

Scrutiny of Acts and

05 NOV 2008

Regulations Committee

30 Studley St.,
Mulgrave 3170

31st October 2008

Senior Legal Adviser,
Mr Andrew Homer
andrew.homer@parliament.vic.gov.au

Dear Mr Homer,

Inquiry into Assisted Reproductive Technology Bill 2008

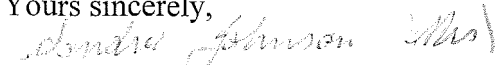
I am writing to express my grave concern regarding the *Assisted Reproductive Technology Bill 2008*.

This proposed Bill treats a child as a commodity and this is outrageous. No one has a RIGHT to a child. We are talking about a human being here, not some form of property or possession.

The rights of the child need to be kept in mind and upheld. The child has a fundamental right to a father and a mother and to know and be raised by them.

Just because a person would like to have a child does not give them the right to have a child by any means. This Bill will lead to a minefield of problems and abuses - such as the buying and selling of sperm and ova, expecting Medicare to pay for surrogacy procedures etc. The fact that two lesbians or homosexuals cannot naturally produce a child together is not a disease but a fact of nature. We are not entitled to satisfy our desires at the expense of another's human rights. The proposals in this Bill are unjust, unethical and totally disregard the good and rights of the child. We must not create a legal entitlement to a child. To do this is to treat the child as a possession and/ or commodity and is akin to slavery. This Bill is abhorrent.

Yours sincerely,


Sandra Johnson (Mrs)

Cc – hard copy to
Chairperson, Scrutiny of Acts and Regulations Committee
Parliament House, Spring St., Melbourne Vic 3000