



RESPONSE TO PETITION

Prepare in English and French marking 'Original Text' or 'Translation'

PETITION NO.: **421-03270**

BY: **MR. TROST (SASKATOON-UNIVERSITY)**

DATE: **FEBRUARY 27, 2019**

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY: **PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY ARIF VIRANI**

Response by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

SIGNATURE

Minister or Parliamentary Secretary

SUBJECT

Abortion

ORIGINAL TEXT

REPLY

The Government is firmly committed to supporting women's right to choose. We confirmed this support with Bill C-75, which will finally repeal the outdated section criminalizing abortion in the *Criminal Code*.

The possibility of restricting women's right to choose was decided by the Supreme Court of Canada in its 1988 *Morgentaler* decision. In that decision, the Supreme Court of Canada held that forcing a woman, by threat of criminal sanction, to carry a fetus to term was a profound interference with her right to life, liberty and security of the person (section 7 of the *Charter*).

The Government also condemns all practices that are motivated by discriminatory views, including sex selective fetal ultrasounds for non-medical purposes.

Any kind of limit on access to abortion implicates women's rights pursuant to section 7 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.