

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

***Transparent Advertising and Notification of Pregnancy Counselling Services
Bill 2005***

Submission from:

Anne Rampa and Jim Dowling

For 20 years until 2000 we were involved in a house of hospitality in West End Brisbane. During that time although it was not the main role of the house we supported a number of women through their pregnancies and afterwards. We had some contact with two Brisbane pregnancy support groups, referring to and being referred by these agencies.

It is our firm belief they play an important role in helping women through difficult pregnancies not duplicated elsewhere.

At no time did we hear of any pregnancy support for such women by pro-abortion groups such as Children by Choice, or Family Planning, other than offering abortion.

We have been told numerous stories of women being pressured into having abortions by Children By Choice.

It is apparent this bill is the product of an obscene modern day witch-hunt against important groups supplying invaluable services largely with volunteer labour. The witch-hunt is orchestrated by those who are furious with any group espousing a political opinion other than their own on the issue of abortion. The fact that crisis pregnancy centres are ideologically opposed to abortion should be irrelevant to their funding. They do not claim to provide the option of abortion, just as Children by Choice and Family planning do not claim to provide ongoing support if women to continue with a pregnancy.

Thank you for reading our brief submission