

dear sir/madam,

i am writing to support the choice for women to give birth at home with the support of midwives either privately or through a local general hospital.

i have had three children. the first was born at The Royal Hobart Hospital 2001, the second at The John Hunter Hospital 2003 and the third at home, with the care of 2 midwives from the Belmont Hospital 2009.

the level of security, safety and care that i felt birthing at home is parallel to none.

after birthing at hospitals and at home i would have no hesitation in saying that birthing at home is THE CORRECT WAY for many women and that through fashion and hospital hype women have lost touch with the normal way of giving birth.

i am very concerned that the fundamental right of women to birth in a safe and comfortable environment (their home) is going to be compromised by the prospective changes. i think it essential that women are given the option of birthing at home privately or through a local general hospital, and funded by medicare. i think home birthing options are progressive and to remove these rights and options is a step backwards, and will encourage an unnecessary reliance on hospitals and doctors, instead of fostering the basic belief in womens ability to birth naturally at home. to give birth naturally at home is a basic right. to remove that right us unacceptable.

let's remember that birthing CAN BE a natural practice and let's keep home birthing as a NATURAL OPTION for women to CHOOSE. remember women vote too and they carry and birth our next generations so LET'S SUPPORT WOMEN in their choices!

many thanks, lisa ferguson.