

## **Exposure Draft**

Kym Kani

To NRAIP 16/7/09 09:58PM

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my sadness in relation to the proposed legislation disallowing trained independent midwives to practice homebirth midwifery after July 2010. I don't believe women should be left with the choice to either birth in hospital or on their own.

I did choose the latter for the birth of my youngest child last year. It was a personal choice that proved to be very safe for me and my baby. To force women to birth without medical assistance is not a choice and not safe.

I hope that there will be a way for midwives to continue to practice without risking a \$30,000 fine (and their hirers too). I understand obstetricians get government rebates with their insurance. Can we do the same for independent midwives? I have heard that the 1% of homebirth that happens is not significant. Then why make it harder for women to birth at home? Hospitals are not safe and with the maternal health system heaving with the load, something's got to give. Given the option, more women would choose homebirth with a midwife.

Yours sincerely,

Kym