

Dear Senate

On 1 October 2008, my beautiful daughter was born at our home. The birth was a natural and beautiful experience and importantly completely safe and comfortable. The birth experience was one that we had planned and hoped for and one that could not be possible anywhere else. What made it extra special was that it was at home in our familiar surroundings and with our brilliant independent midwife.

I passionately believe in home birthing as the best way for babies to be born and for mothers to give birth. It is my right as a father to create the most comfortable, safe and sacred space for my children to be born. It is my right to have this freedom of choice.

I realise some parents prefer hospital births, some prefer birthing centres. That is their choice. My choice is homebirths- that is my choice.

Homebirth is safe and the only choice for many parents.

I greatly appreciate your understanding and for respecting my choice.

Best regards
Brendan Fearn