

To the man that wants to make decisions for the woman

I find it extraordinary that a Senator /Politician would waist they time, effort and most of all money (which your government is struggling for) on trying to make the most natural way to have a child illegal.

One question for you?

How many children have you given birth to?

I would take a wild guess. A big fat zero.

Why do you idiots have to try and control all that is natural.

At the moment the system stands that woman that want to have a child birth in a hospital has the rights and the same for home births. Why change the system that gives woman the only little freedom that they have on child birth. Serious mate give up, grow up and spend your time doing something constructive for the woman and not destructive .

And when it comes to Prosecuting Midwives and nurses Practitioners that would help deliver a home birth, well I think that the heath system is already struggling to find nurses and your idea would really help young people to join the nursing industry (not)

We all know what it is all about MONEY and INSURANCE

Get a life Senator.

And by the way im a man not a woman or a feminist

I would love to meet you face to face to discuss this Stupid Law

FRANC DONNIAUX

Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs Inquiry into Health Legislation Amendment (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009 and two related bills

I come from a long line of Home Birthing, I was born as a home birth, my mother and her 2 sisters were all homebirths, and 4 of my cousins all had

the privilege of being born at home in a comfortable warm safe environment.

I gave birth to my daughter, Isabella 7 years ago at my home with 2 midwives to care for me. The whole process was conducted very safely and extremely professionally. I was booked into hospital, had an ambulance booked just in case and was cared for very carefully.

It is a womans MOST NATURAL RIGHT to choose where and how she gives birth to her child. We may as well live in a dictatorship if this simple little choice for women is taken from them!

I am concerned at the Health Legislation Amendment (Midwives and Nurse Practitioners) Bill 2009, the Midwives Professional Indemnity (Commonwealth Contribution) Scheme Bill 2009 and the Midwives Professional Indemnity (Runoff Cover Support Payment) Bill 2009, which are currently the subject of an Inquiry by the Committee on Community Affairs.

The bills expand the role of midwives in the provision of maternity services, but exclude midwives who attend births at home. By excluding these midwives, the Government is effectively making attended homebirth illegal. This is because, under the proposed National Registration and Accreditation Scheme, due to be implemented in July 2010, any midwife who cannot obtain insurance cannot be registered. Laws in many states make it a criminal act for an unregistered midwife to attend a birth, and the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme also imposes a fine for doing so.

If enacted, rules made under the bills before the Parliament will make it illegal for a qualified midwife to attend a homebirth in Australia. Such a move is dangerous for mothers and babies, bucks international trends in maternity care, and is inconsistent with the Government's stated policy of providing pregnant women with greater choice and less interventionist maternity care.

With extremely high intervention rates in hospital, many women are afraid to birth in hospitals and believe their only chance at natural childbirth is at home. If it becomes illegal for registered, highly skilled midwives to care for these women, many will feel they have no option other than to birth unattended. This legislation unintentionally promotes this practice, which is directly contrary to the World Health Organization's objective of having a skilled attendant at every birth. I am extremely concerned that the legislation will result in unnecessary deaths of babies and mothers, and may also result in midwives being fined and jailed if they assist labouring women. This is an absurd situation in a modern democracy.

In the UK, New Zealand, Canada and The Netherlands, homebirth is publicly funded and supported. I am not aware of another country in the world where a midwife can be jailed for attending a homebirth.

Australian women must all be entitled to the same Medicare support wherever they give birth, and midwives must all be entitled to obtain professional indemnity insurance wherever they work.

Yours sincerely

Regards,

Franck Donniaux