

To Whom it May Concern,

There needs to be a way for midwives to be able to provide homebirth care after the new regulation system starts on 1 July 2010. Home birthers in Australia are a small group, but we deserve the right to give birth where we feel safe, as per World Health Organisation recommendations. Homebirth is as safe, if not safer than hospital birth, as many studies have shown. What we are seeing in the media is biased and hype. Thirty percent of Dutch women birth at home. I had a terrifying time in hospital with my first, and a cesarean, which I have since found is all too common. My second and third were born easily and peacefully at home with a midwife. I want to be able to choose this again. I want my daughter to be able to choose this.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Mehmet, mother of three.