

I support Senator Madigan's "Health Insurance (Certain Types of Abortion) Amendment Bill 2013".

Australians overwhelmingly oppose abortion on the basis of gender. A recent galaxy poll in Tasmania (9th of February 2013) showed that 92% of people opposed gender selected abortion. The United Nations condemned gender selected abortion in a 2011 report as 'gender discrimination against girls and women and a violation of their human rights.'

Gender selected abortion is why there are as many as 200 million girls missing in the world today, leading to sex trafficking and child abduction.

There is no reason why aborting a child because of its gender should be subsidized by Medicare. Gender selected abortion is not a medical procedure; there is nothing therapeutic about it.

There is anecdotal evidence that gender selected abortions are occurring, favouring male children, amongst some ethnic groups in Australia, and that Medicare funding is subsidizing the termination of females.

Medicare benefits are for health procedures, not for eliminating babies because of their gender.