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Dear Senators,

I would like to comment by making a submission on the Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion) Bill 2013.

It is well known that in many Asian countries there are strong cultural factors which lead to a preference for male children over females, and these countries usually have sex-at-birth ratios to match [http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2011/9789241501460\\_eng.pdf](http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2011/9789241501460_eng.pdf)). But with increased immigration from these regions and ready access to sophisticated ultrasound technology, these practices are now becoming commonplace in Western countries too.

The following article shows how these attitudes are being imported into the US, and how abortion providers are only too happy to abort baby girls for a fee. <http://www.examiner.com/article/sex-selection-abortion-rampant-america>. I doubt that the situation is any different in Australia and feel strongly that the Australian Parliament needs to outlaw this practice immediately before it becomes normalised. Please support this Bill.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Giulio di Somma