

saaac represents a broad group of people who believe that best quality abortion care is enabled when abortion is a woman's decision, is affordable for all women, and is accessible regardless of a woman's location.

Best care is possible when it is provided by well trained and committed practitioners, using the most up to date, evidence-based methods suited to each woman's particular circumstances.

The regulation of contemporary abortion practices in the criminal law creates important barriers to best care – we think it's time this changed

saaac

South Australian
Abortion Action Coalition

Better abortion access

EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS ABOUT THE NEED TO REFORM THE LAW REGARDING ABORTION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The **SA Law Reform Institute** is inviting comments from the community. SALRI provides Fact Sheets and an online questionnaire which is now live on the SA Government's [YourSay website](#). It is also possible to email a written submission. All submissions can be made anonymously; you should request this if confidentiality is important to you.

<https://law.adelaide.edu.au/research/south-australian-law-reform-institute>

The survey asks questions under 10 headings that cover all aspects of law reform. You do not have to answer all questions. Most can be answered with a 'yes' or 'no' response. If you provide only 'yes' or 'no' responses the survey will take about ten minutes. There is space after every question to explain your view, or write about your experience of abortion, or the experience of your friends and family, or your experience as a health care provider. **If you wish to make a general statement, eg about women's autonomy, or about the importance of public health provision of abortion services, there is room for that at the end of the survey under '10. Incidental'.**

Some people find the survey clunky to do. In Section 1, eg, there are 4 questions but only one box. You could simply write 'No, No, No and No'. Section 3 is trickier – 6 questions, and 2 of these have several options to consider! But if you write 'Yes to the first question', the 2nd and 3rd questions are redundant and don't need comment, and if you write 'No to the 4th question', the rest of the section is redundant. Most other sections are similarly tricky but shortcuts work. You can always skip a section. Making your general view clear will work even when the technical detail is too much to

saaac's view is that abortion should be completely removed from the criminal law, and there should be no new law specific to abortion introduced in to health law – with one exception, yes, there should be safe access zones.

All other questions in the survey relate to matters which can be, and are currently, dealt with by the comprehensive health laws and regulations and clinical guidelines that already regulate abortion care, and all health care. For more information see our **Fact Sheets**

<https://saabortionactioncoalition.com/fact-sheets/>

So, **saaac** recommends that there should be -

- no specification of who can provide abortion care (leaving open nurse provision, for example),
- no need for health care professionals to consult others before performing an abortion,
- no requirement for counselling,
- no specification of the grounds for an abortion,
- no gestational limits,
- no abortion-specific allowance for a health practitioner's conscientious objection,
- no required collection of data on abortion,
- no special laws for rural provision of abortion,
- no residency requirement,
- no requirement re the place where abortions can be performed (allowing GPs to prescribe Early Medication Abortion, for example), and
- yes, women should be able access abortion by telehealth.