
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 22 April 2022 7:25 AM
To: Legal Affairs and Safety Committee
Cc: Home
Subject: INQUIRY INTO MATTERS RELATING TO DONOR CONCEPTION INFORMATION

Categories: Submission

I request that you remove my surname and my email address or any other contactable information if possible (similarly to the other submissions). Thank you.

ATTENTION

Committee Secretary
Legal Affairs and Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000

I am speaking as a single mother of donor conceived twin boys born in 2006. I see their void and concerns as they get older first hand, and hope that this can be reviewed in line with the other Australian states.

The donor donated in 1997 at [REDACTED] with it being transferred to [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] NSW where I was a patient. The age of the sperm concerned me at the time along with the level of detail that the clinic was able to get. Eg donor number, height, hair / eye colour, birth year, student, family history of breast cancer as that was pretty much it. They are not able to get anymore information suggesting that the information supplied by the donor was not sufficient and should have been checked or required at the time.

Fast forward to 2022. My boys are 16yrs and one is particularly concerned about not being able to find his Donor father. He is an insecure young man and wants to understand where he comes from and what medical conditions run through his family. He asked this week if the donor could 'lie' on the form! We were told he had to be 18yrs (but not sure) but when we called [REDACTED] in 2016 to give our details, we were told they had lost contact with him in 2011. Ancestry DNA, DSR, and the various Facebook groups have not turned up anything.

We are concerned about being able to obtain more detailed medical background, understanding what ours and the donors rights are if the sperm is transferred to another state and ultimately managing the long term mental and emotional impact on my sons. They know they were born out of love and have a secure and comfortable life but just knowing who you are on the other 50% is a challenge.

Whilst understanding and respecting the anonymity of the donor, I ask that the rights of donor-conceived persons, including knowing their genetic origins is considered and we have access to historical clinical records retrospectively. Additionally any support and counselling for donor-conceived persons and donors would provide more holistic wellbeing support particularly with the digital world making access to tracking easier.

Yours sincerely
Katherine [REDACTED]