

July 2010

Dear ACL Supporter,

There are a range of issues we need to be active of in our State, including:

Euthanasia

The debate regarding moves to legalise euthanasia in WA is raging and it is important that our Upper House members vote against this bill. Letters have a profound effect on Members of Parliament so if you have not done so already, please write to your six Upper House members. The details of your six members are enclosed with this letter.



Michelle Pearse
Western Australian Director

Euthanasia puts the lives of vulnerable elderly and sick people at risk. We do not want the situation to occur where those who feel they are a burden on society are put under pressure to end their lives. Palliative care has advanced considerably in recent years and efforts should continue to be made to improve palliative care, rather than seeking to end lives.

Prostitution

Attorney-General Christian Porter told a meeting held in June to discuss prostitution in the Swan region that he believed prostitution was morally objectionable and that his priority was to keep brothels out of residential zones by allowing them to operate in confined, tightly controlled areas.

The ACL is strongly opposing this move. The Government needs to recognise the exploitation of women that occurs in prostitution, regardless of the location. It is important to protect the community but we should also look at this as an issue of women's exploitation. Women working in brothels are often treated violently and forced to do acts against their will, and some are even raped. This is not something we should be countenancing – even in limited areas.

Please write to Attorney General Christian Porter to put forward your views on this issue. His address is 29th Floor, Allendale Square, 77 St Georges Tce, Perth WA 6000.

Abortion

Liberal MP Peter Abetz recently proposed the idea that women should view an ultrasound picture of their unborn child and have a 48-hour cooling off period after seeking an abortion. Mr Abetz made his call for women seeking an abortion to "know the facts" during a rally in May of 300 people at the WA Parliament House marking the anniversary of the 1998 liberalisation of the State's abortion laws.

ACL believes Mr Abetz's proposal would be an important step forward in assisting women to make a more informed choice when faced with an unsupported pregnancy. Far too many women are still left feeling they have restricted options in this situation. When making a decision that will affect both themselves and their unborn child, surely it is appropriate for women to have access to as much information as possible.

Become an online supporter

If you are online and would like to receive ACL's weekly e-news and information on upcoming ACL events, please contact national office on (02) 6259 0431 or email natoffice@acl.org.au so that you can keep informed.

God Bless



Michelle Pearse
WA Director

