

A M. D. G.



*"She hath put out her hand to strong things" Proverbs 31:19*

*Catholic Women's League  
of Victoria and Wagga Wagga Inc.  
Ballarat Diocese  
A0017514E*

Ballarat Diocesan President.  
Faye Palmer

19<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Ballarat Diocesan Committee of the Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga Inc. are writing this letter of support for the HEALTH INSURANCE AMENDMENT (MEDICARE FUNDING FOR CERTAIN types OF ABORTION) BILL 2013, presented by Senator John Madigan, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

We believe Australia should support campaigns by the United Nations agencies to end the discriminatory practice of Gender-selection through implementing disincentives for Gender-selection abortions. The UN estimates up to 200 million females are demographically missing worldwide – see <http://www.un.org/events/women/iwd/2007/factsfigures.shtml>. The Australian Government must do this is by refusing Medicare support for Gender-selective abortions. We believe that aborting a child because it is a boy or a girl is NOT a medical procedure, and should not receive a Medicare benefit.

Aborting a child for “family balancing” reasons is abhorrent and a violation of their human rights. Every child should be welcomed regardless of Gender.

In February, 2013 a Galaxy Poll of 300 Tasmanians showed that 92% disapproved of sex selection abortion - see <http://www.examiner.com.au/story/1368072/we-dont-want-more-abortions/>. Gender-selective abortion can result in serious social consequences: gender violence; sex trafficking; women viewed as an object; a commodity; a “disposable gender;” child abduction; child abandonment. Unborn girls should not be devalued, dehumanized, and discriminated against.

Yours Sincerely,

*Faye Palmer.*

Ballarat Diocesan President