

Wednesday 14th March 2018

The Program Manager
Reproductive Technology Unit
Patient Safety & Clinical Quality
Clinical Excellence Division
Department of Health
189 Royal Street
PERTH WA 6004
HRTSR@health.wa.gov.au

Dear Program Manager,

RE: Review of the Western Australian *Human Reproductive Technology Act 1991* and the *Surrogacy Act 2008*

This is an individual submission. Please could my personal information (home address, mobile phone number and personal email) remain private and confidential.

The same as all my family, friends and colleagues, I grew up thinking that one day I would father my own family. So did my husband. On our ten-year anniversary we were married, in Ontario Canada, as Australia had not yet changed Howard's amendment to the Marriage Act that explicitly excluded same-sex couples from marrying. Most of my friends and colleagues in Canada who were raising their own families had done so through Canadian surrogacy arrangements. We could not afford these non-commercial options. We have had several offers from family and friends for altruistic gestational surrogacy but have had to immediately decline, shutting the door on this pathway to our own family in our own country because the Surrogacy Act 2008 excludes us as an eligible couple, or individually as an eligible person.

I request that in the current review that consideration be given to broadening the scope of the definitions of "eligible couple" and "eligible person" to include male same-sex couples or single men.

Regards,



Dr Glen Lo MBBS BMedSc(Hons) FRANZCR

