

**Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for Certain Types of Abortion)
Bill 2013**

I would like to give my support for this bill for the following reasons:

- 1.** The notion of choice in our society has been pushed to extremes in so many instances where we seem to hold a false notion that we can simply do what we like. The practice of using abortion to manipulate the gender of a baby is frankly grotesque to me. To quote Dietrich Bonhoeffer “Silence in the face of evil is evil itself”. So I must voice my disapproval that as a taxpayer my taxes would be used to support people to have abortions performed so that the gender of a baby can be “selected”. The Australian government can support the United Nations in their mission against Gendercide by refusing Medicare support for gender selective abortion.
- 2.** Gendercide as defined is not a medical procedure and should not receive a Medicare benefit. It is my conviction that the majority of Australians would agree with this view, so the amendment must be passed. Yes if passed it will not prevent the selfish acts of **some** parents, but it does send the message that such a practice is not acceptable.

Dr David Hopkins, April 2013.