

## **Submission to the Senate Finance and Public Administration**

I support the "Health Insurance (Certain Types of Abortion) Amendment Bill 2013" because of the following reasons:

Most abortions performed solely because of the sex of the child are against girl babies. For example, in China and India this has led to a massive shortage of girls. People from these and similar cultures may be asking for abortions of girls in our country too. Such a practice should not be supported in Australia by Medicare benefits since it discriminates on gender grounds, which in any other place in our society is against the law.

Some may say this bill is unnecessary since this practise does not occur in Australia. However, 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.

In most states, abortion is only allowed if it endangers the life of the mother. Aborting a child solely because it is a boy or a girl is NOT a medical procedure and should not receive a Medicare benefit.

Every child should be welcomed in every family, whether it is a boy or a girl. Aborting a child for "family balancing" reasons should be unacceptable in this society since it is not the child's fault they were conceived a boy or a girl. Gender abortions treat children as commodities rather than human beings who have a right to live. Therefore, it should not be supported by taxpayer funding.

Thank you for considering my views in this inquiry.