

Submission no. 47
AUTHORISED: 21/03/07



Original Message
From: Sheridan Leng
Sent: Wednesday, 21 March 2007 12:22 PM
To: 'Department of Health' <...@...>
Subject: inquiry re: Breastfeeding

Dear Sirs

I would like to present my submission on the inquiry into Breastfeeding.

In particular I would like to make some suggestions on how new mothers can be encouraged to extend breastfeeding beyond the first few months.

I would like to see shopping centres given a specification sheet on how to set up a feeding area in a parents room to make these rooms comfortable and usable for breastfeeding mums. Many of these rooms have microwaves available to warm up formula as well as nappy changing areas, which is great for those needing to use those services. But the problem is the chairs in these rooms aren't designed to fit a baby in a breastfeeding position once they have past the age of about two months. The sides are too high and it becomes uncomfortable after a very short period of feeding.

Bottlefeeding a baby means that the bottle can be put on a different angle to make the baby fit into the seat on the mother's lap more comfortably, but this is not possible whilst breastfeeding.

I have encountered many parents rooms and found almost all of them to be left wanting in this area.

Some guidelines as to what kind of area should be provided would make these rooms far more comfortable. I have stopped using our local parents room to feed my baby as we simply do not fit in the chair now that he is six months old.

Kind regards
Sheridan Leng

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