

Family Planning Tasmania is a Prescribed Provider under the Reproductive Health (Access to Terminations) Act 2013 (the Act).

This document outlines Family Planning Tasmania's position on the availability of medical and surgical termination in Tasmania.

FPT believes that termination should be safe, legal and accessible to all Tasmanian women and pregnant people; to protect their basic human rights to health and choice and will act to ensure that these rights are not legally impaired or compromised and that they have access to confidential counselling and services to regulate their fertility; specifically, to protect:

- **HEALTH:** to safeguard women's health, and reduce mortality and morbidity as a result of unsafe and illegal termination; and
- **CHOICE:** to ensure that women and people who can become pregnant have the information needed to exercise self-determination, sexual and reproductive freedom and sexual equality.

Family Planning Tasmania Inc (FPT) acknowledges that discussion of termination can engender strong responses and that this should not prevent women's rights from being appropriately respected and supported.

FPT further believes that:

- The prevention of unintended pregnancy is of primary importance for women's health and safe contraceptive methods should be actively promoted to minimise the number of terminations in Australia.
- Notwithstanding the important role of contraception, access to safe legal termination is an essential component of sexual and reproductive health services.
- The quality and confidentiality of termination services must be ensured, and other rights of the client respected.
- It is the responsibility of health service institutions and agencies prescribed under the Act to provide access to termination within the terms of existing Tasmanian legislation.
- Opportunities to consider personal value systems and their impact on patient support should be included in the training of all medical, nursing and allied health staff.
- Tasmanian regional access to termination will ensure better patient experience and enhance outcomes.

FPT will:

- Advocate for the provision of safe and affordable access to medical and surgical termination through consultation and liaison with government, medical services and other stakeholder agencies.
- Promote the dissemination of accurate information relating to termination and other methods of fertility regulation.
- Support and promote provision of the range of women's health and fertility services related to termination and unplanned pregnancy delivered by FPT and other sexual health organisations.
- Support women who have undergone a termination for their ongoing sexual and reproductive health needs.
- Advocate for the development of appropriate and responsive training programs for service providers.
- Collaborate with other like-minded agencies in the field in fulfilling the above objectives.
- Support the International Planned Parenthood Foundation statement on termination which commits member organisations to work for the elimination of unsafe termination and for increasing the right of access to safe legal termination for all women.