

Newsletter of the Right to Life Association Western Australia



October 2023



Horrendous abortion bill passes upper house as our politicians play video games, or don't bother coming at all

The latest abortion bill passed the WA State Parliament upper house on Wednesday 20th September 2023. The final vote in that chamber was 26 for and 5 against.

This means that Western Australia's abortion laws are now 'in line' with the law in other states – although arguably worse in some respects – permitting abortion to full term.

Passed Upper House: Wednesday 20th November 2023

Vote tally: 26 for the bill, 5 opposed

Becomes law in about six months

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The final vote in the Upper House followed the bill's passage, in its original form, almost unopposed through the Lower House, with resistance offered only by Bill Johnston who (perhaps amazingly) is a Labor member. He is married to Upper House member Kate Doust (also a Labor member) who was also opposed to the bill and suggested amendments to the initial draft. Liberal Party opposition was miniscule, with the exception being Upper House member Nick Goiran, a long time staunch pro-lifer and campaigner for justice on the babies born alive issue.

RTLAWA President Steve Klomp was in the public gallery for one of the days when proposed amendments were tabled. Other Christian pro-lifers had attended on multiple days but there were no pro-choice attendees at all; perhaps they believed the bill's passage was a fait accompli. They were right.

Perhaps the most depressing part of bearing witness on that day was the complete lack of interest by our elected officials.

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Horrendous abortion bill...



From page two

There were only seven or eight in the chamber at any given time, with even this number excusing themselves regularly, presumably for toilet breaks. As I looked down on them from the public gallery above I could not find one who was not either playing a video game on their laptop or surfing the net on their phone, or using this precious debate time to send text messages.

Each time a question was asked or an amendment proposed the government representative (Minister for Health) Sue Ellery would take a long time to answer, referring extensively with her three advisors. At times her answers were illogical, at other times nonsensical. But every time she was sure to say 'the government will not be supporting this amendment'.

Then when a vote was called on each amendment the absent members would troop in, presumably from their outer offices, the door would be symbolically locked and the bell symbolically rung, and the members would position themselves on one side of the chamber or the other.

And each time the amendment would be overwhelmingly defeated. Then the members would troop back out of the chamber, save for those who wanted to continue with their video games, or texting, or toilet breaks.

Nick Goiran was the hero of the day. He fought valiantly, despite knowing that defeat was nigh inevitable. He deserves our continuing support. Lord knows he won't receive that support from his own Liberal Party.

The Bill now allows our unborn children to die in even greater numbers than before, and with even less safeguards for their mothers than ever before. It will provide even greater profit for the abortionists carrying out their grisly trade, and even more work for abortion grief counsellors who try to help mothers with their anguish when it eventually dawns on them what they have done.

The Bill

- does not provide for children to be given pain-killing medication before they are killed. Not even the older ones.
- allows an abortion to be performed when the perfect child is simply the 'wrong' gender.
- allows an abortion to be performed when the child is perfectly able to lead a productive life but suffers from a condition such as Down's Syndrome
- does not allow the child to be given medical aid, not even water or a blanket or the comfort of human touch, if he or she has been born alive after a failed abortion.
- allows children to be killed up to 24 weeks gestation for any reason, even though a child is viable (can survive outside its mother's womb, at 22 weeks. But children can now be quite easily killed right up to full term

RIGHT TO LIFE ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Defending life from conception to its natural end

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY 5th DECEMBER 2023 at 6.30PM

All members are invited to the Annual General Meeting of the
Right to Life Association of Western Australia

Venue 138 Bennett Street East Perth

RSVP is essential by Friday 17th November!

Email to admin@righttolifewa.co

or ring 92217117



STREET PARKING IS FREE AFTER 6PM

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED—BUT PLEASE BRING A PLATE!

AGENDA ITEMS INVITED BY 5PM FRIDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

International Right to Life Federation website launched

Finally! The website for the International Right to life Federation has been launched! It is an impressive site—even though at time of writing Australia had not yet been added to the board of directors! We are sure that will be happening soon. In the meantime you can check out the site at

<https://www.internationalrighttolife.org/>



- The next meeting of the IRTLIF is on **Thursday 7th December at 9PM**. It is an online meeting that usually takes one to two hours. You are welcome to 'attend' the meeting by contacting our office.

Our Bumper stickers may be a little controversial

Passionate resident artist Anouska Firth has produced six pro life bumper stickers for us. We are happy to say we have stocks in the office now, and you will soon be able to order them via the online shop on our website. Check all six and decide which one is for you. They are \$5 each. This one is the President's favourite, and will be featured on his car as soon as he gives the poor thing its once-in-a-lifetime rear windscreen clean:



Pro Life virtual networking event

The Right to Life Association of Western Australia will host its 9th virtual networking event on

Thursday November 23rd, 2023 at 11AM (Perth time)

We invite all pro-life groups, both local and around Australia, to join us for a discussion on our work and to learn about each other and to find ways to work together. If you want like to be involved please let us know. You can come to the office or we can send you the zoom details for your phone or laptop.



Charity status still happening

This process has taken us a lot longer than we initially thought it would and it may be nine to twelve months more yet. But please know it is happening! Gaining charity status is not a foregone conclusion but the tax benefits to our individual and tax donors makes it worth pursuing. We will keep you posted as developments occur.



PERTH WALK FOR LIFE

HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL EARLY IN 2024

But you can still register for the event at

www.righttolifewa.co/calendar/events

And you can still make inquiries via

perthwalkforlife@righttolifewa.co or 0417184789

It will still be a free event (although we are asking \$5 pp for costs)

Sorry for the inconvenience.



The President of the
Right to Life Association of WA

invites all members and guests to our

ANNUAL DINNER

Saturday 28th October 2023

6PM for 6.30PM start

Tickets \$85 for 3 course meal, entertainment & free door prize ticket

Guest speakers are Branka van der Linden (Hope) and Bill Muehlenberg



Dinner will be served at the Royal Australian Air Force Association *Cirrus Club*

RAAFA Club



Air Force Memorial Estate Bull Creek Drive BULLCREEK

- RSVP admin@righttolifewa.co or ph 92217117
- Pay www.righttolifewa.co, email or post to PO BOX 6087 East Perth 6892

Places are limited so bookings are absolutely essential!

Right to Life Association of WA Major Events Calendar

Month	Date	Day	Time	Event	Location
Sept 18	To Oct 27	Mon—Sat	7AM—5PM	40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil	Parliament House
September	21st	Thursday	9PM	IRTLF (virtual) board meeting	Online and at the office
October	19th	Thursday		RTLAWA Newsletter due	Online and by mail
October	28th	Saturday		RTLAWA Annual Dinner	Cirrus Club, RAAFA Bullcreek
		Mondays	7.30AM	Mass and Holy Hour every Monday	St Bernardettes Glendalough
November	23rd	Thursday	11AM	Pro Life Networking Event	At RTLAWA office and online
December	5th	Tuesday	6PM	RTLAWA AGM	RTLAWA Office
December	7th	Thursday	9PM	IRTLF Board meeting	Online and at RTLAWA Office
		Mondays	7.30AM	Mass and Holy Hour every Monday	St Bernardettes Glendalough

Singer / Songwriter Kelly at Parliament House

Singer /Songwriter Kelly Newton-Wordsworth performed at Parliament House at Noon on Wednesday 11th October 2023. She is unquestionably a talented artist.

Husband William says the songs come to her by



divine intervention and she will often complete writing them in just a few minutes.

Kelly is a staunch pro-life Christian. She is well known for her bubbly personality and for being unafraid to publicly stand up for life.

After perhaps an hour her group joined the prayer vigil happening on the grassed area near the Parliament building.

Pray for Sledjana



I took a taxi home from Perth Airport recently, and for only the second time in my life the taxi driver was a woman.

We got talking and it turns out she and her husband are from Yugoslavia but have been in Australia for 29 years. They are Catholic and attend a number of churches including Father Paul's beautiful new church in Chittering. I told her about my family, as you do, and then asked her about her own.

She burst into tears.

Mum has three children. When the eldest – Sledjana – was eighteen months old they took her for a polio vaccine. It was a routine but voluntary vaccination. Almost immediately Sledjana collapsed and was rushed to PMH.

That was twenty-five years ago.

Sledjana remains in hospital to this day, on life support and completely paralysed.

However, she can talk and her mother told me she is very intelligent.

For the past 25 years Mum has been driving taxis to pay for her daughter's medical treatment as there is no insurance and no compensation.



I asked her mother what she wanted to have happen to her now twenty-six-year-old daughter. She at first said she didn't know, but I did see what flashed through her mind. Then she said she wanted her daughter to walk and have a normal life.

Please pray for Sledjana and her mother and father and family.

They have a heavy cross but they have been faithful and for the Lord anything is possible.

And now that I have heard their story I know my own burden is light.

Resignation of Premier Daniel Andrews

Victorian premier Daniel Andrews resigned recently. He leaves behind a tragic anti-life, anti-Christian legacy.

It is not just the horrendous laws on abortion and Euthanasia passed by his government that are so concerning; these Victorian laws were used as the blueprint for similar legislation passed by Governments in most other states of Australia.

The reasons behind his sudden resignation are unclear but like at least one other State Premier who recently left the top job he may have been exhausted...



Charismatic Photocopier

You ask the Lord for a photocopier, and he ultimately sends you three! The first came from the Knights of the Southern Cross, the second from a car rental company in Victoria Park and the third from a medical firm in Midland. Thank you to all those benefactors.

With the help of some networking we were contacted by Dan Hewett of *Catholic Charismatic Renewal* whose printer had recently decided it would rather be a large doorstop. We were happy to donate photocopier number two to his organisation, to help them with their important mission.

In the meantime we are working out how to operate photocopier number three. It is truly impressive. It will fold, staple, cross stitch (whatever that means), hole punch, scan, water your dog and feed your plants.



Dan Hewett (centre) and his merry men taking possession of copier two

And as you pass by, if you listen very carefully, you may even hear it sneering at the mere humans it has to put up with. It will even photocopy...

- Catholic Charismatic Renewal is a lay spiritual movement within the Catholic Church. They can be contacted via Dan Hewett (Chairman) on mobile 0409849049 or email daniel.hewitt5@bigpond.com

Volunteers are always needed.

Give the office a call on 92217117 if you can help.

We are currently in need of a carpenter, a painter and someone to help us finish the electrical work. (James 2:26). Thank you in advance!

Donations are also always needed!

We always seem to be experiencing high cost times. Please consider offering us a donation or renewing your membership. It is one positive way you can fight for life. You can donate through the website www.righttolifewa.co (click on the 'donate' tab) or you can post a cheque or, well, any way you like really!



Containers for Change still netting us much needed funds

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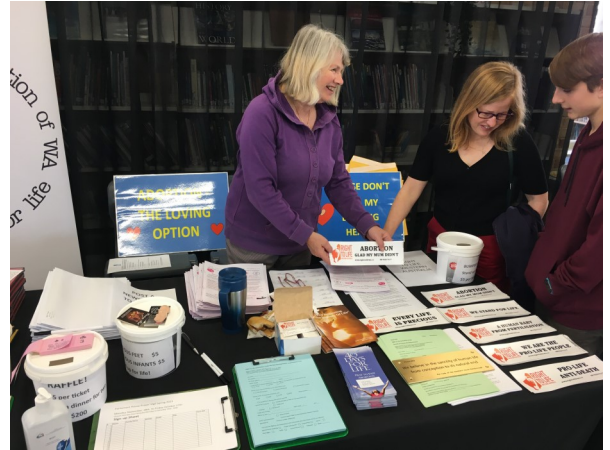
If you have refundable drink containers please consider donating the ten cents to us. Use our code (above) or ask the attendant to find us on their fund recipient list. There are receiving stations in lots of places now.

Families for Life Education Expo a big success

The families for Life Education Expo was held on Saturday 16th September 2023 at Hillside Christian College in Maida Vale.

This was the first major event of its kind and likely to be the first of many. It provided the opportunity for pro-life Christian groups to host exhibits and offer talks on their particular work in the pro-life field. And the sausage sizzle wasn't half bad either!

The day included a number of presentations in the school hall, hosted by MC Darryl Budge. Speakers included Abortion Grief Counsellor Lyn Varty, Australian Christian Party head Maryka Groenwald and Australian Christian Lobby state boss Peter Abetz. RTLAWA also presented.



Janny greets customers on our stall at the Expo



Prayer Vigil rolls on

The 40 Days for Life prayer vigil at Parliament House, part of our response to the latest abortion bill passed by our own state parliament, rolls on. Whilst it is one week 'out of step' with the vigils being held in the Northern Hemisphere it was felt that this was the best time for the prayer response to the Bill. And apart from a complaint that our signs were harming the flowers the vigil has gone quite smoothly (our signs are now further away from the bushes). The vigil includes prayers and singing. Our thanks goes to An-

nette Wilkinson who is updating our prayer books for us. • If you would like to join us please contact the office in the first instance as our permit only allows ten people on site at any given time.



Weekly cooked chicken donation on the cards

Yumm!

Feel like a feed of cooked chicken? It will arrive at our office frozen and three quarters cooked. Somewhere between 15 and 40kgs per week! Need some? Call the office...



Dwarfed by generosity

The Right to Life Association of WA is continually getting donations of all sorts of things, from children's furniture to food, clothing to building materials. We recently received two pallet loads of adult pads, one of which we sent to the Pilbara. The other arrived on the footpath outside the office recently and needed to be unloaded very quickly indeed. Our thanks goes to Eric Miller who was first on scene and did the bulk of the unloading almost single-handedly.

The size of the donation is indicated by Committee Member Bill Spence, pictured here. Bill is a tall man but only his head can be seen behind the donated load of products.

- If you know of anyone or any organization who could benefit from some of these products please contact the office. But don't delay;- they are already going out the door!

News of his demise has been greatly exaggerated!

(with apologies to Spike Milligan)

Our members who have sought an update on the health of our former President Peter O'Meara may have been distressed to hear secondhand of his passing.

However, it is my pleasure to report that Peter is still with us. He has merely shifted residence to Selby Lodge in Shenton Park.

Former Association Secretary Maureen Mackay, who visits him frequently, says he is as well as can be expected and enjoys singing hymns with her and her daughter Mary Sherbourne. And Peter still loves his tucker...

Photo supplied by member Brian Digby, who visited Peter recently



Right to Life Association of WA Membership Application and Donation form

Please complete this form and return it to:

Right to Life Association, PO Box 6087, East Perth WA 6892.

You could also scan and email to admin@righttolifewa.co



My name _____

My address _____

My email address _____

Home number _____ Mobile _____

I would prefer to receive information from the Right to Life Association of WA by (please tick):

Email Post Phone

Please accept my membership fee for 2024 (please tick)

\$10 (pensioners) \$20 (individuals) \$30 (married couples)

Please accept my donation of (please tick):

\$5 \$20 \$100 \$500 Other donation _____

I would like to donate this amount monthly

I would like to pay by Cheque (payable to Right to Life Association WA)

Visa Mastercard

Credit card number _____ Expiry Date ___/___ CVV _____

Name on card _____

Direct Deposit

Bank: Commonwealth Account Name: Right to Life Association Western Australia

BSB 066110 Account number: 00902168

I can help the Right to Life Association in lots of practical ways too! Please call me for help with

Maintenance /cleaning Prayer Intercession Phones Admin

Vigils Annual Dinner Lifehouse Other _____