

Submission
No 27

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 11 August 2019

Partially
Confidential

There needs to be careful consideration and rewriting of the Reproductive Healthcare Bill 2019, proposed by Alex Greenwich. It is flawed, has nowhere near enough safeguards, and will not help women, men and families. In particular these are the concerns I have with this bill:

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-slayer 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, in spite of the fact that it is illegal to have sexual intercourse with someone under 16 years of age.

Please take time and rethink this completely.

In its current form the only people that this bill helps are abortion providers.

As a society and a country, and you as our government, can do much better than this.