

09/08/2019

NSW Parliament Legislative Assembly

Dear Submissions,

Re: Medical Doctor's opposition to *Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019*

I am writing to air my grave concerns about the recent passage in the lower house of the above bill. It concerns me greatly that the NSW State Government has sanctioned by this Act the killing and dismembering of the living children within the womb by the Abortion industry after 5 months of pregnancy and right up until the birth of that child.

This bill is ideologically addled, it is unspeakably abhorrent and it is an utterly abysmal reflection on our society and civilisation in this State in the way that it sanctions the appalling treatment of our weakest and most vulnerable members. One of the stated aims of the law is to prevent women from being prosecuted if they were to procure an unlawful abortion. This could be simply achieved by deleting the line pertaining to women in section 83 of this Act. This bill goes further than that. What this Bill ignores, that these same laws were used in 2006 in *R vs Sood* to prosecute an unregistered person who held herself out to be a doctor for performing an unlawful abortion, to the detriment of the woman.

The focus of my protest, however, is primarily on the Legislatures decision to co-opt doctors to their rotten cause. As it is, doctors must either perform the abortion, prescribe the abortifacient or make an effective referral for one. There has been an interpretation (and in my view an incorrect one) applied to various codes governing the right behaviour of doctors acting under the auspices of a conscientious objection such that referrals are to be arranged by doctors if the patient is seeking one. This is one step too far. It deems that the outcome of a consultation must go exactly the way a patient wants it. This is deeply flawed. Doctors are not ATM machines, we are professionals and need to be free to apply our best judgement for the care of our patients. In the case of pregnancy, it is the case that there are two patients.

Please understand that the therapeutic relationship between a doctor and their patient is unique. It is underlined by trust, advocacy and care following a correct formulation of the precise problem afflicting the patient. Just imagine for a second if a patient were sent along to a gastroenterologist to investigate iron deficiency and I stated that the patient must have this procedure, because the law says so. If there is any compulsion on the doctor's part by law to investigate / manage in a very particular way, this removes the necessary process a doctor ought to go through to first arrive at a correct diagnosis. The law is simply not sophisticated enough to account for every single aspect of the patient journey through the many interactions with their doctor. To return to my example, many times patients are knocked back from colonscopies, as the gastroenterologist has applied their skill to the situation and deems that the complaint arises from their diet rather than bleeding. This is even against the backdrop where the specialist in question is financially incentivised to operate / investigate via procedure. Hence, the cure is different to the one proposed. The law has no oversight in this interaction, the only thing that matters **is the truth of the matter** at hand.

Now to turn to the issue at hand. How it stands currently, imagine a woman finds herself before

her doctor requesting the end of her pregnancy at 18 weeks. A caring doctor, applying his or her skill to the situation will take a history to understand how it is that the patient arrived at this decision. Compassionate probing instills confidence and trust in the patient and she discloses that she is actually the victim of domestic violence and the father of the child is pressuring her to do this. The patient is really conflicted about this line of action. She can already feel the child kicking. Neurophysiological changes are already setting in and are facilitating bonding with her child, as is natural. Pregnancy necessarily makes her vulnerable, open to exploitation and coercion, and yet she is troubled by the thought of ending the life of her child, who she sees in her dreams. The doctor emphasises with the woman's situation, contacts the domestic violence line with the patient there and arranges a shelter for the woman where she can retreat from the violence. Pregnancy counselling is also arranged. This example is an accurate portrayal of the precise mechanism by which doctors care for their patients, stemming from a correct formulation.

Imagine the situation, now where the doctor is approached by this same patient, but this time, the above Bill is in place. The doctor now feels intimidated by the patient, fearing professional or legal repercussions unless he / she do exactly as the patient wants. The doctor reluctantly writes and puts their signature on the referral to a known provider. The woman is assessed and abortion is recommended. This comes as little surprise given that Abortion **is in fact an industry**, and not health care in the traditional sense as it often mendaciously labelled. The woman is offered counselling which may or may not be required by any employee of the industry and is inherently conflicted in his / her ability to give frank and fearless advice. The referring doctor feels constrained in their practice to ask questions and resents the whole process.

As you can see, this plunges a knife right into the heart of the patient-doctor relationship. Furthermore, it pays disrespect to medical practitioners; politicians this week have been able to apply their conscience to this Act in order to either vote For or Against it. They can decide not to have their signatures next to this ugly law as it troubles their consciences. But a doctor, can they decide to withhold their name? No, they cannot. It is unconscionable. It violates Article 18 of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, it violates the correct interpretation and intention of the Australian Medical Board's stance on the rights of the doctors to have a conscientious objection and it utterly tears asunder the very principles upon which medicine is founded, that is, the duty to do no harm and to seek to do good.

This bill will do nothing for women's health and it will lead to more abortions. The great lie of abortion is that things can go back to how they were, when in fact, a mother is always a mother. I am aware of the increased risk of suicide in those mothers procuring abortion as well as substance abuse and a PTSD-like syndrome known as Post Abortion Stress. I hold grave concerns for the mental health of the women, men and families connection with abortion already, but I can only see this crisis deepening. I am further appalled to think about how this will further brutalise relationships between women and men. Currently, men deal themselves out of the equation. It is entirely sexist. This bill provides no real reproductive rights (let's be clear, these are child-killing rights) and neither does it encourage reproductive responsibility. Is this the type of society legislators really want? Is this what the people of NSW were consulted on? The answer is obvious. The Legislature is divided, NSW is divided. Doctors are now forced to either break the law or violate foundational principles of medicine. In a word, this Act is **unjust**.

I urge you to reconsider your position. I am making this letter widely available to my local member and politicians generally.

As a Catholic, I am against abortion and there the bill for abortion.

The 6th Commandment of GOD and from GOD is

“Thou shall not kill”

This commandment which is Divine Law and not of human order.

Under no condition, one should take one's life or another's. This is a murder and a MORTAL SIN.

Freedom is a privilege to uphold humanity and respect human life and not to do whatever you want.

what sort of a world that we live that allows mother to kill their unborn babies! and you who consent to it are equally responsible and no less than a murderer.

Life starts from moment of conception. Killing a foetus or a baby who has no voice is also a violation of human right. i wish to be the voice for these unborn babies and demand for their right to be heard.

GOD CREATES LIFE AND HE ALONE CAN TAKE WAY LIFE. IT BELONGS TO THE ALMIGHTY GOD!

it's not too late to repent and reverse the decision.

May God forgive your sins and bless you in His mercy for repentance.

We all deserve a chance at life!  
Who are we to decide who lives and who doesn't.

Save those innocent babies. ♥

The deterioration of a government begins almost always by the decay of its principles.

Montesquieu

The abortion bill displays the decay of the principles of our present government. You will deeply regret the decision to pass this bill.

Please consider this laws from every angle. Mostly from a baby that does not have any choice in its life ending.

Very saddened by the passing of that inhumane abortion law. We cannot as a society kill babies right up until birth for any reason, except if the mothers life itself is in imminent danger. Take the voices of the thousands of people who are opposed to this bill being passed.

I would like to submit my opposition to this bill being passed and made law. I do not believe that babies should have their lives taken in the mother's womb and abortion decriminalised. These babies have the right to life and are not able to speak for themselves.



Babies are alive and well in their mothers womb! So it is unthinkable that people think it is ok to kill a tiny human!! People will one day have to give an account on killing these beautiful babies

A baby is fully human from conception....it is murder to kill a human being.....but to abort a full term baby is absolutely wicked.....if a woman does not want her baby then she should have the baby adopted out...so many women are unable to conceive..... please do not murder these innocent human beings.....please please don't let it become law to do this wicked thing.

I oppose any legislation that would suffer an unborn baby to be put to death in utero. It has been proven that these little developing babies feel pain as they are aborted. It would satisfy any childless couple who would love a newborn baby. It is Criminal that our government even contemplates voting for abortion. What is happening to our beautiful country that we would allow this senseless slaughter of the yet to be born.STOP THIS LAW BEING PASSED..NOW Please.I ead on behalf of all our future leaders and academics..doctors..teachers..etc etc.Life is precious and must be protected..

Dear Representative, As an Australian citizen and mother of two beautiful children, I plead with you today to turn this terrible decision to allow innocent children to be hurt, killed and discarded in the most inhuman manner. This is not humans rights and it is not Feminism - I am a female and this atrocity does not embody, in any way, the values that true feminism should be built upon. Children are going to be killed and thrown in the garbage and our generation will have a lot to answer to in decades to come. Please, please reconsider this decision. Australia deserves more, our children deserve more and our women deserve more.

I am heartbroken and feel sick at the thought of precious babies being left to die on operating tables, simply because they are unwanted. The value of a human life is not based on how wanted that life is. All life is valuable. How can a premature baby be provided with life-saving treatment whilst an 'unwanted' baby aborted at the same gestational age be abandoned in another room. How primitive is our society that we think this is ok? Has any research into the effects that performing abortions has on health-care workers been evaluated in formulating this new bill? How can a human being be classified, and remain, mentally stable after willingly murdering an innocent baby, based on such reasoning as the 'mother's' career choice. An alternative solution could be programs where people desperately wanting a baby and going through many rounds of IVF are paired up with women seeking abortions. Instead of the first port of call being an abortion. As far as people with a disability are concerned, how are they supposed to feel, knowing that it was recommended to their parents to have them killed rather than being born. I know for a fact that pregnant women who receive a "high risk" result on their nuchal translucency testing are offered an abortion before any further testing is conducted, despite the fact that this screening is highly flawed. Killing a human baby (you can call it a foetus if it makes you feel more comfortable, but it is still a baby) is not the answer to everyone's problems. PLEASE do not allow this murderous bill to be passed, we should be standing up for innocent babies, not slaughtering them to benefit our lifestyles!!!!

Please do not decriminalise abortion. The life of a human being is at stake. An unborn child had the same value as you or I. By allowing the murder of unborn babies you are taking on the position of God. Please I beg you do not allow this atrocity to go any further.

To the committee on social issues; Re: The Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 I oppose this bill. The emotional, mental and spiritual ramifications for those involved are grave. This is not in the best interest of women or their unborn children. Murder legalised should not be an option for perceived inconvenience or 'health'. This leads into nefarious territory. Life is precious.

It does not acknowledge the rights of the child to be protected. This bill does not have strong enough protection on it being abused. You can not trust two doctors to protect life.. There are many doctors that will do anything for money as long as there is very little consequences and very little chance of being court. More time needs to be taken over this life and death issue. Governments are there to look after the most vulnerable. There needs to be more controls in place to stop its abuse if it is to be adopted. The silent Australian will not accept these changes. Where does it end why not kill disabled children etc this is the logical outcome of this type of legislation



Blank Entry

Please be mindful of the fact that this bill can cause more damage than good. We need to address the issue of women having support when they are pregnant. Killing innocent babies is never the answer.

Please Do Not Legalise Abortion. We are murdering innocent babies who did not ask to be concieve. A foetus is already human as they are already breathing at conceivment .

A life in the womb, at any stage or age, is that... LIFE. The unborn have a right to life. Protect them.

I would like to make my opposition to late term abortions known as I consider it to be an affront to my belief in the sacredness of human life

Please do not go ahead with this Bill. The murder of babies should not be legal. Think clearly about this. Do you want the blood of these infant humans on your hands? They can feel pain. They are human!

To the parliament, I would very much like to make a submission going against the abortion bill and ask that you would kindly consider the words that I am about to write. I am taking a stand for the voiceless and most vulnerable in our state. The proposed abortion bill is preposterous. It shows that there is no sanctity in human life. It shows that those who were conceived in rape, those who are disabled and those who come from low socioeconomic status do not deserve life. If you look at the dictionary definition of abortion it defines it as "the termination of a human life." Which is exactly what it is. We as a society condemn what Hitler did to the jews in ww2, however countless more babies have been tortured and murdered in their mothers womb. If parliament passes abortion or especially gender selection abortion it is no different than condoning the Nazi regime Hitler wanted a "perfect" society with people with fair skin, blue eyes and blonde hair. This is no different. For my main point I would like to stand point from a woman who was raped view. I, myself found out i was pregnant in 2013. I had been In a domestic violent relationship where I would be abused and sexually assaulted against my will. The violence would get very profuse. I would be assaulted and lay and cry and then be abused for making him "feel" like a rapist. This in essence was hard enough to deal with, but God gave me the grace to leave that situation. A few weeks later, after the man responsible was arrested and in custody and i found out i was pregnant. I will be completely honest and say that for a small period of time I did consider a termination. A lot of people in my life at that time tried to convince me into having an abortion and would say things like "you do not need a constant reminder of what happened to you!" I felt very pressured into having a abortion and very frightened and confused. Thankfully by God and his mercy I had some people offer me counselling, love, support. The help i desperately needed. I went on to have a healthy baby and my child is the light of my life. My child has brought so much joy to myself, my family and those around us. Our lives would not be the same without that precious child. I whole heartedly believe that my child is someone beautiful who came out of a very dire situation. If women in my case were offered help, support, love, counselling I can guarantee you they would not terminate. Having the right support is what helped me choose life rather than murder an innocent child because of the sins/actions of the biological father. There is NEVER any excuse for an abortion, especially up to birth. A baby girl develops her uterus at 19 weeks gestation. A baby in the womb can open its eyes, suck a thumb, cry and feel pain. As parents when we are pregnant we play music, read and speak to our unborn baby. Now if the baby was just a clump of cells why would we do this? (We don't speak or sing to our skin cells, do We?) We do it so when our baby is born our baby knows our voice. I think we are better off teaching people the importance of abstinence. It's basic reproductive knowledge that having sex will lead to a pregnancy. Australians need to know that there are consequences to our actions. Why should we slaughter innocent babies because of actions we make e.g. failure to use a condom. Please also help doctors who are Christian and oppose abortion. It's unethical to think they will lose their jobs for standing for the sanctity of human life. Women want the right to chose, why can't doctors choose to go against the slaughter of innocent babies when they have worked so hard to learn how to help life and treat sickness. Please also consider the mental health of nurses, who if this law is passed will see and have to assist in against their moral conscience babies torn limb from limb, will see little hands and feet, precious little faces of those innocent babies, who will have to throw babies bodies away and watch babies cry in pain and die in rubbish bins . It would destroy nurses and doctors and go against every life saving technique they have trained so long and hard for. In ending, the abortion bill proposed is barbaric and nothing short of murder. If we as a state condone leaving a baby to die alone, (after a failed murder) crying in pain refusing to offer medical assistance we are of a reprobate mind.

To whom it may concern, I would like to voice my objections to the extreme new bill allowing abortion up until birth. Abortion is a gross violation of human rights. We as human beings should be protecting the innocent and vulnerable rather than supporting their genocide. This bill does not even include any protections for babies born alive after failed abortions. Please reject this bill and support the rights and the lives of pre-born babies.



Blank entry

I write to express my horror that the The Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 has been passed in the lower house. I speak as a Christian who sees all life as a precious gift from a loving, creator God. I do not wish to see women who pursue an abortion prosecuted. But my heart breaks for the unborn. I am horrified that babies born alive after a failed abortion will be denied medical treatment and left to die. This is barbaric and lacks compassion and integrity in ways I can't even begin to describe. I am devastated that abortion can be performed right up until birth. This means that babies who are viable outside the womb are to be killed. I am appalled that girls under the age of sixteen will be able to seek an abortion without the permission of their parents. This undermines parental duty of care. I am outraged that sex selection will be a valid reason for abortion. The majority of babies aborted for sex selection are female and little girls will be aborted for simply being female. I am fearful that women will be coerced into abortion. We need to offer these women care and support, financial and practical assistance so that they have a genuine choice. They deserve more. I am concerned for doctors who conscientiously object to these practices. Freedom of conscience is a foundational principle of our democracy. This bill should not be passed in its current form.

How can a government support the premature ending of a child's life and at the same time, support thousands of families every year with hospitals that provide premmie care? Children can survive up to 22-23weeks gestation. Where is the child's right to live? Don't we as Australians pride ourselves in giving everyone a fair chance? I plead for the future of Australians, don't pass this bill.

I am writing to ask you to please vote against the bill that is seeking to legalise abortion in NSW. We can do much better than this. This 2014 report states there are “only seven countries in the world that permit elective abortion past 20 weeks”

<https://lozierinstitute.org/internationalabortionnorms/>. 2019 updated summary source document here:

[https://www.fiapac.org/media/uploads/abortion\\_laws\\_around\\_the\\_world\\_sam\\_rowlands\\_rev\\_2019.pdf](https://www.fiapac.org/media/uploads/abortion_laws_around_the_world_sam_rowlands_rev_2019.pdf) Are we to join North Korea? Innocent children in their mothers wombs will have no one to defend them if this is passed. If the child is over 22 weeks gestation, the 2 doctors are likely to be abortionists and are therefore compromised and not able to represent the child's best interests as they need to justify their own actions. Decades ago it was said to mothers that only a blob was being killed, today it should be unthinkable to kill an unborn child. Some of the reasons are: 4d ultrasounds as per attached photo. Fetal Surgery from 18 weeks

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/23/health/fetal-surgery-spina-bifida.html>, this is a double standard where we are saving some and killing others based solely on what is wanted, not on what is right. What kind of society can sustain this. Foetuses feel pain:

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/nation/politics/unborn-showing-disabilities-are-being-denied-a-chance-at-life/news-story/0dcb3ea1f2b2017a3df5d11f5acfa0fa> "Neurobiology professor Kan-wal-jeet Anand was a pioneer in the foetal pain ... Anand's clinical trials demonstrated that newborns -exhibit pain avoidance -behav-iours and suffer post-operative distress. He concluded they were capable of pain and recommended the use of -anaesthetics. His research findings reduced the mortality rate of neonates undergoing cardiac surgery from 25 per cent to less than 10 per cent... Anand's work set new standards for neonatal care. In 2009 he won a distinguished international award for pediatric medicine, the Nils Rosen von Rosenstein Medal" Infant incubators have sustained preterms born as early as Amillia Taylor at 21 weeks and 6 days <https://www.theage.com.au/national/florida-girl-worlds-most-premature-baby-20070221-ge49nm.html> Artificial Womb technology currently in development (in Australia too) will no doubt further reduce the age of viability to well under 21 weeks

<https://jme.bmj.com/content/44/11/751> Babies remember womb music they were exposed to up to three months before birth. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/1432495.stm> Foetuses can hear and respond to music by 16 weeks; the next Mozart is already learning to feel and marvel at the beauty of sound. <https://www.livescience.com/62881-baby-womb-music-stimulation.html> Doctors who perform an abortion on a child over 22 weeks face no repercussions, yet doctors who refuse to be part of the chain that leads to an abortion can loose registration? This is illiberal - no conscientious objections allowed! We all agree on one thing, an unplanned pregnancy can be very difficult to deal with which is why we need crisis pregnancy centres where we as a society help mothers and their children instead of telling them it is legal to kill them. Let's do something positive instead of giving woman a so called choice - to kill their own child. Let us not make abortion legal and give men more of an impetus to tell their pregnant partners to "go get it fixed" and to put the pressure on. If we observed animals behaving this way and killing their own we would see it as a problem and work out why it is happening and not encourage it. It is wrong to kill innocent humans. Let us protect the most vulnerable in our society. If made legal it normalises killing the unborn. This is where we are heading

<https://msmagazine.com/2019/07/01/when-abortion-becomes-ordinary/>, making abortion a point of humour in sitcoms. Laws set a moral precedent. Maintaining abortion as illegal gives the correct message to society that taking an innocent life is wrong. Look at the hypocrisy we already have of not allowing Zoe's law as it would conflict with so called abortion rights. How much worse will legalising abortion make it for the wanted unborn? Sex selection abortions - given Green light? Some key migrant communities are recording sons at rates of 122 and 125 for every 100 daughters in later pregnancies. India outlawed sex identification of unborn and dowry's yet they still have this huge problem. 63 million women in India alone, 2 million per year. Last weeks headline: “Mothers have 216 boys but no girls in Indian villages”

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/world/the-times/mothers-have-216-boys-but-no-girls-in-indian-villages/news-story/812739b9f3e16d059344a73684bf7e7b> This is happening here too:  
<https://www.smh.com.au/healthcare/the-missing-girls-never-born-in-australia-20180811-p4zwxr.html> Dr Mark Hobart's case: <https://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/opinion/doctor-risks-his-career-after-refusing-abortion-referral/news-story/a37067e66ed4f8d9a07ec9cb6fd28cf5>  
So Dowry is legal in NSW, but protecting the unborn is not to be? The Orwellian name of the bill says it all "REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE REFORM BILL 2019". What newspeak. To reproduce means you need to have a baby, not kill it. And how can the ending of life be "Health Care". Please vote NO. Thank you.

I am writing this submission to voice my intense disapproval and horror of the abortion bill which is due to be voted on shortly. I cannot fathom the utter lack of compassion and basic human decency that would move anyone to vote to kill a baby which were it born and not butchered would survive and be loved! It is not right to kill babies!!! Please consider my opinion on this as a voting member of our community.

Blank entry

I dont agree with the late 22weeks or 5 and a half months for termination .At the latest one month. The limit the less harm to mother mentally and physically.



If abortion is AT ALL about women's rights then where are the rights of women in the womb?  
Adoption is a blessing, that killed child could have been the one that cured cancer. This also tells  
all children born despite abortion attempts that their society wishes they were dead.

To whom it may concern,I am opposed to the proposed Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019.The right to life is a moral principle based on the belief that a human being has the right to live and, in particular, should not be killed by another entity including government. Abortion violates a vulnerable individual's basic right to life. As a government I would hope you would support in defending the most vulnerable individuals in our society, not threaten their existence and right to live further.

Please take back the recent abortion bill 2019

Blank entry

Life begins in the womb, therefore to destroy life is murder! We care more about the welfare of animals than we do people. People matter, even the unborn ones! Who will speak up for them? I state the following points against this bill: \*Babies older than 22 weeks are considered viable. They could be born and live a healthy life. It cannot be right to permit their destruction with the sign-off of only two doctors; \*Science shows that unborn children can feel pain. Late-term abortion is inhumane; \*The bill would allow sex-selection abortions, meaning baby girls will be terminated at a much higher rate than boys; \*the bill does not contain any cooling off period, meaning women could be rushed into making a decision they regret; \*There is no provision for counselling in the bill, meaning cases of domestic violence and coercion won't be uncovered, and women won't be presented with options; The bill's requirement that doctors who conscientiously object to abortion must refer a woman to another practitioner who will perform the procedure is unjust because it forces doctors to violate their conscience. \*This is not about a woman's choice to do what she likes with her body, it is about guilt. It is a fact that women who have had an abortion suffer psychological consequences because of the guilt of killing the baby inside of them. Just watch the movie "Unplanned" for examples. \*It is not just a bunch of cells but a human life that we are talking about and we do not have the right to decide who lives and who dies. Please do not allow this Bill to pass as it is a heinous crime against humanity! Thank you

Please do not let this abortion bill pass. Taking the life of an unborn child is MURDER. This has nothing to do with womens rights, in fact, this is harming many women, not to mention all the little girls that will be murdered. How can this be so hard to understand? I am ashamed to be Australian. Choose life. May God have mercy.

Please please! think carefully about passing this abortion bill. I generally don't agree with abortion but after 22 weeks is disgusting it is murder after that point. if I was to kill someone I'd be charged with murder what's the difference with ending a babies life? Babies can survive out of the womb at 22 weeks some have even survived earlier too. please we cannot take life for granted all children are a gift from God. this bill will be legalising murder. Please don't pass it because you feel pressured to say yes by these extreme feminists. I was 17 when I had my first son. Please think carefully and do the right thing.

I am saddened to think that as a Nation we celebrate, clap and laugh at the bloodshed of human life. An innocent child with a beating heart, an incredible miracle that has become a mere throwaway disposable commodity. As far as I'm aware, murder is a crime and I cannot understand why we would allow such a hideous crime as full term abortion or any abortion to be allowed in our country. We will have a lot to answer for with these babies blood on our conscience and hands. I plead with you to vote no to this genocide. Are we not horrified by Pol Pot, Hitler and the like for the mass murders? How can we sit back and allow this blatant killing in our country?.



Please reconsider the abortion bill. Especially for late term abortions. I am horrified at the thought that this could actually happen. This is an actual BABY! The child has a right to life too. If the mother doesn't want it she can adopt it out, there are many childless couples who would love the opportunity.

I most humbly ask that this bill be voted against in the welfare of babies yet to be born and the mothers.. This is not what is expected from a humane society and there need to be help offered instead of abortion.. Abortion is barbaric and devastating to a woman with child.. The consequences and the door opened in this Bill will be an opening for much more complication for the mothers and the scope of reasons to abort a baby..Please protect our children yet to be born..

I strongly oppose this abortion bill. These are thriving, growing little people whose lives are being purposefully cut short and for what? Selfish reasons, gender selection, change of mind, relationship breakdown? All of which are of no fault of these precious children that God uniquely created. This bill allows the murder of coming generations of doctors, lawyers, teachers, specialists etc. Society is also impacted by this horrific bill. Please reconsider!! The bible clearly states that a time would come when what is good would be deemed bad and what is bad would be deemed good. Don't let this be included in this. This is definitely a loss and should be immediately scrapped. Also, what happens to the Drs who take an oath to preserve life? Now they take an oath to kill innocent babies??? Reject this bill immediately!!!!

Conception = life, terminating a life is horrendous, overwhelming sad and inhumane, I stand up for the beauty that is created in a baby, you were inside a womb, you are now here, maybe someone fought for you!?! There are options for women, termination/abortion, shouldn't be, to try and fathom the pain a baby goes through during is heart wrenching, my daughter lost a baby at 20 weeks, they cradled him, grieved him and named him, cremated him and scattered him, he was a baby, he was a human. Where is your heart or conscience in this?? It's just not right

I'm writing in regard to the proposed bill to legalise late term abortion. It is morally & ethically wrong to commit murder of innocent unborn babies, many of whom are born alive & healthy at 22 weeks. If those in favour of this heinous act could see how these babies are slaughtered & were forced to watch the brutality of it in action I believe they'd have their eyes opened to the truth. That unborn babies have as much right to live as you or I do.

I am heartbroken that this bill has gotten through the lower house. Many politicians will have the blood of unborn babies on their hands. I asked that you stand strong and never let this bill pass through the upper house.

To whom it may concern, I would first like to say I am proud to live in a country like Australia. Unfortunately, the passing of this abortion bill means that Australia will be legalising the termination of a new life, which in simple terms is murder. It is unfortunate to hear that there are MPs advocating for this bill and whilst doing so are labelling it as “pro choice”. Quite frankly I don’t believe that anyone should have a choice on whether another human being should be allowed to live. As I am from a health science background I am aware of the neurological structures and development that occurs within the womb. Why is it that we justify living as a heart beat, but still allow a doctor to kill a baby with a beating heart that feels pain like any human being. In addition, Australia has signed the UN declaration of Human rights in which it states in article 3 that “Everyone has the right to life”. So now I ask how is it okay for our policies and laws to be selective with which policies and laws adhere to this charter? How is it okay to terminate a life based on mere “convenience” and selfishness. There are means by which women can prevent pregnancy and therefore prevent abortion. These means mentioned have high accuracy. I urged you to consider the implications of passing a bill that constitutes and allows murder in Australia. A life no matter how small, young, fragile or vulnerable should be protected by those who govern. Thank you for your time and may God bless you and Australia.

I am begging you not to pass the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill. Unborn babies are human beings from the moment of conception and deserve the same rights as we all have. Abortion is murder, plain and simple. There are other alternatives for unwanted pregnancies. So many couples who want to adopt for starters. Any mother considering abortion should be given all the help she can to have the baby and keep it, but if it is not possible to keep it, put it up for adoption. It is a well known fact that women struggle with the fact that they have had an abortion so we should be offering alternatives. In order to avoid unwanted pregnancies more emphasis needs to be placed on avoiding a pregnancy in the first place. I am a woman of faith but even if I wasn't I would still think that abortion is murder. Also late term abortions can result in babies being born alive and to think of murdering them or letting them die then can only be considered murder and is totally inhumane. Please don't bow to pressure. What if your mother had decided to have an abortion. You wouldn't be here. We need to show women that there is a better way and that we can help them through it even if it means giving the baby up for adoption. I thank you for your consideration of this extremely important issue.



I strongly oppose this bill, as it is failing the most innocent forms of life...the very lives that need our protection. Adults can make choices about contraception and their sexual activity. These children have no choice and are being murdered with excruciating pain in their innocence. This is abominable in an educated society. We should be horrified. Not supporting the murder of the most vulnerable members of our society.

Thankfully, our parliamentary system has safeguards in place to prevent legislation that is flawed and/or not in public interest. You are one such safeguard and your roll has never been more important than now. A bill on a topic as critical as abortion should never be rushed through parliament without extensive public consultation. It beggars belief that a bill legislates for babies born alive to be denied medical care and left to die has suddenly been rushed through parliament, shortly after an election, where this was never mentioned. I have never been ashamed of my country, until this week. I find it both heartbreaking and disgusting to see elected officials clapping and cheering as legislation is passed to kill babies. You must in good conscience reject this bill, if for no other reason than to allow public debate. You are the last chance to protect those who are the most vulnerable and have no voice of their own. Can you honestly look at a heavily pregnant woman and deny that there is a person inside her. What kind of society have we become if we cannot protect that child.

I stand against abortion

I would like to voice my serious concerns about the Reproduction Bill being considered in the upper house. There are some women, who in pregnancy, find themselves in a difficult situation. For reasons such as pressure from a boyfriend, being of a young age, cultural reasons, financial reasons and many others, they feel obliged to end their pregnancy. This is a time when they need an independent hear to listen. To find out where support can be found and what options are available to them. The Bill doesn't offer this choice. More emphasis should be put into protecting our Australian women and children. Not making it easier for a baby to be aborted. Doctors who conscientiously object should not be forced to refer women to a doctor who will abort the child. If they are objecting, it is for personal reasons and they should not be forced to participate in the termination. This does not occur in other areas of medicine. There is no reason for late term abortions. Even when a mothers health is at risk, a baby can be delivered early and both can potentially be saved. The procedure for aborting a baby/foetus at any stage is quite gruesome and painful for the baby/ foetus. I know the upper house would not agree, but they should find out the details of what occurs during an abortion so as to make a more informed decision. Having two doctors sign off on a late term abortion it is not protection . If the doctor knows "who to ask" he/she could get it approved. Abortion is some doctors livelihood, so it is in their interest to do the procedure. Having no reason, or any reason, is not good enough when contemplating taking a life. It is not only that particular baby who's life will be ended, but the future generations which would occur as a result of that person. Every life is important, no matter what stage we are at. No life is more important than another. We are all equal. We should particularly protect those who are most vulnerable and there is no-one more vulnerable than the unborn. Please do not pass this Bill. Lives are at stake. Don't assume it will be interpreted the way you would expect. Some have no respect for the unborn at all. Thank you for reading my submission.

I am a mother and a grandmother and find this legislation an abomination. I have Christian values and by no means am I a wowsler and do not attend church. That having been said this legislation is so wrong on so many levels. Termination of pregnancy has been available for very early pregnancies as long as I can remember which doesn't make it right but to,terminate a pregnancy at such late stages when that child can be felt moving by the mum and is a little human being and is a viable baby is horrendous. It opens the way for gender selection and a throw away society of human beings. Manslaughter comes to mind and statistics are also proving the gender selection side of things. There are avenues available already for termination due to extreme medical reasons,this is as far as it should go. We need to protect those children that cannot protect themselves. Adoption is a much preferred option if mothers and fathers cannot provide or are unable for any reason to look after these little people, and they are people . What is happening to our society? I urge all politicians to really think about the ramifications of their votes. Stand up and be counted for supporting babies that can't speak for themselves. Be real men and women with a conscience and don't bow to minorities. I really think we will rue the day that we, as a society,have moved beyond common sense and in many things are governed by minority groups. Political votes should not be fought over lives of innocent children. Nature is just that and should be let be.

Why in this day and age of "civilisation" it appears to be OK to carry out the taking of a young life, and it is accepted so readily by many?....It makes me sick and also quite angry to think of this...Why is it that there is little or no responsibility by either party who did the job of creating a little life and then it doesn't suit her (or him or both) so decide just to take that life away? Why is it that this pregnancy had to happen with so many choices of contraception available? , it's just irresponsible...When did "life" become so meaningless? With actions, comes consequences, but not in the case of "late abortion" when the people who created this situation, makes a decision like this, then walks off but the poor little baby has no say in the matter and is in my opinion "murdered" Please, please can we have a re-think on this....🙏

The reproductive rights of humans should not be decided by the state and legislator's, let alone a lobbying catholic church. A religion which the vast majority of NSW does not follow. Pass this legislation to ensure pregnant individuals are able to make their own choices with their body.

I believe that to remove a baby from the womb is murder. The “morning after pill “ that I have been told prevents conception is easily available over the counter at a chemist. When abortion was first made “legal”, it was to be with the consent of two doctors and if it posed a threat to the woman’s life. Either physical or emotionally. Since then there have been many many thousands of abortions performed, seemingly on demand and used as a form of contraception for some women. To be informed that an abortion can now be easily performed up to 22 weeks is sickening me greatly, to read that the bill proposes the termination aka killing of a viable child in the mother’s womb up until birth is a complete and utter disgrace to our system and the morality of the “lawmakers”. Extremely saddened to read that the proposal also states that any counselling for the woman is at the doctors discretion! Abortion, termination, zygote, embryo and Fetus are obscuring the real things happening here. Killing of a baby in the womb is, in my opinion murder of a human being.



Dear Sirs/Madams I wish to make a submission regarding the abortion bill which has just passed in the lower house. I would encourage the committee to vote against this bill and in doing so spare the lives of countless defenceless children. It is clear that these fetus's/babies are in fact alive and have feelings and are capable of feeling pain. They are not some alien being or foreign life form. They are human and should be treated with the rights as any other human being. The other point that concerns me is the psychological effect on the mothers of these babies. The mothering instinct runs deep and the guilt which they live with must be enormous and will have a detrimental effect on them. This is particularly true for the young or underaged Mum who is not required to inform or gain consent from her parents before going ahead with the procedure. How is this bill responsible or show care and compassion for the baby or the mother. I urge you to make the right decision on a Godly level and on a human level. Thank you for your time

Dear all, I strongly oppose this bill on behalf of women and children. Abortion is a decision women make when they feel they have no choice. It is therefore NOT pro-choice. Women need REAL options. Turn every abortion clinic into a crisis pregnancy centre! If women have a legitimate health concern, they can go to hospital to address it. Women facing financial concerns, abusive relationships etc. should be HELPED. An abortion only offers a very temporary relief and does nothing to fix their real problems. 1 in 4 women are coerced into having an abortion against their will. This bill only perpetuates violence to women and children and restriction of their rights. Remove this bill immediately. Instead, focus on bettering the adoption and fostering systems, funding for crisis pregnancy centres, support for pregnant women and mothers at university, funding organisations like the Culture Project to talk to young men about loving and respecting women, informing women of how they should be treated in and out of a relationship. All these are real solutions, abortion is merely a violent way of perpetuating a culture of hurt and destruction.

Against Abortion I am writing in the strongest possible terms to protect human life in the womb. One of the great tests of a society is how it treats those who are most vulnerable. In Australia, it is commonly estimated that 75,000 lives are terminated in the womb annually. In the USA, the figure is closer to a million (note, however, that abortion has been declining since the mid-1990s). It is true of the millennial generation that, as Jessica Resuta says, “One-third of my generation is gone. One-third of my peers will never experience life in the outside world as I have.” Tragically, in many parts of the Western world, Down Syndrome children are becoming less and less common (in August 2017, CBS reported that termination rates for Down Syndrome were 98% in Denmark for 2015). Sadly too, groups such as White Ribbon (against domestic violence) also support abortion. In the womb, billions of letters of coded DNA are there to “knit together” a person. Within the first trimester a child’s organs are formed and functioning – brain, heart, nervous system. A baby may suck their thumb and even has a thumbprint. Recent research has brought to light the fascinating way in which children learn language in the womb (see New York Times, 21/2/17). A child in the womb is not a potential human, but an actual human. Any attempts to place a start date on life, e.g. 12 weeks, are subjective and morally weak. In the end, arguments in favour of abortion, also work for infanticide (the killing of child after birth). It is not surprising then, that Peter Singer (who was made a Companion of the Order of Australia in 2012) supports both abortion and selective infanticide until one month after birth (see Peter Singer, Practical Ethics). Biologist Jerry Coyne agrees: “If you are allowed to abort a foetus that has a severe genetic defect, microcephaly, spina bifida, or so on, then why aren’t you able to euthanize that same foetus just after it’s born?” When sanctity of life is rejected, such a conclusion is logical to many. The Hippocratic Oath included a statement about not taking life in the womb. Intuitively, we know that this must be true. Norma McCorvey (1947-2017), famous for being the plaintiff, “Jane Roe,” in Roe vs. Wade, which led to the legalization of abortion in the USA in 1973, later turned to oppose abortion. In late 2017, Eminem has released a song (featuring Ed Sheeran) that seems to speak about his regret at an abortion. It includes the line, “I really woulda’ loved your smile.” Let our society provide every possible support to both a mother and child. Even when pregnancy is the result of the most horrific situation, we must support the life of both mother and child in every way. I write with great shame that this week the NSW Lower House even voted against providing life-saving treatment to babies born alive after an abortion. In addition, medical practitioners may be required to go against their consciences and refer patients to someone who will perform abortions. Never would I give up my freedoms in that way.

I am making this brief submission to express my opposition to the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019, for the following reasons: 1. Although we may debate when it is that life begins in the womb, there is no denying that a 22 week old foetus is a living human being. This Bill proposes that this unborn child potentially has no human rights simply because it may not be wanted. A child that is born prematurely at the same age will receive medical intervention with the hopes of saving its life. This Bill allows our society and medical practitioners to save the life of one child, whilst ending the life of another, for no reason other than a mother's choice. This Bill strips the unborn completely of any intrinsic value or human dignity. 2. The Bill does not allow for babies that survive a late term abortion to receive medical care. They are left to die. Statistics show that in Victoria, about 10% of late term abortions (that is, abortions after 20wks) are unsuccessful and the baby is delivered alive. Approximately 370 babies have been born this way, and have been left to die. How can we call ourselves a civilised society and allow this to happen? 3. The Bill does not allow doctors true professional freedom and a genuine conscientious objection to abortion. Doctors are bound by the Bill to refer patients to other doctors with no objection. 4. The Bill ignores the psychological and mental trauma that many mothers suffer post abortion. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Becoming a grandfather on the day the abortion bill passed became a poignant day for me. As I stared into his eyes and his tiny fingers I thought of how , if this bill would become law , that just one day before his birth little humans like him could be legally killed . This is a travesty of justice for mankind .

I believe there is corruption involved in this & ICAC should investigate as Greenwich & Gladys made a shoddy cheap deal leaving out voters & unambiguously betraying the voters as I am certain this bill does not have majority support in the community & this is why they are in a rush to jam it through in a big hurry. Alan Jones did a poll & 85% of people that took part said they were extremely disappointed with the underhanded manner this bill was attempting to be rushed through parliament & 85% also said that they believed it was wrong to legislate 22-26 weeks abortions as it was immoral & barbaric & cruel so how about the parliament listen to the people as Gladys has forgotten what greyhounds did to her party & this is an even worse betrayal by an excuse

Objection lodged to entire Bill, with special consideration to section 9 (3) Conscientious Objection, regarding mandatory referral to another practitioner. It appears this section is included to nullify any objections to an abortion, whether valid or not, by forcing practitioners to nominate another practitioner immediately, who may have less than ethical practices, to ensure the abortion takes place regardless of the possibility that the abortion may not meet legal criteria. Submitted for consideration.

Life is precious. There are so many who would love to bear, or adopt a child. They spend so much money for this privilege. Having an abortion due to an unwanted pregnancy doesn't make the problem 'go away'. The vast majority of women will report the fact that they grieve their choice for the rest of their lives. Life is not a commodity, nor an inconvenience. We should instead insist on better support for women who fall pregnant unexpectedly. It simply does not belong in a compassionate country. The only possible exception should be for women whose life is physically at risk from proceeding with a pregnancy. I briefly considered abortion with my first son - an unplanned pregnancy. He is now 21 and has autism. Not for one moment do I regret my choice to give him life. Despite the challenges (both he and I experience issues with anxiety and depression) he has blessed us beyond measure, is gainfully employed and making a valuable contribution to his workplace and his church.



This is something that is a watershed. Nothing you decide will please all within our society. Though, where are we as a society when dispensing with a life is so laissez-faire! We are in an extremely dark place condoning, let alone making legal the destruction of life. What appalls me (& so many others in society that many of you seem to think don't exist or have zero contribution to make to this debate - evidenced by ignoring us or believing we don't count) is how disposable people are. There is nil protection for human life in utero, none at all. What a sick society we are. Please use your vote to reverse the Lower House decision

Dear Members of the Upper House, Just because everyone else is doing it does not mean NSW has to. I am writing to ask for you to reject the bill that is before you confusingly called reproductive health care. I would like to make a few points: Firstly, as a working parent, I wish to challenge the notion that abortion gives women rights or choice or that extending abortion gives women more rights and choice. A colleague of mine, a talented HR manager, once made the following point a few months before quitting her job: once she had paid tax, childcare, transport and lunch, she essentially worked for free. She went back to caring for her family full time, but I was left wondering, what if she had been a single parent? what if she had been pregnant and had needed that extra income? Women should never be forced to choose an abortion and this new law, creates the idea that motherhood is some kind of optional lifestyle choice that can always be planned. rather than an investment in raising the next generation of Australians, and that frequently life does not go to plan. With true rights, there should be duty bearers that can be called on or even punished if they fail to fulfil their duty. Who is punished with abortion? Clearly the unborn child Surely the duty bearers with respect to the mother are the father, the employer and the state but abortion lets them all off the hook. How is a society just, when the weak are punished for the irresponsibility of the strong? Parents need real rights, such as equal pay for equal work, proper maternity and parental leave, affordable childcare that doesn't double tax the mother and affordable housing. This law does not provide for proper pre-abortion counselling to help a woman explore her options and will make it a great deal easier for women to be coerced, directly or indirectly into killing a child that they wished to keep. All these factors fundamentally undermine women's rights. . Secondly, the law does not properly protect the rights of children, particularly unborn children. I personally believe that a human life begins at conception and that the law should protect every human life. This is not a controversial idea for example WebMD explains that a baby is at 1 month an embryo, at 2 months a fetus and at 3 months a fully formed baby (<https://www.webmd.com/baby/1to3-months>), this is how we talk and think. After 3 months, killing a wanted child in the womb would be considered killing a baby. It would seem that this new law is creating a precedent that a human that is loved and wanted has rights, but that a human that is not loved and wanted does not. The law would not prevent sex selective abortions (the killing of unwanted girls), the killing of people with disabilities, and even allows late term abortion when the child could survive outside the womb. When humans loose rights, how is Australia any different from China or even ancient Rome where the father was allowed to expose an unwanted infant? By allowing abortion of a child that could survive outside the womb and not requiring medical care to be given to a child born alive, the law essentially legalises infanticide. Thirdly the law does not protect the rights of doctors and nurses to conscientiously object on religious grounds. Nor does it protect the rights of parents to know what is happening to their daughter under 16. This continues to fray at the already strained bonds of trust in our society.

Please do not legalise the murder of unborn children. It goes against everything God and our nation should stand for.

I respectfully ask that the members reject the Bill to legalize abortion. I consider that the Bill to legalize abortion. Terminations are currently very easily accessible and the implication that these are 'backyard' and unsafe procedures is mis-information. The Bill in question will shift the procedure from being one of necessity to one of convenience. It will further allow individuals to prey on the most vulnerable. The suggestion that late term abortions should be allowed is clearly a violation of the rights of a life. Many babies born after 22 weeks are able to be saved and recognized as a life to be fought for. Surely life is a physical reality, not a product of thought or will. I am vehemently opposed to the Bill in its entirety, but do see a number of additional points that have inadequate provision. - this Bill will allow abortion on the basis of gender selection (quite ironic given that current thought surrounding gender fluidity!) - there is no mandatory requirement for counseling prior to abortion or after. I have seen first hand a number of cases of young women (and men) living with trauma following a termination - there is no provision for medical care to be given to a baby who is born alive as a result of an abortion. This will lead to those barbaric practices employed in previous times regarding babies born with a disability. - Doctors and Nurses who strongly believe their role is to give life and healing, have no provision to refuse to perform an abortion when they believe this procedure is contrary to the beliefs for ethical or religious reasons. Regard for their personal well being, is not only not considered but completely disregarded. - there is also no requirement that any report is to be made to the Secretary of the Dept. of Communities and Justice when an abortion is performed on a young girl 16 or under. What follow up care will be provided for these very young and vulnerable children? It seems that this Bill has been prepared in a 'rush' and without adequate time for meaningful consideration and I request that the process be halted before a decision is made that has dire consequences.

To the Honourable the President and Members of the Legislative Council of New South Wales  
As a resident of New South Wales I would like to bring to the attention of the House my strong concerns about the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019: 1. I am concerned about legalisation of the termination of a life. Picture, in one room a life will be terminated whilst in the next room a couple are going through IVF in hope of a new life. 2. I am concerned about the coercion of women to have abortions over due consideration of other alternatives. 3. I am concerned about the sex selection of children, and terminations motivated by disability and fashionable traits. 4. I am concerned about the mental health of women who have abortions. I am concerned about increasing the number of women who battle with guilt and regret, even years later. 5. I am concerned about doctors being placed in an ethical and legal bind between their conscience and governmental obligations. Thank you for addressing my concerns.

I oppose the bill currently before the NSW Parliament to de-criminalise abortion in its current form. Without entering into discussion about abortion per se, the bill has the following failings:

1. It allows for late term abortion. The foetus at such stage is commonly and rightly regarded not as a thing but as an unborn child, a fully human life. This is readily perceived in grief at tragic pre-birth losses and in the medical funds expended to keep alive pre-term unborn children. The bill, then, is hypocritical.
2. It does not require sufficient controls to access late term abortion. Two doctors who may work together and share pro-abortion ideology is insufficient. There is no requirement for counselling or the consideration of other options.
3. It does not protect medical professionals who oppose abortion to act in accordance with their professional perspective and conscience but requires they cooperate in the process by referring requests for abortion on to pro-abortion doctors.
4. It does not set sufficient boundaries nor require sufficient recording of reasons for late term abortions.
5. It has not had sufficient informed public debate. The bill has come before parliament as a surprise to the community. It has disingenuously been present as a non-controversial decriminalisation of abortion without acknowledgement of the highly contested permission for the late term abortion of unborn children.
6. It does not provide safeguards against various possible abuses, e.g., gender based abortion choices. More broadly, abortion is not just about the life, body and choice of the mother but also about the life, body and future choices for and of the unborn child, and ultimately about the attitude and values of our whole community to life. The bill further undermines the value we as a community places on life and the protection of the vulnerable.

While I understand the desire of some to remove criminality from the process of abortion, the logic is flawed. Any abortion conducted in contravention to agreed and very specific criteria should remain a criminal offence. The crime should include both the woman having the procedure and the practitioner conducting the procedure. The act of terminating a life should have the same consequences for those performing it as apply to any other form of murder as it is the identical act of taking a life or assisting in the taking of a life. The proposed legislation amounts to murder on demand. Politicians should listen to the medical profession as to what term of pregnancy achieves a viable human life. I understand it is perhaps as short as 16 weeks but a foetus of 22 weeks is a viable human life - so terminations of embryos older than 16 weeks is murder. The debate places almost all the emphasis on the wishes of the mother and virtually none on the life and rights of the foetus. This is clearly inequitable as no foetus has an audible voice and it requires society as a whole to speak up for the rights of the foetus. Why can't politicians see themselves as defenders of the defenceless? Why are the rights of the mother prioritised over those of the foetus. This legislation should not be allowed to pass and I urge all politicians to man up and make a stand for the unborne children of tomorrow. To support this bill is to weaken our civilisation and take us a step closer to the jungle of survival of the fittest. As a Christian - this bill is an offense against my God and the teachings of the bible. Your failure to block this. Bill will require some considerable explaining on Judgement Day because the way you vote will be on your conscience forever. Be wise and reject this bill.

This bill defies scientific and biological fact that demonstrates conclusively that the foetus is a full human being. Abortion takes the life of this human and is therefore an act of infanticide. This bill would legalise abortion on the basis of sex-selection. Meaning healthy baby girls or boys could be aborted simply because the parents want a boy or girl. The bill would force doctors and nurses to participate in an abortion, even if they object to abortion on ethical or religious grounds. The bill allows open-slaughter abortion, including late term after 22 weeks. There is no mandatory requirement for counselling in the bill, which might provide women with an opportunity to discuss more options. There is no requirement that neonatal care be given to a child born alive as a consequence of undergoing an abortion procedure. There is currently no requirement that medical practitioners report abortion procedures performed on girls under 16 years to the Secretary of the Department of Communities and Justice. From a Christian perspective, this bill would legalise the breaking of the Law of God, specifically the sixth commandment of God's Ten Commandments, viz, "Thou shalt not murder". Other religions have similar laws. These laws underpin our society and culture. In contrast to other parts of Government legislation protecting such things as flora and fauna for example, this bill if enacted would elevate such phenomena above that of the life of an unborn child. We have laws in place to enforce and punish those who are found guilty of manslaughter or murder. But the murder of innocent children before birth is to be condoned and made legal by the state. This bill does nothing to protect the rights of the unborn child as a human being in contrast to the rights of the mother. While the mother has rights over her own body, she does not have the right to murder her own unborn child. To take the life of a child one day before birth would be admissible, but taking it one day after birth would, in the letter of the law would be murder. The paradox is clear.



I would like to submit my strong criticism of the proposed abortion bill. Why must the unborn innocents pay the ultimate price for the promiscuity of adults because that's what will increase with this bill. I'm not talking about the medical necessity to protect a woman's life in the case of a serious medical episode in pregnancy. When something is legalised it is authenticated, this bill intentionally or unintentionally will authenticate infanticide. It is further moral decline which has seen taking place and will directly affect our society adversely.

Please stop what is simply and clearly murder. This should never have been passed.

Dear Committee, As a social worker, this new bill has me very concerned. I do not believe that the current abortion laws need to be changed. I believe the new Bill should be rejected for the following reasons - This bill would legalise abortion on the basis of sex-selection. Meaning healthy baby girls could be aborted simply because the parents want a boy. The bill would force doctors and nurses to participate in an abortion, even if they object to abortion on ethical or religious grounds. The bill allows open-slaughter abortion, including late term after 22 weeks. There is no mandatory requirement for counselling in the bill, which might provide women with an opportunity to discuss more options. There is no requirement that neonatal care be given to a child born alive as a consequence of undergoing an abortion procedure. There is currently no requirement that medical practitioners report abortion procedures performed on girls under 16 years to the Secretary of the Department of Communities and Justice. I urge you to recommend that the current Abortions law not be changed

I was once a counsellor on a pregnancy help line. We had call from women who had had a termination of a pregnancy when they were much younger. I had noticed that these women had kept feelings buried deep down about their choice. I had much compassion for these women and how they had silently suffered for many years. Decriminalizing abortion will not stop this suffering. It will increase the number of women who will try to not feel the negative emotions connected with choosing to abort their baby. I have studied depression and anger issue in a pastoral care course and it is evident that these mental health issues can be caused by pushing down issues and not dealing with them. Women struggle with guilt often and there would be many women who would carry guilt after a chosen pregnancy termination. I don't believe this bill will be caring for women's rights at all. I think we will see an increase in mental illness in women over the next 30 years in women. If a women feels a baby kicking for some time then chooses to terminate the pregnancy it is extremely unlikely that this will not haunt the woman for years to come. Human beings are not robots and issues in life inevitably cause distress and removes joy. Mental illness is currently on the rise and I can only see this bill increasing the amount of money the government will need to funnel into mental illness in the future. I care about Australia being a healthy nation of women and men who contribute to our nation being the most wonderful country to live in.

I do not believe in abortion And I don't believe the laws should be changed It's murder ! They have a heart beat from the minute a women conceives They are pure and innocent and it is so wrong and against nature to kill such a precious child

Dear Committee members, Please note my objection to the NSW Abortion bill. I believe abortion of baby is taking the life of a human. There is no consent from the baby to this procedure. A father cannot decide this solely on his own. Pets have more rights. Medical staff need to be able to say No to participating. I'm for voting yes to the Zowie's bill protecting life. Please refer to ; Hippocratic Oath; I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment, this covenant: I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps I walk, and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow. I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures [that] are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism. I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug. I will not be ashamed to say "I know not," nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient's recovery. I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God. I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart, a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick. I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure. I will protect the environment which sustains us, in the knowledge that the continuing health of ourselves and our societies is dependent on a healthy planet. I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those sound of mind and body as well as the infirm. If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy life and art, respected while I live and remembered with affection thereafter. May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help. Thank you.

I am a human being, I do not need a panel of judges, a royal commission or even a group of learned individuals, whom I have come to believe in, to know that society has come full circle enough to understand the difference between morality and injustice. Clearly if the governing authorities are not able to make this decision clear cut and decisive then they are not even evolved let alone qualified. That I an average man has to even write this email 'shame shame shame'.

Please consider this late submission as we weren't given enough time to do so within an appropriate timeframe. This submission is in rejection of the amendments to the Reproduction Bill of 2019



I make this submission to the inquiry into the Reproductive Healthcare Reform Bill 2019 ("bill"). I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this inquiry on this very important matter. I am opposed to the bill in its entirety. However, I would like to make two brief points which may be constructive on considering possible amendments.

My first point is that the right to conscientious objection is not satisfyingly being recognised in the bill in its current form. Doctors who have conscientious objections should not be obliged to refer and should not have any obligations whatsoever to facilitate or participate in the process of providing an abortion. If a foetus is indeed human life, as would be the view of some doctors, perhaps based on natural law or religious belief, why should they be legally obliged to be an accessory to what they consider to be murder? My point is that the extent to which the bill is proposing facilitation of abortion does not respect the gravity of the objection in the conscience of those being bound.

My second point is that I consider that neonatal care for live babies born of abortions is not only warranted but reasonable.

I make this point in a tentative way. It appears to me that the operative definition of human personhood behind the bill is that it begins at birth. If this is not the case, the conditions (or stage of human development) to be satisfied so that personhood applies should be clarified within the context of this inquiry. Furthermore, if personhood does not begin at birth from the womb then what is the rationale for not obliging provision of neonatal care for live babies born of failed abortions? Would this not be discriminating against a class of human persons?

The current provisions (without the bill in place) that would apply to live babies born of failed abortions should be clarified in this inquiry. This should cover any care that is currently obligated under policy or legislation.

This would ensure that at least there is a transparent and rational consistency to legislation, but also for this to be clear for the public the view of parliamentarians.

If the operative definition of human personhood behind the bill is not that it begins at birth, then the alternative definition for personhood should be made clear in the inquiry.

I trust that my submission is well received in good faith and a considered manner.

I would like to join with many others in expression of strong opposition to the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill, as it now stands, on the basis of the value of human life. Every human regards life as sacred, special, which is why every human grieves when it ends. I know it sounds cliched, but it is cliched because it is so fundamental to this issue. Life is life, whether it is fully formed, or still growing. On the basis of valuing human life, we need to consider and explore EVERY other avenue for mothers over the abortion of a life, and therefore the amendment to this Bill should be revised. As it currently stands, it will open the door to further abortions (even on the basis of gender), which is going backward in our progression of human rights. Giving pregnant mothers the ability to abort late-term does not progress their rights more than it totally eradicates the rights of the person inside them; their right to life. As representatives for our country, I request that you please act in our most basic and fundamental interest - our lives. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

This submission is short because we are appraising a deadline...this is a result of the haste with which this bill is being pushed through. I believe this bill is a matter for significant public consultation and the haste is an effort to circumvent that process. I do not support this bill or the manner in which it is being pushed through star government.

Dear Sir,

Abortion is not mentioned in the title of the bill however it is the central proposal of the bill. I have long supported 'Open Doors' a counselling service for women seeking abortion. I support adoption of children.

The Australian philosopher, Peter Singer advocates for post-birth abortion. The governors of New York ( Andrew Cuomo ) and Virginia ( Ralph Northam ), also advocate abortion to term ( the former ), and post birth ( the latter ). Post birth abortion is murder under our law and if life begins at conception ( I believe it does ) pre-birth abortion is also murder.

It is not hard to see that the dis-memberment of a human being in the womb and post-birth killing undermine the dignity of human beings and therefore the health of civilisation. The classical Greek philosopher Hippocrates forbade abortion and our medical students on graduation swore to his oath.

Murder is forbidden in Christian civilisation by the fifth commandment. The natural law also tells us not to kill. Statute law advised by these precepts forbids killing.

Philosophy has been affected ( inter alia ) by the 19<sup>th</sup> century ideas of Darwin, Marx and Freud concluding that humans are merely animals ( the highest in the universe ) and that there is no God. However the above ( materialist ) people are now all dead, and scrutiny of their ideas ( ironically by science which gave them their initial impulse ) is showing the truth of intelligent design ( the only alternative to evolution as the creation of life ) and hence of a designer ( ref. Prof. Stephen Meyer and others ).

The Australian Marxist, Ros Ward, preaches gender theory and social engineering at war with human nature, despite the discredited position and philosophy of her teacher whose ideas have led to the murder of more humans than any other person. It is possible for a conceived human being to move itself in the fallopian tube.

There will be no birth of a 'new' human being either by the elimination of the bourgeois and the arrival of the classless society ( Marxist socialism ) or by eugenics ( German National Socialism ) but by following, 'the way, the truth and the life'. I strongly oppose making the Bill into law.

Hello, I am writing to voice my concern over the possible passing of your bill regarding abortion in NSW. While I am not a NSW resident, I am concerned your bill may set a precedent. I am writing to support the rights of unborn children. All women who claim the right to "their bodies" were born (not aborted). They are taking away the rights of their children by their decision. Please reconsider this bill.

We wish to express our concern in regard to the above bill. We feel that there has been insufficient time or notice given to this bill to allow proper public debate to ascertain the feelings of the general public to this issue. The bill as it stands holds many concerns for us, particularly in regard to the following points: This bill would legalise abortion on the basis of sex-selection. This bill will allow for late-term abortions from 22 weeks up until birth. There is no requirement that neonatal care be given to a child born alive as a consequence of undergoing an abortion procedure. This bill will required doctors to facilitate, or refer, an abortion, even if they have a conscientious objection. There is currently no requirement that medical practitioners report abortion procedures performed on girls under 16 years to the Secretary of the Department of Communities and Justice. We therefore urge you to either reject this bill outright to allow further public discussion or otherwise at the least include the amendments as put forward by our member Tanya Davies and others which address these concerns.

To the honorable committee members. There has been an enormous amount said over the past 30+ years about abortion. So much so that I believe that individual's claims on this subject have become not evidence-based but in fact based upon preference and in the end, convenience. Take for instance the argument that a foetus is not yet a human being and therefore it is not wrong to terminate its life. How can we then, believing that it will be alive, choose to disallow that life from ever being; surely we do not have that right? As has been said, "If foetuses had a vote on abortion, then none would be performed!" I understand arguments for abortion in extreme life-threatening circumstances, but we have always had provision for such eventualities. What you are considering here as our representatives is far more than whether or not restrictions on abortion should be loosened. But the result of this decision will reflect and put into law our value, or lack thereof, placed on human life. The ramifications of which will be felt for decades to come. It disturbs me that such a significant bill would be rushed through parliament without the usual scrutiny beforehand. I ask that the bill would be refused. Here are some more reasons: This bill would legalise abortion on the basis of sex-selection. Meaning healthy baby girls could be aborted simply because the parents want a boy. The bill would force doctors and nurses to participate in an abortion, even if they object to abortion on ethical or religious grounds. The bill allows open-slaughter abortion, including late term after 22 weeks. There is no mandatory requirement for counselling in the bill, which might provide women with an opportunity to discuss more options. There is no requirement that neonatal care be given to a child born alive as a consequence of undergoing an abortion procedure. There is currently no requirement that medical practitioners report abortion procedures performed on girls under 16 years to the Secretary of the Department of Communities and Justice. I thank you for your careful consideration of my submission

Every human life holds value.



This bill would legalise abortion on the basis of sex-selection. Meaning healthy baby girls could be aborted simply because the parents want a boy.

The bill would force doctors and nurses to participate in an abortion, even if they object to abortion on ethical or religious grounds.

The bill allows open-slather abortion, including late term after 22 weeks.

There is no mandatory requirement for counselling in the bill, which might provide women with an opportunity to discuss more options.

There is no requirement that neonatal care be given to a child born alive as a consequence of undergoing an abortion procedure.

There is currently no requirement that medical practitioners report abortion procedures performed on girls under 16 years to the Secretary of the Department of Communities and Justice.

hi my name i and i am from the githabul tribe from the far North Coast of NSW, i am writing this letter to let know that this is a moral issue and those who pass the Abortion Bill are accountable for their Action, they are guilty of Murder of Unborn Babies, they can be Judged and condemned by our Creator God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my concern about the Reproductive Healthcare Reform Bill 2019.

We must work to protect all human life especially the most vulnerable such as the baby in the womb. How can we vote to stop a beating heart?

We must work towards supporting women who are struggling in their pregnancy, not to end their babies life, but to assist them in what they need to help this baby and themselves, as the mother, to live life to the full.

I am extremely concerned about certain aspects of the Bill in particular, and even though I am against the Bill entirely, I feel that if it is to go through there are certain areas of the Bill that need to be changed and protections added.

I would like the following to be added;

- state that parents are to be notified in the case of children seeking an abortion (unless doing so would put them in danger).
- protect women from abortion coercion.
- outlaw sex-selective abortions.
- require data collection for all abortions.
- protect children born alive after an abortion.
- protection for doctors and medical practitioners who morally object to abortion. They should not be obliged to refer patients to a doctor who will refer them for an abortion.

I would also like to see the provisions around informed consent, counselling and late-term abortions strengthened.

Again, I strongly object to this Bill. I hope that you will consider both the mother and child and appreciate the gravity of this Bill.

Thank you for your time.

Murder is committing an act with intent to kill or inflict grievous bodily harm upon some person or human life.

Infanticide is any wilful act causes the death of her child, being a child under the age of twelve months.

Is abortion not a pre-meditated act with intent to kill or inflict grievous bodily harm upon life?

Can it not be a crime if the other two are?

I would like to speak up on behalf of the unborn children that will never have a voice if this abortion bill gets passed. While women have got a voice to voice their opinion these children do not. I am asking my elected politicians to please consider my voice and the voice of the unborn on this. You might never hear their cry's - but this is murder - not someone's 'lifestyle choice'...

Dear Committee on Social Issues,

I would like to voice my concerns regarding the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019.

I am horrified by the fact that the bill allows for late term abortions and in particular will deny medical care to any child who somehow survives the horrific procedure. Is it true that an unwanted child from an incomplete abortion could be left to die? In what society do we live when a vulnerable human being is denied such basic medical help by health professionals? Is this not infanticide? Where are the rights of the child? It is utterly incomprehensible.

Further, what protection is allowed for health care professionals who do not wish to be involved in such procedures and see it as an abhorrent violation of their conscience? Are doctors now in a position where they may be legally forced to take life instead of protect and nourish it?

I really hope that the committee can see the terrible problems with this bill take appropriate actions against it. There is so much that needs to be discussed with the community of NSW.

Regards,

I urge you not to vote for the inhumane Bill to allow abortions for any reason until birth and all of the other recommendations in the Bill. I am totally opposed to the killing of unborn babies and I want my elected members to respect all life. Doctors also need protection of being forced to help someone have an abortion..

This country has a real shortage of Australian born people no matter what the Greens say. There are so many people who would love to adopt unwanted babies, don't let them be murdered because their mother doesn't want them.

I am against the abortion bill

To the Committee on Social Issues,

Regarding the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019, I am writing to inform you of my deep concern with this Bill and in particular my disagreement with late term abortion when a baby is viable.

I find it particularly alarming when I read that this Bill includes subsections for "Review in Relation to Gender Selection". I find it utterly heinous that an unborn child maybe aborted for reasons such as possible disability let alone gender selection. The fact that this Bill has review measures in place for instances of this occurring is ludicrous and more must be done other than noting "that this House opposes terminations for the sole purpose of gender selection." It just simply must not be allowed.

This Bill does not protect the lives of unborn children when such language is so gray. I feel that each part and subsection could quite easily be manipulated in the favour of termination.

While I find that Section 7 requiring information about counselling is important. I think there a section offering alternatives is also incredibly required. Support and legislation for adoption is a far better alternative than killing a child.

Thank you for regarding my submission.



RE: Reproductive Health Care Bill 2019

To the Hon Shayne Mallard MLC, Chair of the Reproductive Health care Bill 2019,  
First and foremost the name of the Bill, Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019, is an absolute misnomer. Abortion is abortion and absolutely nothing to do with women's health care in the vast majority of cases. It does not improve the health care of women and it can be argued that it will impact them mentally and physically immediately after the procedure, requiring follow up consultations further burdening the New South Wales (NSW) Health Care system. The proposed Bill fails to provide women with adequate health care because there are no alternatives provided to termination. In most medical procedures health professionals will detail all possible solutions and side effects yet this bill does not provide any of this but rather shuts out counselling, cooling off period, ultra-sounds, etc. The result is that women are not told of the possible side effects and no alternatives meaning they are given no choice but to terminate.

The 2017 NSW Parliament Research Paper into abortion highlighted that the top reasons for aborting were, in order:

Does not want children now - 23.2%  
Already enough children - 18.1%  
Too young - 11.2%  
Not the right time - 10.8%  
Has young baby - 8.7%  
Financial reasons - 6.3%  
New or unstable relationship - 3.4%

These top seven reasons which account for almost 82% of all abortions in NSW could be solved by providing adoption as a solution. As you may be aware we have a huge problem and difficulty in Australia for parents who would like to adopt a child and a huge shortage and in many instances have to go overseas to access adoption service. Why is this not a consideration?

There are no protections for live births during abortion and we have evidence from all over the world to suggest this does occur.

No mention of organ trade as was uncovered in the United States of America.

No mention of how the baby body is disposed of. Is there any dignity for the fetus?

Cigarette packets suggest smoking will harm your unborn baby with a picture of an unborn baby on the smoking packet yet there is debate among many that the 'clump of cells' is not a baby. Why the hypocrisy in the law where the rights of a baby are recognised in the area of smoking cigarettes yet ignored in this abortion bill. Is it sometimes a baby and sometimes not?

A 16 year old child must gain permission from her parents to go onto a school excursion, yet does not need permission from anyone to her here unborn child aborted. There seems to be clear double standards in play in this Bill when it comes to other expectations of the community in relation to health care and what a child under 18 can or cannot do. Can I bring to your attention that babies can be born from 24 weeks and have a reasonable rate of survival that increases with every week. Up to this time 20-35% survival rate. At 25% gestation the baby has a 50-70% survival rate. From 26-27 weeks gestation 90% survival rate. I ask how is it that abortion is not homicide in that case, particularly for babies over 22 weeks gestation? It is obvious from the survival rates the babies are living beings developing and nurtured within the womb until such time they can survive on their own. And with better technology and medical advancement the rate of survival will increase and reduce in gestation rate periods. The Bill effectively placed before the Legislative Assembly is effectively supporting infanticide.

Are there clear guidelines to how and what type of abortions can take place? Please let us, the public know the method of abortion/s which is being proposed. This needs to be detailed and made public for all health care professionals and their peers to review. Why the secrecy when other 'medical practices' are made so very public and explained to the patient in detail prior to each procedure.

As a lifelong resident of NSW I strongly suggest that this bill be **REJECTED** and for it never ever to see the light of day. This bill is not about health care and it's not about decriminalisation. This bill does nothing to support vulnerable women, babies and fathers. We need not condemn women but rather do everything possible to support them.

I beg of you all reading this submission to say **NO** to this Bill.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission.

1. The baby's heart beat is audible 4 weeks after conception. If passed, this Bill amounts to murder of a human being. What other forms of murder will then be approved?
2. Healthcare professionals should be guaranteed protection from being complicit in the process of abortion. Receptionists, nurses and doctors are affected, not just the woman.
3. Who is responsible to care for the child if the abortion is botched and the child survives - even if it is mutilated in the process?
4. Sex selection abortions are abhorrent and amount to gendercide.
5. There are many adequate ways to prevent pregnancy. Responsibility for the outcome of sexual intercourse lies with the male and female involved. It is not the government nor the medical profession's responsibility to kill an unwanted child.

I find it unbelievable that consideration could be given by any human being to vote to allow healthy babies to die. I cannot believe that, as a society, we have got to this point. This is selfishness at its worst. When similar laws were passed in Queensland, I was grateful I lived in NSW, naively believing that would never happen here. Human life is so precious, the selfishness of someone who would be prepared to allow a baby to die rather than allowing for the babe to be adopted is absolutely beyond me. To also allow termination on the basis of gender is abhorrent. I never imagined that this would happen in my lifetime and am even more incredulous that this bill has been so close to the last election, when no mention was made of it. The leadership of our state have been silent on this most important issue, to their shame. I implore you to not vote in favour of this bill but to choose life and freedom for the most vulnerable in our society.

To whom it may concern,

I write to express my disgust regarding the reproductive reform in NSW.

I have seen my own baby's heartbeat on ultrasound just 4 weeks after conception. Babies are living human beings and allowing them to be killed is MURDER. They are the most vulnerable in our society and we should be doing everything possible to protect them.

Science has proven unborn babies feel pain by 16 weeks gestation, and must be anaesthetised to perform surgery. Abortion is a totally cruel practice on these poor helpless little babies. Just because we can't hear them crying doesn't mean they aren't in pain.

If a baby is born alive during an abortion procedure there is no requirement in this bill for care to be given to that baby. Considering parents are required to provide certain care for their older children I feel this is very heartless.

I urge you to please not allow this reform to be passed.

Thank you for your consideration and time on this matter.

I am writing as an interested citizen, who is very concerned about the amendments proposed under the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019.

In particular, I am very concerned about the provisions enabling terminations after 22 weeks (section 6), the provisions by passing conscientious objectors (section 9), and the lack of any provision relating to the treatment of babies born after a failed abortion.

My concerns are as follows:

1. A foetus at 22 weeks to term may be viable

We know that an extremely pre term baby may be viable outside the womb. A 2015 paper published in the New England Journal of Medicine <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1410689> shows that "Overall rates of active treatment ranged from 22.1% (interquartile range [IQR], 7.7 to 100) among infants born at 22 weeks of gestation to 99.8% (IQR, 100 to 100) among those born at 26 weeks of gestation. Overall rates of survival and survival without severe impairment ranged from 5.1% (IQR, 0 to 10.6) and 3.4% (IQR, 0 to 6.9), respectively, among children born at 22 weeks of gestation to 81.4% (IQR, 78.2 to 84.0) and 75.6% (IQR, 69.5 to 80.0), respectively, among those born at 26 weeks of gestation". I find it extremely upsetting, and morally repugnant, that we could consider killing a baby who (if born) has significant chances of survival. Instead we should be doing everything we can to support the mother, and the baby, fighting for the health of both. Because of the reasonable prospects of viability of a pre term baby born after 22 weeks if treated, we cannot consider abortion as an issue affecting only a mother's body. It is a construct, and a sham. The baby is an independent life, supported by the mother's womb, but (from 22 weeks onward) not dependant on it, if high care treatment is available. We cannot let these babies be killed through termination, or through lack of treatment after a failed termination. This bill is out of step with the personal views of the community, and is a great mistake. There is no moral, economic or medical justification for section 6 as currently drafted, and it contradicts the personal views of Australians.

2. Babies born due to failed terminations must be treated

Likewise, there is no moral, economic or medical justification for a lack of provisions requiring compulsory treatment for babies born alive due to failed terminations (at any gestation). The likelihood of failed termination at late term is significant, and it is morally and ethically repulsive to leave these babies to die. They must be treated. They must be given every chance to recover from their near death experience.

3. We have an issue with adoption in Australia - inducement may be a better alternative to termination

Adoption wait lists are long, and the supply is short, leading to arbitrary "cut offs" (such as by age) and often disappointment. Loving future parents often turn to overseas adoption agencies at very significant cost to adopt a baby. The cost of abortion is not only to the families who lose a child, and to those that miss a chance at adopting, it is also economic as a future generation is robbed of a valuable contribution each time we allow a termination.

Once a mother, or a medical practitioner, decides that a baby should be terminated, perhaps we could induce the birth instead, treating the baby, and provide that baby with a loving home in which to thrive and prosper. As a person who has suffered multiple miscarriages, I for one would love to expand my family and my heart with one of these little ones who would otherwise be lost to us.

4. Conscientious objectors should not be bypassed

Section 9 is shocking in that it enables one pro-termination practitioner to steam-roll his or her fellow medical practitioners who do not support the termination. Not only are they professionally "bypassed" under section 9(3) but they are forced to refer the first medical practitioner to another person who does not have an objection to the proposed termination. In essence, the dissenting medical voice is silenced!

This makes a sham of the operation of section 6(1)(a) under which two medical practitioners must agree on the termination where it occurs after 22 weeks. If the dissenting voice is silenced (as it will be under the current wording of section 9), then the termination becomes a certainty, regardless of the grounds of the objection to the termination, and regardless of the number of dissenters! For example, a first medical practitioner may get no agreement from 5, or 10 colleagues, but finds it in the 11th and so the termination is endorsed under s6(1)(a) because of the operation of section 9(3). This is problematic, and flies in the face of good medical practice.

#### 5. Serious lack of adequate community consultation

I am also extremely concerned about the way this has been rushed through the House of Representatives without adequate community consultation. For those who have been away or ill or perhaps not just following current events as they should, this bill has been read and passed through the Lower House. We need time for the community to catch up, and consider the changes properly, and have time to work out what they think, and meaningfully contribute to the debate. The issues are considerable (moral, ethical, and economic) and people need time to think this through. The MPs need time to think this through too! Let's not be hasty to rush through a bill with such significance without proper consideration on all aspects of it.

We as a community are relying on the Senate to slow this bill down, arrange an enquiry, allow the community to consider this carefully, and for them to have a say. There is no immediacy to the bill, and we owe these unborn babies at least a pause, and a decent debate.

The Bill has to consider the following:

Conscientious objection (section 9)

Base position:

The current clause 9 should be rejected entirely

CO amendment should be replaced by proposed amendment c2019-043D which was not adopted by the legislative assembly.

Amendment c2019-043D that was rejected covers 'facilitation' as well as performance or assistance and arguably covers things like inserting a line into a patient from which abortion drugs will be run through etc. often allocated to JMO in public hospitals

It is a wide clause that does not require any referral.

The current clause 9 should be rejected entirely

It's requirements for providing information and transferring are unnecessary.

Providing information may involve the doctor having to take active steps to ascertain if a particular doctor will do a particular abortion. This may harm the doctor who believes abortion is the taking of human life.

They become part of the causal chain leading to the abortion.

If the state had a website or brochure you could point to that might be ok, but there should be no prohibition on the doctor being able to recommend other options or counselling or support services designed to support true choice.

Emergency not defined.

-How will this legislation potentially harm doctors who have conscientious objection and who are forced to compromise seriously held ethics/beliefs?

- Doctors are trained professionals with high standards of conscience, similar to parliamentarians. Just as parliamentarians have a conscience vote on this issue, so should doctors be able to maintain their freedom of conscience.

-Referral is not required in NSW for ready access to abortion services. Case law already supports abortion. Forcing doctors to participate in the abortion process by effectively referring to another doctor for abortion is unnecessary.

The Bill should have the following provisions added:

- State that parents are to be notified in the case of children seeking an abortion (unless doing so would put them in danger).
- Protect women from abortion coercion.
- Outlaw sex-selective abortions.
- Require data collection for all abortions.
- Protect children born alive after an abortion.

I would also like to see the provisions around informed consent, counselling and late-term abortions strengthened.



I oppose this Kill Bill and Hope that You all in the Upper House do NOT pass this Bill. Thank you