

Sent: Friday, 6 June 2008 10:55 AM

To: Surrogacy Committee

Subject: Online Submission - Investigation into Altruistic Surrogacy Committee

SUBMISSION FROM

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SUBMISSION

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

Altruistic surrogacy should not be made legal because of the damage that it would do to children. When a child is the result of possibly three different adults and the legal child of two other adults it can easily create identity problems for the child. Furthermore, no matter how well protected a child is and how well intentioned the adults are there will be parental rights challenges which will cause stress to the child. There is also the issue of the availability of altruistic surrogacy to single people who are not in the best position to raise a child. No matter how wealthy and devoted they are a single person cannot provide what a wife and husband can because even the interactions between a husband and wife are essential for teaching a child how the opposite sex should be treated. It is for these reasons that, despite the sympathy we feel for infertile couples, altruistic surrogacy should not be legalised, the potential damage to children is far too great a risk.

Should the Queensland Government play a role in regulating altruistic surrogacy arrangements in Queensland?

Because it is about the best interests of the child then altruistic surrogacy should simply not be permitted.