

April 14, 2011

To whom it may concern,

My name is Amanda Vella and I am writing to you about the current situation by which independent midwives are being processed if there has been a complaint against them. Like many others, I find this system completely unfair and unethical.

On April 23rd 2010 I gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, at home, with an independent midwife. The experience was stress-free, intimate and extraordinary for my family. My midwife was an absolute professional and I wouldn't hesitate to birth at home again.

Women deserve choice in regards to where they birth and who cares for them. The current complaint system will restrict midwives' from working and force women into the hospital system. The alternative for women who don't want to birth in hospitals will be to give birth at home, unassisted.

I am a yoga teacher working with many pregnant women, teaching them skills to birth without medical intervention. This is a fundamental human right.

I am also a freelance journalist with plans to publish a feature article on this very issue because I believe it has serious repercussions not only for midwives, but for women, their children and families.

I respectfully quest that an urgent review of this process takes place immediately so that balance is restored and women continue to have the freedom to choose where they birth and under whose care.

Sincerely,

Amanda Vella