

# Thousands Rally for Life as Debate Begins

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On Tuesday evening, thousands gathered outside NSW Parliament to stand for the dignity of every human life and support the Abortion Law Reform Amendment (Sex Selection Prohibition) Bill.

It was an encouraging display of conviction and courage. Families, church leaders, young people, nurses, tradies, students and grandparents stood together to send a simple message: sex-selective abortion has no place in New South Wales.

I had the privilege of addressing the crowd and sharing a message that has stayed with me throughout this campaign:

## **History is often changed by ordinary people.**

Throughout history, God has used ordinary men and women to achieve extraordinary things. The pro-life movement is no different. Cultural change does not happen because a handful of politicians speak. It happens because thousands of everyday Australians decide that silence is not an option and choose to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

That was the spirit of the rally, and it is the spirit we need in the weeks ahead.

## **Debate Begins in Parliament**

The bill was debated in the Legislative Council for its first hour on Wednesday evening.

While the final outcome remains uncertain, there were encouraging signs.

Recently, ACL and other pro-life organisations met with Labor MLC Stephen Lawrence to discuss the bill and the broader ethical issues it raises. During Wednesday's debate, Mr Lawrence confirmed he will support the bill at the second reading stage and declared:

“We must draw a line in the sand.”

His contribution was thoughtful and significant. Mr Lawrence argued that while sex-selective abortion may occur in relatively small numbers, Parliament should reject the practice and establish clear legal protections against it. Most importantly, he recognised that advances in technology are forcing society to confront profound ethical questions and that there are some lines we should not cross.

Frankly, I never expected to find myself more confident about Labor votes on this bill than National Party votes.

## **The Path Ahead**

The numbers remain close.

Several members remain publicly undecided, and attention is increasingly turning to the NSW Nationals MLCs, who are each yet to announce their public position on the legislation.

Debate will continue in what is known as Private Members’ Business. ACL is continuing to work alongside supportive Members of Parliament and our pro-life allies to ensure the debate continues progressing and reaches a vote before the next State election.

This bill represents an historic opportunity.

If passed, it would mark one of the most significant pro-life legislative victories in recent Australian history.

## **What You Can Do**

Now is not the time to take our foot off the pedal.

If you have not yet done so, please use ACL’s email tool to contact Upper House members who remain undecided.

Polite, respectful and thoughtful communication continues to make a difference. We have seen throughout this campaign that individual voices matter, and MPs do take notice when constituents contact them.

Please continue praying for wisdom, courage and conviction for Members of Parliament as this debate continues.

## **NSW Abortion Documentary Screening**

We produced a powerful documentary exposing the devastating reality of babies born alive after failed abortions in Australia. *Born Alive Left to Die* reveals what is too often hidden: the experiences of children who survive abortion procedures, the trauma faced by medical

staff and families, and the legal and political frameworks that allow these outcomes to continue in silence.

Through firsthand testimony and expert insight, this screening uncovers truths many Australians have never been told and equips our movement with the facts needed to speak with courage and conviction.

The evidence of harm is undeniable. Silence is no longer an option.