



Speech By  
**Shannon Fentiman**


**MEMBER FOR WATERFORD**

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Record of Proceedings, 10 December 2024

**MOTION**

**Termination of Pregnancy**

 **Ms FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (11.58 am): This is evidence of how weak this Premier is and why, despite the fact the LNP are now in government and have a majority, they need to gag their own members. Why would those opposite need this motion—given they have won the election and said, ‘It’s not part of our plan’—unless they knew that almost all of their members would vote to wind back a woman’s right to choose?

The Premier has come in here today and made it completely clear for every Queenslanders that his own party cannot be trusted to protect the rights of Queensland women. Why? Why would he say that—when we have members like the member for Rockhampton, who says that the greatest human rights abuse of all time is abortion, or the member for Lockyer, who says that abortion is playing God, or even the member for Everton, who says that abortion is nothing short of legal killing? The Premier has to move this motion to gag the parliament, to gag his own members, because every single one of them, given the chance, would take the opportunity to wind back a woman’s right to choose. Thank you to the member for Scenic Rim, who belled the cat on this at a Christian debate.

**Mr Dick:** You punished him because he said that.

**Ms FENTIMAN:** He was punished because he let Queenslanders know that any chance they got, as soon as they got the numbers, they would wind this back.

I want to make this really clear. This motion today makes it impossible for there to be any strengthening of women’s rights over the next four years when it comes to termination of pregnancy. Just this year the TGA approved MS-2 Step being administered by nurses and midwives. This would help women in regional Queensland access abortions. Those opposite voted against it. The Premier, David Crisafulli, voted against it.

**Honourable members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Waterford, just wait a moment. The level of interjection is too high. The noise needs to cease. One person has the call and that is the member for Waterford.

**Ms FENTIMAN:** If there were further developments by the TGA to further strengthen scope of practice for health professionals to make it easier for women, this House could not debate that issue. If women needed more protection when attending abortion clinics, those reforms would not be possible. If we wanted to strengthen public hospitals to provide more termination-of-pregnancy services for women, those reforms would not be possible. Not only is the Premier gagging his own members who want to wind back a woman’s right to choose; he wants to gag all women in this place from making stronger protections for women in this state. This is appalling. It is unprecedented. They should be ashamed for being so obviously against women’s rights in this state that they have to gag their own members for four years. Shame.