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Thursday, 9 June y

Dear Member of the Legislative Council.

As one who has performed 50,000 diagnostic obstetric ultrasound studies over my working career, I must speak out in protest of this dreadful Bill before our state parliament.

I can see a baby's heart beat from 5-6 weeks. I have watched an unborn child suck its thumb, breathe, swallow, react to voices and external pressure. I have mourned at 2.00am in the labour ward with parents who have presented with foetal death at term, and I have encouraged and supported young couples when they present with threatened miscarriage in the first trimester. Abortion to me, without sound medical indication, is abhorrent, late term abortion is unthinkable.

When a woman presents for abortion the doctor has two patients, the mother and the unborn child, the unseen, the patient without an advocate. There is always time for further considerations: adopting out, fostering, keeping the child within the love of the family. The act of abortion is irreversible and has lasting repercussions on all. Have we, as Australians, descended to the unthinkable depths where we slaughter our innocent, unborn children and allow our older citizens to end their lives at will?

I urge all members to take a strong stand on this matter. If you are not fully informed of the implications of this Bill, if you are not fully aware of what late term abortion implies, please take time to investigate and examine these issues. In this country where quality of life is cherished, where opportunity is unlimited and where each voice may be heard let us not ignore that of the unborn child.

The timeless words of Proverbs ring loudly in Sydney this week and must be seriously considered:
*'If you falter in a time of trouble how small is your strength!
Rescue those being led away to death;
hold back those staggering towards slaughter.
If you say, "But we knew nothing about this,"
Does not he who weighs the heart perceive it?
Does not he who guards the heart know it?
Will he not repay everyone according to what they have done?'*
Proverbs 24: 10-12 NIV
Yours Sincerely

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