

**REGARDING THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR CHANGES TO MATERNITY CARE IN AUSTRALIA -**

**IMPACT STATEMENT PROVIDED BY:**

Sally Smith

, VIC.

**MY STATEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:**

I have two children, the first born at Castlemaine Hospital Birthing Unit and the second at home. I strongly support birth choice for women. For me, a home birth ~~experience~~ enabled me to birth in a familiar environment, without transition to hospital & with family around. I experienced a very high level of care before, during & after the birth. My mum was born at home in the UK under the national health care system. I want my daughter to have the choice of home birth when she decides to have a family. For my daughter home birth is a normal valid option because they have grown up in a community with ~~several~~ good birth options. I feel outraged that home birth, under the proposed legislation, will become illegal. This is ridiculous public policy. Home birth is a safe, evidence based model of maternity care, supported by governments in the UK, New Zealand & Europe. Please amend the legislation to retain home birth as a <sup>legal</sup> birth choice option, ~~for~~

**SIGNED:**

**DATE:**

Sally  
15/7/09.