

Dear Senator Moore,

Re: Inquiry into Health Legislation Amendment (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009 and two related Bills

I write to express my concern about the above bills. I am a student midwife working within NSW Health. I can not comprehend how you believe it is your right to make decisions about how women birth their children.

The current system limits women's choices, is over medicalised and destroys birth!!! It also costs the government more then it needs to.

Midwifery care has been proven to cost less and be more beneficial to women, men and children not just at the birth but also with long term physical and mental health benefits.

If you were to only look at the research you would know that by passing these bills you are making a horrible mistake and negatively impacting the health of Australians!!

It is your duty to respect your voters wishes instead of denying them a human right to choose where they wish to birth.

I ask you, as many others probably already have..... How is it ethical to allow women to chose a caesarean section (that is detrimental to both her and her child) but not chose to safely birth in their own way, in their own home??

It is not your decision to make it is a womans!! If you do pass these bills you will push women to either free birth - which is extremely dangerous, or birth in a hospital with its fragmented medicalised care, this will also be detrimental to woman and their babies considering the physiological and psychological aspects of labour and birth.

I beg you to reconsider you decisions for the health and welfare of current Australians and our future!!!

Yours sincerely

Bernadette Lack