

**INQUIRY INTO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE
REFORM BILL 2019**

Organisation: Name suppressed

Date Received: 12 August 2019

Partially
Confidential

Dear Committee,

Thank you for your time in considering these vital matters of concern.

I speak for the vast majority of our congregation of approximately 300 people when I say, please address the grievous ramifications of this bill if it were to become law. If our states laws can't protect the lives of unborn humans then what will?

You will no doubt receive many submissions citing the ability of a baby to live if born at 22 weeks, the real pain that a baby in utero experiences when being surgically pulled apart in an abortion, the way this bill is devoid of any considerations for counselling and social support to help a mother (& potential father) consider keeping their child, the genuine concerns that this bill will result in abortions of healthy babies purely on grounds of gender preference or any other thought up reasoning, the position dissenting nurses and doctors are left in if they don't wish to take part in killing unborn people, what happens to a child if born alive after a failed abortion, etc... All of these concerns are common among the communittee I am a part of.

Of further concern to me is the manipulation of language and the redefining of terms to suit an ethic which defies basic human biology. Those pushing this agenda will speak of human persons in utero as flesh, fetus, non-persons, etc - thereby distancing themselves from any moral obligation to care. And while I recognise that Australian society has now rejected Judeo-Christian heritage and seeks to redefine right and wrong on largely subjective grounds, it must be said that the redefining of when and how a human life is valued and protected under law as a person is a very dangerous path to take.

I would therefore encourage the committee to adopt a conservative approach to how human personhood is defined and bestowed.

As you would expect, I as a Chitstian, consider all people, irrespective of race, gender, ability, or health, made in the image of God and therefore having intrinsict value and worth that is equal to all people. That is what the traditional heritage of Australia provided each of us. To define personhood on grounds of physical/intellectual ability/development, economics, gender or convenience is deplorable. Yet some will have you believe these are either unwarranted concerns or legitimate reasons for abortion of what is in their rationale, just a non-person anyway.

The further abortion laws are extended in Australia the further away from a society of human equality we will be.

When we start to move the parameters defining human persons who is given the authority to make such gargantuan decisions? What humans are given the authority of God over us all? This is not progressive ethics, but a regressive manipulation of society and language at the expense of human persons in utero.

Once again, I thank you for your time. And for what it's worth, please be assured of our prayers for all of you, the MPs of NSW and those for whatever reason, are considering ending their child's life in utero. We know for many this is not mere convenience, but an agonising decision.

Sincerely,