



**Women's Health Victoria**  
healthy empowered equal



**family  
planning  
victoria**

Sexual & Reproductive Health  
Care, Education, Advocacy

Thursday 8 May 2014

## **MEDIA RELEASE: IMMEDIATE**

### **WOMEN'S HEALTH VICTORIA AND FAMILY PLANNING VICTORIA RESPOND TO INCORRECT INFORMATION ABOUT ABORTION**

Family Planning Victoria and Women's Health Victoria are working together to ensure that myths and misinformation are not used to wind back women's access to abortion.

Women's Health Victoria and Family Planning Victoria are experts in reproductive health and have decades of experience in this field.

'There is no evidence or data to suggest that sex selection is occurring in Victoria. Australia has a normal ratio of male and female births' said Ms Rita Butera, Executive Director of Women's Health Victoria.

The Victorian Law Reform Commission thoroughly explored the issues of conscientious objection and mandatory counselling in 2008. The Abortion Law Reform Act safeguards women's access to the best possible reproductive health care.

'This law ensures women have access to unbiased professional health services. Affordable counselling is available to anyone who requests it' said Ms Lynne Jordan, Chief Executive Officer of Family Planning Victoria.

'We commend the Premier and Leader of the Opposition for their commitment to the law reform that was strongly debated in 2008 and continues to be relevant', Ms Jordan said.

*WHV acknowledges the funding support of the Victorian Government.*

**– End –**

For further information contact:

Rita Butera, Executive Director (Women's Health Victoria)

Phone: 03 9664 9300 or 0437 578 182

Lynne Jordan, Chief Executive Officer (Family Planning Victoria)

Phone: 9257 0128 or 0409 141 996