

Senate Enquiry into Paid Parental Leave

As a young man I am worried the Bill discriminates against stay at home mums. If the philosophy underlying these prescriptions were made explicit most Australians would be horrified in my opinion.

The State exists for the sake of the health and success of the family and the good citizens it produces, not the other way round. What philosophy of the human person is this Bill drawing from? Man as *homo economicus*?

A Bill that teaches citizens are workers and taxpayers first, shouldn't be expected to promote the settled understanding that raising children is intrinsic to the good life and vital to the continued existence of our nation through time. This Bill positively corrodes that understanding.

Please,

- Amend the Bill to help *all* mums a chance to nurture their infant.
- Amend the Bill so that non-working mums aren't discriminated against and the dignity of their vital work at home is given proper recognition.
- Amend the Bill so that the means to increased fertility – promotion of the pre-political nature of the family and the essential dignity of motherhood – is promoted.
- Amend the Bill so that mums who care for their child for longer than sixth months are supported.
- Amend the Bill so that abortions are not covered as stillborns and hence eligible for taxpayer assistance.

Leaders in the Senate have a great responsibility to ensure that the anthropology the Bill promotes does not directly impede the ends the Bill seeks. That is, please base the Bill on a natural law foundation and craft amendments accordingly. Humans do not exist for the state but the other way round.

We will not achieve any of the ends the Bill purports to be a means to when it has a fundamentally distorted understanding of what a human is and what is intrinsic to human flourishing.

Leaders in the Senate have a great responsibility to stop further waste of taxpayer money for which the present government is courting historical ignominy.

Leaders in the Senate need to put first things first, families and child rearing, to get second things – tax revenue and a vibrant economy.

Sincerely,

Martin Snigg.