

**From:**  
**Sent:**  
**To:**  
**Subject:**

**Submission no. 24** *IK*  
AUTHORISED: 28/2/07

Standing Committee on health and ageing  
Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: effectiveness of current breastfeeding promotions.

Not all hospital staff promote breastfeeding.

On more than one occasion I saw when in the intensive care unit for babies that files were being dramatically altered. When I spoke to staff, full admissions were made that files are incorrect, and one staffer told me that the staff roster will not remain full unless a certain number of babies were in the unit. This was done to retain a certain number of babies regardless of their physical capability and need for parental connection.

Parents were told that their baby could not breastfeed, when in fact the baby could breastfeed. Some babies kept in the unit who would then take a bottle were alternatively fed by nasal tube method in order to save time. Such a method can scar a young baby's nose for many years, and can slow down their ability to suckle. The parents of such children suffer great distress as their trust of the doctor, and their baby's victimisation, and their intuition regarding their baby is in conflict. Ultimately, only one can win.

Such methods to obtain/retain funding is not unknown. I have mentioned some previously regarding children and national policy making.

Recently, I downloaded an e-journal from the US embassy sit on corruption and its international pall.

I have not read it yet, but it appears to consist of corruption and how it can attach it self in many ways to the public and to the govt.

Now I,m not saying that every hospital baby unit is corrupt, but they run on government funding, and they are dishonest.

This occurs in many areas of government.

Yours sincerely

Ms Isabel Field

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