

It is my opinion that the Australian government should not be subsidising the killing of unborn children for any reason, but a suggestion that the gender of a child constitutes an adequate excuse for such an action is entirely abhorrent.

Some of the greatest atrocities of the 20th Century took place because one man believed that a group of human beings was inferior to others on the basis of their race, a factor over which no person had any control either before or following their conception. The belief that one person can make the same judgement over another on the basis of something as similarly out of anyone's control as their gender is just as bad, but the notion that the person making such a decision could be the individual's parents only becomes that more horrifying.

A child is a gift, and if we are hurt by the child who throws a tantrum on their birthday because "I didn't get what I wanted", how much more so is it inappropriate to place a child in the womb of a mother and ask, "Is this what you wanted, or should we throw it away and try for something else?" Such behaviour is heartless and unbecoming of any human being, and a government that sanctions such behaviour holds itself in contempt of countless defenceless humans who cannot speak for themselves.

Finally, the question of who will pay for these "operations" must be raised. Medicare is one of Australia's most valuable institutions, providing affordable healthcare for millions of Australians, but this is not a question of people's health, unless one includes the act of terminating it. As I have made clear above, I am not in favour of such actions taking place, but the suggestion that I as a taxpayer should give money to the government when it is allowing such travesties to take place disgusts me. People will sometimes act in irresponsible and vile ways, and this no one can deny, but that a government should take taxpayers' money and condone and indulge such actions is a heinous suggestion that should be shouted down with much prejudice. In conclusion, I ask that the Parliament of Australia pass this Bill and end such a toxic culture that would see the unborn terminated for such ridiculous reasons as "balancing the family".