

Dr Andrew Lothian  
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22 April 2013

Secretary  
Senate Inquiry

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

Thank you for the opportunity of commenting on this Bill regarding providing Medicare Funding for gender selection abortions.

We definitely oppose providing Commonwealth Government assistance in the form of Medicare payments. Such payments would amount to an endorsement of gender selection which we believe is an abhorrent practice to most Australians.

Such payments would discriminate against female babies and could lead, if prevalent, to the social problems occurring in China and India where there is an over-abundance of males and a dearth of females for marriage resulting in kidnapping and murder.

We do not believe that the argument of 'family balancing' has any credibility in Australia and oppose its use to justify gender selected abortion.

Australia should support measures internationally which discriminate against females and women generally, and oppose gender selection by other nations.

Yours sincerely

Andrew and Cynthia Lothian

**Inquiry Terms of Reference**

1. The unacceptability to Australians of the use of Medicare funding for the purpose of gender selection abortions;
2. The prevalence of gender selection - with preference for a male child - amongst some ethnic groups present in Australia and the recourse to Medicare funded abortions to terminate female children;
3. The use of Medicare funded gender-selection abortions for the purpose of 'family-balancing';
4. Support for campaigns by United Nations agencies to end the discriminatory practice of gender-selection through implementing disincentives for gender-selection abortions';
5. Concern from medical associations in first world countries about the practice of gender-selection abortion, viz. Canada, USA, UK.