
Submission by Moira Kirkwood

To the Senate Committee for Inquiry and Report

On the Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Funding for
Certain Types of Abortion) Bill 2013

This submission strongly supports the proposed Bill. Medicare funding should definitely be removed when “the termination is carried out solely because of the gender of the foetus” (Section 17A (1) (b)). It is iniquitous that taxpayer funding be used for gender-selective abortions.

Such abortions are in no way related to health care, but are determined by individual preference, sometimes referred to as "family balancing". In most cases preference is for a boy, resulting in treating baby girls as disposable. Women and girls are thus devalued and dehumanised.

An abominable practice of genocide exists in many parts of the world, and may already be taking place in Australia. It has been estimated by the United Nations that "between 113 million and 200 million women are demographically "missing."

<http://www.un.org/events/women/iwd/2007/factsfigures.shtml>

This horrific situation is most evident in China where a huge demographic problem exists of men overwhelmingly outnumbering women.

American demographics expert, Nicholas Eberstadt has expressed concern in an article entitled "The Global War against Baby Girls (The New Atlantis)

"Over the past three decades the world has come to witness an ominous and entirely new form of gender discrimination: sex-selective feticide, implemented through the practice of surgical abortion with the assistance of information gained through prenatal gender determination technology. All around the world, the victims of this new practice are ... almost universally female".

Gender-selection abortion is blatant discrimination on the grounds of sex, the consequence being the death of a baby girl. It has ongoing repercussions for future generations, upsetting the sex balance of nature. This has produced an increase in violence, sex trafficking and child abduction http://www.unicef.org/emerg/files/women_insecure_world.pdf

The reaction of feminist politicians (especially EMILYs List members) is puzzling, but predictable. Where is their outrage? Promotion of abortion is clearly much more important in their agenda than the plight of women and girls. The abortion lobby employs trite and deceptive catchcries, having the effrontery to claim that they represent the views of all women, and ad hominem attacks on men who disagree on a worn out accusation of *misogyny*. Such prevarication fails to address the factual issue of protecting baby girls, thus depriving society of the valuable input of future women.

Ideologically motivated abortion proponents are clearly afraid of debate on any issue related to abortion. Dialogue based on scientific evidence, which is needed to address the issue, is continually stymied.

A misleading claim of "*reproductive rights*" is wielded as a semantically flawed weapon. Abortion of infants merely because they are girls is factually an *anti-reproductive wrong*. Authentic reproductive rights comprise a right of every couple to have as many or as few children (including zero) as they choose. This is no business of government. Coercive population control is an abomination. It is based on an alarmist and unproven theory of overpopulation.

Witness the cruel persecution of women and children in China under the

one child policy. Elsewhere there are those who seek to impose two-child policies and other governmental interference in lives of citizens. Forced abortion and forced sterilisation have taken the lives of many women, and there is no redress.

Even where such dictatorial laws are not in place, in some cultural backgrounds women are subjected to coercion to abort a child of the “wrong sex”. “Freedom of choice” does not exist.

Community opinion is clearly opposed to sex-selective abortion. More importantly democratic justice demands support for Senator Madigan’s Bill.

Thank you for an opportunity to participate.

Moirra Kirkwood