

To the decision makers
Community.affairs.sen@apn.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

I have, for many years, followed the fight for the rights of families to make their own choices about where and how their babies are born. I have five grandchildren who were born at home – all bonny and wonderful.

Two of these pregnancies, in a hospital, would have been a forced caesarean, I believe. The difference was that the midwife in each case, had cared for my daughters for months before. Because the young mothers were well trained and trustful, therefore relaxed, the births went without a hitch. After that, the mothers and babies received many weeks of post natal supervision and care.

I was a traditionally trained nurse and sceptical at first, but am completely convinced that women have the right to choose where and how their babies are born. I believe that there should be a seamless, blameless transition between home care and hospital care where events change.

**YOU, WHO HAVE THIS GREAT RESPONSIBILITY, MUST FIND A WAY FOR
MIDWIVES TO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE HOMEBIRTH CARE, AFTER THE
NEW REGULATIONS BEGIN IN JULY 2010**

Yours faithfully,

Esme Hobba