Dear senator.

I would like to say something in favour of the unborn, I believe every baby regardless of race, religion or ethnicity, or gender, has a right to live.

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- Abortions performed solely because of the sex of the child are a form of Gendercide usually targeted at eliminating girl babies. In China and India this has led to a massive shortage of girls. The <u>United Nations estimates</u> that as many as 200 million girls are missing in the world today. Gender selected abortion has been the major contributor to this figure. This practice should not be supported in Australia by Medicare benefits.
- Australia should support campaigns by United Nations agencies to end the discriminatory practice of gender-selection through implementing disincentives for gender-selection abortions. One way the Australian government could support the United Nations in their mission against Gendercide is by refusing Medicare support for Gender Selective abortion.
- Aborting a child solely because it is a boy or a girl is NOT a medical procedure and should not receive a Medicare benefit.
- Doctors have disclosed informally that gender selection abortions are occurring with a preference for a male child amongst some ethnic groups present in
 Australia and as a result Medicare funding is being used to terminate the life of
 female children.
- Medicare money should not be wasted, squandered, misdirected, spent irresponsibly on the killing of the unborn child. Unborn girls should not be devalued, dehumanised and discriminated against.
- Aborting a child for "family balancing" reasons is repulsive. It should not be supported by taxpayer funding. Every child should be welcomed anyway whether it is a boy or a girl.
- The termination of unborn girls deprives the world of future sisters, mothers, leaders, parliamentarians, nurses, doctors, wives and teachers.
- Medicare benefits should be for needed health procedures not for eliminating babies because of their gender due to cultural or personal preferences.
- Gender-selective abortion can result in serious social consequences: gender violence, sex trafficking, child abduction, child abandonment, women viewed as an object, a commodity, a 'disposable gender'.

thanking you

Mrs Victoria Smith