Bill after which abortion is prohibited. Therefore, as presented, the Bill favours abortion right up until the time of birth. Surely this is an abhorrent position for reasonable Qld MPs?

In introducing this Bill, what will this mean for unborn children from conception to 9 months gestation? In its current form, if abortion were decriminalised, it would mean lives of the unborn slaughtered by the will of the mother and doctor(s) performing the abortion right up until the time of birth.

4.2 Why is it wrong to kill the unborn?

See No 8 below for an explanation that confirms human life begins at conception. This is a medical fact. Therefore, since abortion kills a human life, what makes it wrong?

4.2.1 Parliaments legislate, but God sets the boundaries of what makes abortion wrong.

It's time Qld MPs dealt with the morality of murder in abortion. Do you support the killing of human life? If you do, you'll agree to abortion at any time during the gestation period. However, Australia was built on the Christian ethic of the Ten Commandments, 'You shall not murder' being one of them.⁹ This is a fundamental of any just society. It is one of the pillars in Australia's foundation. If Qld MPs vote to decriminalise abortion, they will contribute to the destruction of another pillar of justice.

4.2.2 God's absolutes guarantee justice

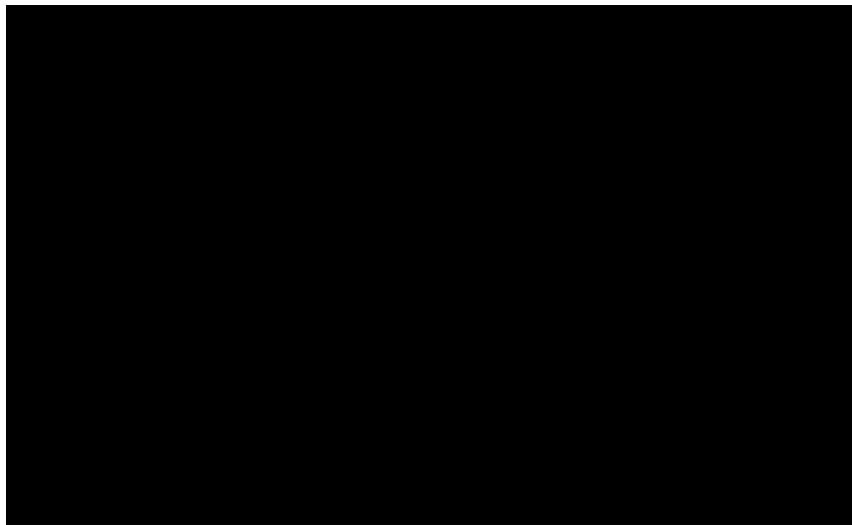
⁸ ABC News, loc cit, 'Queensland abortion bill'.

⁹ The Hebrew word for 'murder' also includes causing death through carelessness or negligence (English Standard Bible footnote).

Australia's moral and legal foundations were built on the absolutes of a Christian worldview that came with Anglican Chaplain Richard Johnson and the First Fleet in 1788.¹⁰ This worldview declares, 'You shall not murder'. We know that murder is wrong because both the Old Testament (Ten Commandments) and Jesus exhorted, 'You shall not murder'¹¹ (Exodus 20:13; Matthew 5:21). Therefore, killing a human life at any time, whether in the womb or outside the womb, is murder. In legislating against murder, governments have affirmed what God declared in Scripture.

5. This will be what will happen for many Qld children if MPs CHOOSE to reject the Bill.

You will choose this kind of life over death!



This section covers these Terms of Reference:

- a. existing practices in Queensland concerning termination of pregnancy by medical practitioners;
- b. existing legal principles that govern termination practices in Queensland;
- c. the need to modernise and clarify the law (without altering current clinical practice), to reflect current community attitudes and expectations;
- d. legislative and regulatory arrangements in other Australian jurisdictions including regulating terminations based on gestational periods.

What has Mr Pyne eliminated from the Qld Criminal Code in his proposed Bill? From my assessment of the Draft Bill (the Internet link is in footnote 2), these are the....

¹⁰ See Cable (2006-2016).

¹¹ The word for 'murder' also refers to death through carelessness and negligence (The Holy Bible: English Standard Version of the Bible 2001, footnote to Ex 20:13).

5.1 LAWS OMITTED BY 'ABORTION LAW REFORM (WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE) AMENDMENT BILL 2016'

Section 224 Attempts to procure abortion¹²

Any person who, with intent to procure the miscarriage of a woman, whether she is or is not with child, unlawfully administers to her or causes her to take any poison or other noxious thing, or uses any force of any kind, or uses any other means whatever, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment for 14 years.

Section 225 The like by women with child¹³

Any woman who, with intent to procure her own miscarriage, whether she is or is not with child, unlawfully administers to herself any poison or other noxious thing, or uses any force of any kind, or uses any other means whatever, or permits any such thing or means to be administered or used to her, is guilty of a crime, and is liable to imprisonment for 7 years.

Section 226 Supplying drugs or instruments to procure abortion¹⁴

Any person who unlawfully supplies to or procures for any person anything whatever, knowing that it is intended to be unlawfully used to procure the miscarriage of a woman, whether she is or is not with child, is guilty of a misdemeanour, and is liable to imprisonment for 3 years.

There is a phrase in all three sections that seems strange to me: 'intent to procure the miscarriage of a woman, whether she is or is not with child'. How is it possible to 'procure the miscarriage' if she is not with child? Perhaps I'm missing something in understanding here, but it seems to be language that needs rewording.

Nevertheless, these criminal actions **should not be removed** from the criminal code because a living human being (the unborn, but living, child in the womb) is murdered (see reasons below). But what if the continuation of the pregnancy threatens the life of the mother? The mother's life is safeguarded in the current Qld criminal code. Therefore, no change in the legislation is needed.

¹² Queensland Consolidated Acts, Criminal Code 1899 - SECT 224. Available at: http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/qld/consol_act/cc189994/s224.html (Accessed 17 May 2016).

¹³ Queensland Consolidated Acts, Criminal Code 1899 - SECT 225. Available at: http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/qld/consol_act/cc189994/s225.html (Accessed 17 May 2016).

¹⁴ Queensland Consolidated Acts, Criminal Code 1899 - SECT 226. Available at: http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/qld/consol_act/cc189994/s226.html (Accessed 17 May 2016).

5.2. LIFE OF THE MOTHER PROTECTED IN EXISTING ACT

In Queensland, there is currently a law where abortion (the killing of a child in the womb) is a crime. However, Section 282 of the Criminal Code allows for this defence:

Section 282 Surgical operations and medical treatment¹⁵

(1) A person is not criminally responsible for performing or providing, in good faith and with reasonable care and skill, a surgical operation on or medical treatment of—

- (a) a person or an unborn child for the patient's benefit; or
- (b) a person or an unborn child to preserve the mother's life;

if performing the operation or providing the medical treatment is reasonable, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

(2) If the administration by a health professional of a substance to a patient would be lawful under this section, the health professional may lawfully direct or advise another person, whether the patient or another person, to administer the substance to the patient or procure or supply the substance for that purpose.

While abortion currently is a crime in Qld (and should remain so since it deliberately kills a living human being), this Section 282 provides a defence when the abortion was performed to preserve the mother's life. When Cameron Dick MP was attorney-general for Qld in 2009, he wrote to Mr Neil Laurie, the Clerk of the Parliament, Queensland Parliamentary Service:

Amendments to section 282 of the Queensland Criminal Code were passed on 3 September 2009. Section 282 has been judicially interpreted to provide an excuse from criminal responsibility, to a person who performs a surgical termination in good faith, with reasonable care and skill, for the preservation of the mother's life, having regard to the patient's state at the time and to all the circumstances of the case.

The recent amendments to section 282 clarify that the operation of the section 282 excuse includes the provision of medical treatment and thus medical terminations.

These amendments clarify the law to protect doctors who prescribe medication to terminate a pregnancy, in the same way that doctors who perform surgical procedures are protected under the Criminal Code.¹⁶

¹⁵ Queensland Consolidated Acts, Criminal Code 1899 - SECT 282. Available at: http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/qld/consol_act/cc189994/s282.html (Accessed 19 May 2016).

This means that Section 282 has been interpreted by the courts to apply where the termination of a pregnancy is necessary to preserve the mother from serious danger to her life or her physical or mental health, if the continuing pregnancy would entail such effects. In such circumstances, the termination is not out of proportion to the danger to be prevented.

Therefore, there is no need to modernise the legislation to reflect community attitudes and expectations (Terms of Reference (c)).

5.3 What are the Qld community's attitudes?

See Section 6 below for this research.

If Rob Pyne's Bill becomes law, as it is currently written, Qld MPs will be rejecting the community's views.

6. *Politicians: What do Queenslanders want?*

MPs, are you listening to 'What Queenslanders Really Think About Abortion'? If you are, you would not support the decriminalisation of abortion. This is what Galaxy Research found in a randomised telephone opinion poll of 400 Queensland voters, conducted from 6 - 8 May 2016, with 13 questions. The research found that a majority of Queenslanders do not want abortion decriminalised. Here are the results:

- 55% agreed that abortion takes a human life;
- 66% agreed that the unborn is a person with rights at 20 weeks gestation;
- 84% agree that abortion harms women's health;
- 87% support a cooling off period of 2-3 days;
- 94% agreed with independent counselling for someone seeking an abortion;
- 72% opposed late term abortions past 13 weeks;
- 79% support conscientious objection to abortion;
- 85% were opposed to late term abortion past 20 weeks;
- 75% supported parental consent for abortions on minors;
- 45% opposed, 38% agreed, 17% were unsure of abortions for non-medical reasons;
- 49% opposed and 43% agreed with the decriminalisation of abortion;
- Views on the current law: 39% too restrictive, 42% about right, 11% not restrictive enough;

¹⁶ Hon Cameron Dick 2009. Queensland Government (online), Attorney-general and Minister for Industrial Relations, Letter to Mr Neil Laurie, The Clerk of the Parliament, 21 December. Available at: <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/Documents/TableOffice/TabledPapers/2009/5309T1568.pdf> (Accessed 19 May 2016).

- There was a potential swing of 6% against pro-abortion MPs.¹⁷

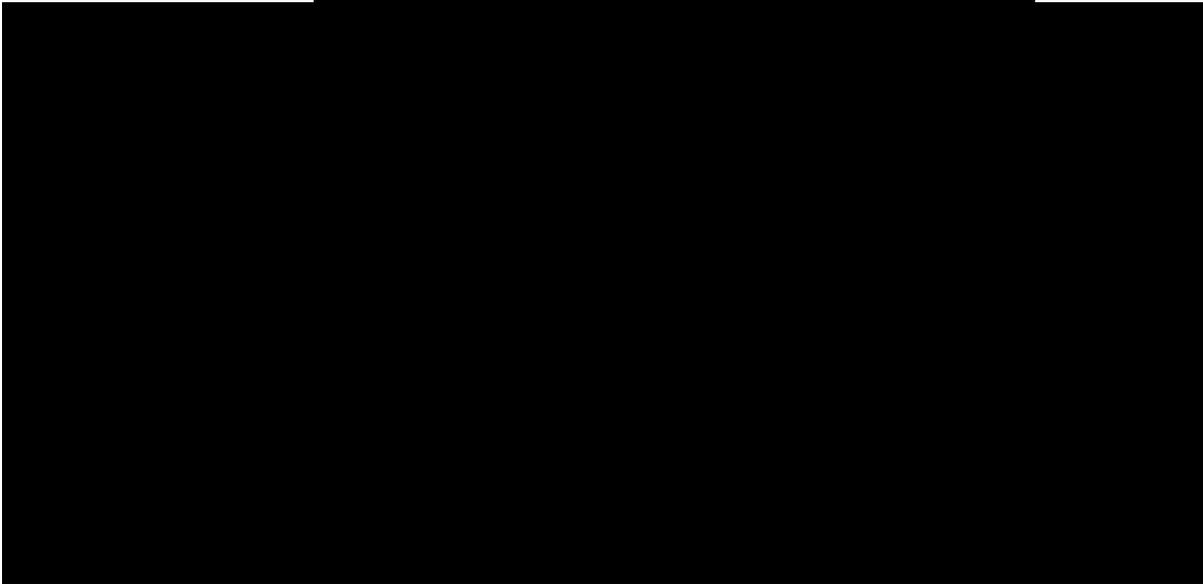
It so happens that Queenslanders, out of ignorance or through knowledge, support the Christian Scriptures in affirming that 'abortion takes a human life'. However....

6.1 What people WANT should never be the standard.

The reason for refusing to decriminalise abortion should be that it opposes God's law, 'You shall not murder'. Pragmatism (doing what works) should not be the guiding principle in relation to abortion. What is the right view of what should be done to a child in the womb? See the discussion above regarding the moral absolute against murder from Old and New Testaments that concerns an essential commandment to protect the unborn.

When politicians bow to God's standards, then we will have a State and nation that is exalted by God himself. The sin of killing the unborn is a stench to God and is a blight on our nation. It is a disgrace to any civilised country. See the discussion on Proverbs 14:34 below.

7. This will be what happens to unborn Qld children if you CHOOSE to pass this Bill.



Contrary to what Ms Trad believes, the slaughter of children in the womb (see photos above) **does belong in the Qld criminal code** because it involves the killing of human lives.

We already know that some aborted babies, born alive, are left to die in Queensland. See details in, 'Late-term abortion live births have increased'. In this article, Queensland Health Minister, Cameron Dick, 'detailed the figures

¹⁷ Galaxy Research 2016. 'What Queenslanders really think about abortion' (online). Available at: http://www.abortionrethink.org/images/What_Qlders_Really_Think_About_Abortion.pdf (Accessed 19 May 2016).

from 2005 - when eight terminations resulted in "live birth outcomes", to 2015, when the number reached 27'.¹⁸ It is an indictment on a civilised Australian society that it should agree to any live aborted babies being left to suffer and die outside the womb. This article also cited Leah Hardiman of Maternity Choices Australia, who said termination remained a 'difficult decision for any woman to make.... She is making the choice that is best for her and we should be respecting that'.¹⁹

However, there is another person whose life is ignored by this kind of language and morality. That is the living child who has been aborted. The Queensland **criminal law needs to continue to prosecute those who kill life in the womb**, the exceptional case being to save the life of the mother, but not at the expense of inflicting terminal pain on a baby born alive. No civilised society should tolerate what Mr Dick stated about aborted babies, born alive, who are left to die in pain. Mr Dick claimed, 'Care of a baby following birth is individualised to the specific circumstances, and informed by the choices of the family'.²⁰ That should not be the case when it involves an aborted baby who is still alive outside the womb.

8. Human life begins at conception

What will Qld MPs do to stop the massacre of approximately 10,000 pre-born human beings a year? You should know that it is a medical fact that the child in the womb is a human being from the moment of conception. In case you have doubts, here is some evidence:

- Leading obstetrician gynaecologist and medical researcher, Dr Landrum B. Shettles, says the real core of the debate over when life begins is 'the clash between an ethic that makes the sanctity of human life an absolute and a new ethic that renders that life relative and sometimes expendable' (Shettles with Rorvik 1983:107).
- In 1970, in the midst of the United States' abortion debate (it was legalised in 1973), an editorial by Dr Malcolm Watts, titled, 'A New Ethic for Medicine and Society' appeared in the journal *California Medicine* (the official journal of the California Medical Association). Watts noted 'the curious avoidance of the scientific fact, which everyone really knows, that **human life begins at conception and is continuous whether intra- or extra-uterine until death**'. Dr Watts particularly noted the link of abortion with a new ethic while the older ethic has not been abandoned: 'The very considerable **semantic gymnastics** which are required to rationalize abortion as anything but taking a human life would be ludicrous if they were not often put forth under socially impeccable auspices. It is suggested that this schizophrenic sort of subterfuge is necessary because while a new ethic is being accepted the old one has not yet been rejected'

¹⁸ Remeikis (2016).

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid.

(*California Medicine* 1970, vol 113, no. 3, September, 1970:67, emphasis added).

- 'Fetal pain: The evidence' summarises some of the medical substantiation for pain experienced by the unborn human being²¹ Other evidence includes:
- Babies in the womb experience pain when murdered by abortion. A 20-week old unborn child does feel pain. The evidence comes from specialists in the field who have performed corrective procedures on these unborn children and have seen them flinch and withdraw when sharp objects are used on them. This is what the specialists state:
- 'The neural pathways are present for pain to be experienced quite early by unborn babies', Steven Calvin, M.D., perinatologist, chair of the Program in Human Rights Medicine, University of Minnesota, where he teaches obstetrics.²²
- 'At 20 weeks, the fetal brain has the full complement of brain cells present in adulthood, ready and waiting to receive pain signals from the body, and their electrical activity can be recorded by standard electroencephalography (EEG)', according to Dr. Paul Ranalli, neurologist, University of Toronto.²³
- After specifically addressing the partial-birth abortion procedure, Dr Robert White stated that 'the fetus within this time frame of gestation, 20 weeks and beyond, is fully capable of experiencing pain', and in relation to the partial-birth abortion procedure, he concluded that 'without question, all of this [abortion] is a dreadfully painful experience for any infant subjected to such a surgical procedure'. Professor Robert J. White, M.D., PhD was Director of the Division of Neurosurgery and Brain Research Laboratory, Case Western University School of Medicine, Cleveland Ohio.²⁴
- At 20 weeks gestation, Dr Ranalli's assessment was that this pain is more intensely felt than with adults. It is a 'uniquely vulnerable time, since the pain system is fully established, yet the higher level pain-modifying system has barely begun to develop'.²⁵

The medical evidence is in. Human life begins at conception and the nature of that humanity is affirmed through the pain experienced in utero. Therefore, it is a medical fact that the unborn child, at any time from conception to birth is a human being.

9. What drives the abortion agenda?

It doesn't matter whether a person is an MP or an ordinary citizen, there are reasons why a person supports or rejects abortion on demand. What could those justifications be?

²¹ Doctors on fetal pain (2013).

²² Ertelt (2015).

²³ Drumm (2015).

²⁴ Professor White's testimony is recorded in *United States Congressional Serial Set, Serial No. 14791, House Reports Nos 595 – 623, 107th Congress, - 2d session, January 23 – November 22, 2002. Partial-birth abortion ban act of 2002, p. 4. Available in Google Book [HERE](#).*

²⁵ Doctors on fetal pain, loc cit., Ranalli.

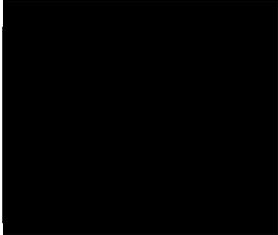
The evidence before us, as presented in this submission, is that worldviews influence reality and two radically different worldviews are influencing decisions regarding abortion in Qld. Those worldviews involve (1) the value of human life from conception to natural death, and (2) the life of the mother (the adult) is more important than the life in the womb and the decision to abort is the woman's choice. Two different philosophies drive these worldviews.

What will be the outworking of this in Queensland and Australia?

10. Righteousness (God's justice) exalts a nation

In English, righteousness²⁶ and justice are two words with different meanings but in the Hebrew Old Testament and the Greek New Testament that is not so, as there is only one root word behind both 'righteousness' and 'justice'. Proverbs 14:34 states, 'Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people'. God's message is straightforward regarding any State or nation.

- When a nation practises God's righteousness in national or State actions or in person-to-person relationships, the nation will be exalted in its reputation and in its impact for God and justice.
- However, if sinful government decisions are made (e.g. promoting abortion and breaking God's law against killing) and people act sinfully towards one another, the nation will be condemned.
- Should the State of Queensland legislate the killing of unborn human life, it will be exalting injustice (unrighteousness) in this State towards the unborn. It will be taking a route to ruin.

 I agree that Queensland is not a theocracy, but it is still under the sovereign rule of the Lord God who uses human governments to exercise his will: 'Dominion belongs to the LORD and he rules over the nations' (Psalm 22:28). Anti-Christian legislation by the Queensland government will bring the rebuke of God's judgment. It is not for me to determine how that will happen.

In this submission, I haven't dealt with the butchery in the suburbs at abortion clinics with the killing of the unborn for other than health reasons, with 'over 70,000 abortions a year' performed in Australia (Sheehan 2016). What would be Queensland's proportion and what percentage would be for health reasons for the mother? An estimate is that approximately 10,000 unborn children are killed annually through abortion in Queensland.²⁷ Definitive statistics are difficult to obtain.

²⁶ According to Oxford dictionaries (online), righteousness means 'the quality of being morally right or justifiable' (2016. s v righteousness). However, justice means 'the quality of being fair and reasonable' (2016. s v justice).

²⁷ Johnston (2015).

11. Provision of counselling and support

This addresses Terms of Reference (e) 'Provision of counselling and support services for women'.

It is recommended that counselling and support services be provided to women and their spouses/partners or parents regarding a possible abortion, but that these services should include:

1. Diagnosis from a medical practitioner on the medical need for the abortion, including saving the life of the mother;
2. The risks of an abortion;
3. Exposure to images in print, online or in video that show both sides of the abortion debate, including the effects on the unborn child;
4. Promotion of alternatives to abortion, including adoption.

It is proposed that legislation should promote freedom of speech (including allowance of promotional material for both sides) outside abortion clinics and that this information permits the morality or immorality of abortion to be explained. Do not legalise the arrest and imprisonment of those who promote or object to abortion who advertise outside abortion clinics.

12. Appendix A. The wording of the Bill

I have read a copy of this Bill, 'Abortion Law Reform (Woman's Right to Choose) Amendment Bill 2016'.²⁸ For submission purposes, this is not a satisfactory description of a Bill for the general public. It is only in summary form, lacking the specific information that has been excised from the criminal code. I had to search online to find the content of the criminal code, s 224, s 225, and s 226 that has been deleted. When a Committee is calling for public submissions, it should be a matter of common courtesy that these details would be provided to ordinary people. There is the added fact that s 282 already provides opportunity for saving the life of the mother if her health is in danger through continuation of pregnancy. Then the letter 's' was used before the number in the criminal code, assuming people knew it represented 'section' in the Bill. Such is an example of in-house political rhetoric that detracts from encouraging the commoner to make a submission.

13. Works consulted

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²⁸ Available at: https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/Bills/55PDF/2016/B16_0058_Abortion_Law_Reform_%28Woman%27s_Right_to_Choose%29_Amendment_Bill_2016.pdf (Accessed 23 June 2016).

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THE END

²⁹ South Bend, Indiana, is approximately 150km by road east of Chicago and is the city of the University of Notre Dame.