

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia  
**ST IOANNIS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
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Tuesday, April 23, 2013

Dear Senate Committee

I am the Parish Priest of the Hellenic Orthodox Community of Parramatta and Districts, and have at least 5,000 parishioners of mainly Greek descent. I feel confident that I speak on behalf of the overwhelming majority in stating that we are aghast that abortions would occur based on gender. We are opposed to all abortions, but that abortions would occur because of gender is deeply upsetting. To be blunt about it, we regard all abortions as an act of murder, indeed murder of individuals who cannot even defend themselves. We support the removing of Medicare funding for such abortions, and would encourage Government bodies to do anything else in their power to limit the current “slippery slope” which is affecting the dignity of human life.

Respectfully

Fr Dimitri Kokkinos