Senate Finance and Public Administration Committees PO Box 6100 Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Committee members

Please note my objection to my taxes being used to fund abortions or gender selections.

I find it an anachronism that on the one hand, we spend so much of the people's taxes killing healthy unborn babies, and on the other hand spending so much of the people's taxes trying to create human life artificially.

It is a philosophy begging for reason: - why is one life more precious or important than another? What makes one human baby disposable while in another circumstance, huge amounts of health funds are spent trying to artificially create a life? If the value of any person is that of "how much does someone else 'want' them", then we have reached an extremely low level of humanity and caring.

In these days of supposed "gender equality", why are unborn babies being aborted because the parents want a different gender? Perhaps the "equality" aspect only comes into consideration from the perspective that either gender can be killed if it is the undesired sex.

On reflection, I wonder how long it will be before we test the genes of the unborn to determine the likelihood of future strength, intelligence, height, hair colour, longevity etc? If they don't show much likelihood of meeting certain minimum criteria, then disposal seems to be becoming a very viable solution!

One can only wonder how many "Einsteins" or "Mother Theresa's" have been lost to the world.

As a human being, I have enormous difficulty reconciling the fact that each and every person born has intrinsic value in that they are all human beings, but that some human beings seem to have less intrinsic value, or no value at all!

My greatest concern is that we human beings are at risk of losing our humanity. What then? Yours faithfully

Johanna CM Sawyer