

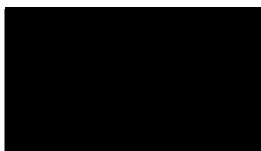
Submission to Health, Communities, Disability Services
and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee

regarding
Adoption and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016

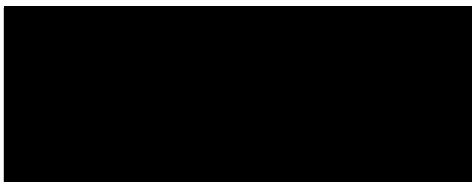
We live in a country where the number of children available for adoption has reduced dramatically in recent decades. Unwed mothers (the primary source of adopted children) tend to keep their babies, rather than offering them for adoption.

I don't understand why we would encourage the adoption of children to same-sex couples (who aren't even legally married in Queensland at this point in time) or single parents. There are already many married couples who would love to be parents, but who are unable to give birth to their own babies. Why would we reduce their chances of adoption even more by adding unwed 'persons' to the long list of prospective parents for adopted children? There is no logic to having more people competing for the opportunity to adopt fewer available children.

Adopting used to be such a strict process. Adoptive parents were under the highest scrutiny. Allowing almost anyone to apply for adoption, regardless of gender or marital status, seems to me like a watering down of standards for the raising of Queensland's children.



Mrs Jill Antuar



19th September 2016