

Submission no. 427

AUTHORISED: 20/6/07 

Subject: Re: Breastfeeding Inquiry

Importance: High

To whom it may concern,

I understand you are seeking comments from the public regarding the Parliamentary Inquiry into Breastfeeding.

I am writing after reading the June / July 2007 issue of Mother & Baby which is now in full compliance with WHO's newest code in regards to breastfeeding, which means they will no longer present editorial and advertising related to formula / bottle feeding.

As per my feedback letter to the magazine, while I salute them complying with WHO's newest code I am very concerned that they and other publications, hospital institutions etc will no longer be including information on bottle feeding, formula and so on.

I have a nine month old who until a week ago today was breastfed. While it was my aim to breastfeed her until she was at least a year old I had to wean her, mainly because at 18weeks pregnant with my second child combined with the stresses of working I was left totally exhausted, constantly unwell (because between the two of them I was left with no immune system), with a depleted milk supply. I went from having way too much milk to hardly anything and that was very distressing for me. I blubbered as my husband fed our daughter her first formula bottle.

Without magazines such as M&B, institutions such as hospitals, doctors surgeries, and government outlets providing information on products such as bottles and formula, it leaves many of us who have to turn to such ways of feeding our infants without a balanced view as to where to turn or what to look out for in these products.

Yes breast is best but I believe the country can be totally committed to informing parents about the benefits of breastfeeding without alienating a lot of parents who have to look at other methods to feed their infants.

Thank you and kind regards,
Kelly Fogarty

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