REGARDING THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR CHANGES TO MATERNITY CARE IN AUSTRALIA –

IMPACT STATEMENT PROVIDED BY: Ilana Solo

My home birth was a safe and wonderful experience. I chose it because I believe, following extensive research, that this would give my baby and I the best outcomes. I intensely dislike clinical settings, and believe that labour is a personal experience best done in an environment controlled by the women, with the support of two highly qualified midwifes.

If midwifes are prevented from assisting homebirths in Australia I would seek midwifes willing to do this "underground". I am aware that I would have no consumer protections whatsoever in doing this. I would pretend the birth was an unplanned homebirth.

Should I or the baby need to be transported to hospital in an emergency in this situation, I don't know what would happen. Perhaps my midwife would come and risk severe reprimand? Perhaps not?

I deeply fear that someone is going to get very injured by this change in legislation. And what for? No explanation has been provided.

Please note my new email itchy@mmnet.com.au