

**Sent:** Wednesday, 4 June 2008 5:29 PM

**To:** Surrogacy Committee

**Subject:** Online Submission - Investigation into Altruistic Surrogacy Committee

**SUBMISSION FROM**

**Name :** Valerie Bauer

**SUBMISSION**

**Should the legal restrictions and criminal penalties against altruistic surrogacy be removed from the *Surrogate Parenthood Act 1988 (Qld)*?**

NO, the legal restrictions and criminal penalties against altruistic surrogacy should not be removed. My belief is that surrogacy should not be legalised, because of the negative impacts it would have on children, including significant legal and relational consequences. While I can sympathise with infertile couples, I believe that it is wrong to create a situation where numerous adults could have a biological stake in a child. I also believe that the risks in legalising surrogacy would override any benefits to society. It is not in the public good to allow children to be conceived in arrangements that are fraught with such difficulties and complexities. The many difficulties that need to be considered involve legal challenges as to who is the parent; access to singles and same-sex couples; genetic bewilderment for children; potential for up to five different parents; blurred family relationships and disruption to relationship links between marriage, conception, gestation, birth and motherhood, which are important to human identity.