

Baptist Churches of South Australia

Statement on the Abortion Reform Bill (SA) 2018

As people of the Christian faith, Baptists believe that every life is important regardless of race, gender, abilities or anything else. Human rights apply equally to every human at any time and the most important human right is the right to live.

Our faith teaches us that a baby in the womb, at whatever their stage of development, is a unique person entrusted to us as a society to protect and assist through every part of their lives.

We also believe that the first and most important duty of Parliament and the government is to protect the life of its citizens.

The *Statutes Amendment* (Abortion Law Reform Bill 2018) soon to be presented to the state's Legislative Council drastically reduces the protections for women procuring an abortion and for babies in the womb to the extent that children can be killed in the womb even the day before they might have been born.

It would also widen the ways in which abortion can be performed and removes the requirement for medical supervision which increases the possibility of harm to the woman procuring the abortion and the number of children killed in the womb.

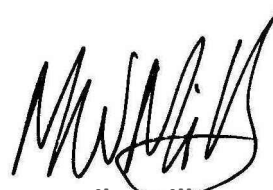
If it is passed this will be the most radical abortion law in the country drastically reducing protections for both the unborn children and the women obtaining the abortion.

We are deeply concerned about the Bill.

As South Australians we strongly oppose the Bill and we ask the members of Parliament to vote against it.



Dr. Karen Walker
President



Rev. Mike Mills
State Executive Minister