

**Submission
No 5**

INQUIRY INTO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE REFORM BILL 2019

Organisation: The Church in Liverpool

Date Received: 10 August 2019



THE CHURCH IN LIVERPOOL

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Subject: Submission - Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019

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To whom it may concern,

I am opposed to all forms of abortion.

But, it is important to note that there is a difference between “abortion”, which is “the purposeful destruction of the unborn child”, and “necessary medical treatments” to “save the life of the mother”. This is stated in the Dublin Declaration on Maternal Healthcare.

“As experienced practitioners and researchers in obstetrics and gynaecology, we affirm that direct abortion – the purposeful destruction of the unborn child – is not medically necessary to save the life of a woman.

We uphold that there is a fundamental difference between abortion, and necessary medical treatments that are carried out to save the life of the mother, even if such treatment results in the loss of life of her unborn child.

We confirm that the prohibition of abortion does not affect, in any way, the availability of optimal care to pregnant women.”

Source: <https://www.dublindeclaration.com/>

The Dublin Declaration has been signed by over a thousand obstetricians, gynaecologists, medical professionals, midwives, nurses, neonatologists, pediatricians and medical students.

Other medical professionals testifying to this can be seen in the videos below:

The Pro-Life Reply to: “Abortion Can Be Medically Necessary”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TmomK2RB2A>

- Kendra Kolb, MD

A Conversation with a Former Abortionist: Is abortion ever medically necessary?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ysl1tRnk-ig>

- Anthony Levatino, OBGYN

Intentionally ending the life of an innocent child in the womb when they ought to be nurtured and protected is one of the worst kinds of murder. We would do well to remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, how he said, **Thou shalt do no murder** (Matthew 19:18).

Not only is abortion morally abhorrent in the eyes of God, but it contradicts our nation's own position of human rights in regards to an unborn child. Australia recognises that a child has human rights even before birth. This would include the right to life.

“Whereas the child, by reason of his physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth,”

Source: http://www8.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/legis/cth/consol_act/ahrca1986373/sch3.html

Passing the Reproductive Health Care Reform Bill 2019 will:

1. Further promote the murder of unborn children in NSW, denying them of their fundamental human right to life.
2. Allow abortions past 22 weeks when a baby can survive outside the womb with today's medical advancements.
3. Compel medical professionals who object to abortions to refer patients to other medical professionals against their own conscience.
4. Accelerate the moral decline of our nation, absolving adults from the consequences and responsibility of their sexual activity.

This debate is often framed in terms of “a woman's right to choose”. But what about the rights of the unborn child? Who will speak up for those who are unable to speak for themselves? Who will defend their human right to choose life?

Abortion is murder.

Sincerely,

Victor Tey

Bishop