

**From:** R & K Schwartz

**Sent:** Thursday, 17 July 2008 9:10 PM

**To:** Surrogacy Committee

**Subject:** Altruistic Surrogacy

Hi,

My name is Kayleen and I am 28. I am very happily married with 3 healthy children amongst 12 miscarriages.

After being diagnosed with endometritis at 18yrs old, I started trying for a child immediately knowing my chances could be slim. Following 4 miscarriages, I finally carried my oldest child and gave birth to a beautiful healthy baby boy.

I then longed for a second child and finally after another 8 miscarriages, I gave birth to a beautiful healthy baby boy who was followed 15 months later by another beautiful healthy baby boy.

It was at this time that my family was complete and I had my tubes tied as we did not want any more children.

After the emotional rollercoaster my husband and I had experienced before completing our family, my thoughts turned to those people out there in the world that were going through the same thing, some knowing their chance of ever carrying a child to term were next to nil. I became an egg donor through QFG but unfortunately due to a change in work commitments I could not continue.

The thought of being able to give someone the gift of the chance to have a child and experience the joy and love as I had done, completed my life.

Only someone having gone through the desperation of wanting a child could understand this.

I now have the opportunity to give the ultimate gift of life, and actually carry a child for the full nine months to give my husbands cousin a chance at the same happiness. Yes I'm talking about Surrogacy.

You see 6 years ago she was involved in a horrific motor vehicle accident leaving her (amongst other things) with an open book fractured pelvis, that was put back together with a metal plate and screws, these have since been removed and scar tissue holds her pelvis together.

The last thing she should be doing is trying to carry a child herself, but due to surrogacy being a criminal act in Queensland, she is in fact having IVF treatment using donor sperm to try and fulfill her dream of being a mother.

I can not understand why anybody would want any law to stand in the way of this.

It saddens me to see the number of children being born to under age girls or drug addicted or abusive mothers and there is no law stopping this, yet here we have desperate women who want to love and nurture a child and they are being told no.

Come on Australia, come on Queensland, keep up with technology, haven't these women suffered enough knowing that they will never carry a child themselves, don't let it be a life sentence that they will never raise a child.

I ask you to go and be with someone through their heartache of desperately wanting a child and experience all the things that go wrong, then you will understand where I am coming from.

I beg of you to put forward legislation to allow these women the chance of motherhood.

Yours faithfully

Kayleen