

John Worrall

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2009

To whom it may concern,

**Re: REGARDING THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR CHANGES TO MATERNITY CARE IN AUSTRALIA**

**MY STATEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:**

- **Are you/and your partner still planning to have more children?**  
No we have had all of ours.
- **If not, do you have friends/family who will be affected if homebirth is not an option for them?**  
Yes two of our children are wishing to have more children at home with a midwife.
- **What about your own children's birthing choices?**  
That is exactly why I am writing this, because my children are going to be effected by this. I am lucky to have raised four level headed, educated and responsible girls. If this is what is important to them, then this is very important to me.
- **How do you think an absence of homebirth and independent midwifery services might impact on your community?**  
It will mean that not every woman will have the right to choose where they have their baby, and who they want there to support them.
- **Will your local hospital be likely to provide a homebirth program?**  
Our local hospital was closed down and our birthing services have been gone for a long time. Women would have to travel 40 minutes to the nearest hospital which would mean that people in my town could not homebirth there.
- **Do you live a long way from mainstream maternity care?**  
40 minutes
- **If an independent midwife assists you prenatally, or provides lactation consultancy, or post-birth support, or is mysteriously present during your birth anytime after July 2010, then they could face legal action (if they're caught). What do you think about that?**  
Stupid and irresponsible,
- **If you with-hold information about a midwife who's still practicing unregistered, you could be legally liable. How do you feel about that?**  
Same as above

**IMPACT STATEMENT PROVIDED BY:**

John Worrall

**DATE:** 13<sup>th</sup> July 2009