

I, Susanna Dunne, wish to express my support for Senator John Madigan in his efforts to have certain abortions, such as those performed for the purpose of Gender selection, ineligible for funding, under Medicare. Under the United Nations policy for the rights of the child, abortions for gender selection are not only discriminatory (especially against females) but they also fail to protect the rights of the most vulnerable children in our community. Furthermore medical procedures for purely personal preferences and discriminatory beliefs against one section of the community, namely women and girls, (or vice versa), should be illegal under the equal rights act. The consequences of abortion for gender selection are evident in the heavily biased male to female ratio in certain countries today. I strongly object to a gender selection criterion, as a legitimate reason for a procedure that under Australian law is only legal in life threatening circumstances.

Yours sincerely, Susanna Mary Dunne