

Opinion

Waverley Leader



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Water a concern

WATER is a major concern in our country, as we all know we are in a drought.

Our country is paying more than \$50 million to build a plant to change sea water into clean water.

We would not have to pay that amount if we all put in a greater effort to save water.

The current population uses less water than the population in the 1960s when the population was one third what it is now.

Australian are paying attention to campaigns to use less water. Still dams and waterways have dried up and the cattle are dying.

These are some ways to save water: reducing your water usage, recycling water, conserving water – implementing a water-wise plan, having a three-minute shower, installing a water tank, watering plants with grey water and going to a recycle car wash.

Here are some negative things people need to stop doing. We need to stop having water bombs/fights, stop over-watering our garden, repair dripping taps, don't have a 15-minute shower, don't leave a hose running in a pool or spa, and don't wash your car at home.

Our water is precious – please don't waste it.

**Claudia, Nikil, Alex and Felicity,
Grade 3/4, Holy Family School.**

Abortion law reforms

MT WAVERLEY state MP Maxine Morand said that any proposed legislation regarding abortion should reflect existing clinical practice (*Leader*, June 24).

Such proposed legislation will be based on the three models tabled in Parliament on May 29. Yet two of these models would currently be unlawful as the abortions would not take place to preserve the woman's physical or mental



Anti-abortion protesters outside Maxine Morand's Glen Waverley electorate office.

state as required by existing legislation. In these models the abortion is the woman's choice. Thus it follows that some existing clinical practice is not legal.

Is this whole exercise of reforming abortion law simply about changing the law, rather than enforcing the existing law against the abortionists?

I'm sure many other lawbreakers would wish that government would apply the same approach to them.

Kevin Reed, Mt Waverley.

Kids need protection

THE popularity of artist Bill Henson (*Leader*, June 3) should not exclude him from sanction over his recent photograph of a young, nude 13-year-old girl. It isn't the first example.

Photographs of real, nude people can and do influence some viewers far more powerfully than imaginary ones.

Current proof of this is the worldwide impact of internet pornography which has millions of viewers, both adults and children, in its grip.

Our children are entitled to protection. So many cannot respond maturely to influences of nude pictures, especially of living humans.

All the defensive rationalising by various councillors and directors of art galleries will not alter this reality.

Peter Phillips, Springvale.

Right to choose

SURVEYS in Australia consistently show that about 80 per cent of Australians support a woman's right to choose for abortion.

The small anti-abortion protest outside Maxine Morand's office (*Leader*, June 24) does not represent this majority.

In a secular society such as ours, they have no right to impose their particular religious views on legislation.

Simply, it is their prerogative to not choose to have an abortion, but it is not their right to impede other women's access if they choose to have an abortion.

Women's Health East recently spoke out about the rights of women to access abortion safely and legally.

Women in the eastern suburbs must know that only Option C of the Law Reform Commission's models provides the safety and security of women knowing that they – together with their partners and families, if desired – hold the final say about how and when they can make this decision.

Let's make sure the Victorian Government is held to account to this decision by us women in the east.

Trish Hayes, Box Hill North.

Love and support

MAXINE Morand says that she respects other's views and opinions, and that we should all be tolerant (*Leader*, June 24).

I wish to remind Ms Morand that every abortion kills a baby and that this is a fact, not a mere opinion.

Why should we be "tolerant" or remain silent when thousands of babies are killed by abortion each year? Killing a baby is wrong and always will be. I acknowledge that often pregnancies are unplanned or problematic. It is better to offer the mother and her family love and support to help her/them through a tough time rather than the slick, quick-fix solution of killing her baby.

Abortion often leaves women with long-lasting emotional trauma leading to self-destructive behavior and/or deep depression.

May I also remind Ms Morand that politicians have a duty to pass laws that protect the weak and vulnerable in our community, including the unborn.

Mary Banks, Mt Waverley.

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