

Tue, Jan 19 at 1:08 PM

**Would you like your submission to be confidential? (Yes or No): No**

**Title:** Miss

**Contact name:** Kim Pace

**Contact address 1:** [Redacted]

**Contact address 2:**

**Suburb:** [Redacted]

**Postcode:** [Redacted]

**Email:** [Redacted]

**Phone Number:** [Redacted]

**What is your association to assisted reproductive treatment?:** Donor conceived person

**If you belong to a company or organisation – what is the name of that organisation?:**

**Do you make this submission in your individual or professional capacity?:** Individual

**If you live outside of Australia which country do you live in?:** Australia

**1. Please comment upon the requirement within the Act that the welfare of any child born as a consequence of assisted reproductive treatment (A.R.T.) is treated as being of paramount importance, and accepted as a fundamental principle, in respect of the operation of the Act, as well as in the provision of assisted reproductive treatment.:** I believe it is important that the child created of ART treatments be treated as the most important person in this situation, however, this is not consistent across the board. Older donor conceived people are denied access to their donors and half siblings information, making them feel like the least considered person in the situation. The ART act needs to be amended to work retrospectively and give ALL donor conceived people EQUAL rights to their donors and half siblings IDENTIFYING information. These changes should reflect the proposed changes to the ART act in Victoria.

**Licensing Scheme:**

**3. Please comment on the dissolution of the SA Council on Reproductive Technology and its Code of Ethical Clinical Practice.:**

**4. Please comment on the effectiveness and operation of the legislation regarding access to assisted reproductive treatment in South Australia. In particular, the conditions set out in the Act and in the regulations that relate to the circumstances in which, and to whom, A.R.T. may be provided.:**

**5. Please comment on the effectiveness and operation of the Act in relation to it providing for the establishment of a donor conception register.:** A donor conception register is of upmost importance in this situation, however, it should be a MANDATORY register that must be kept up to date for donors and social parents and then the donor conceived child when they turn 18. Donors should be able to access information about their offspring, offspring should be able to access information about their donors AND half siblings and social parents should be able to access information about their childs donor and half siblings. ALL donor conceived people should be able to request information. As a donor conceived person I can't tell you how frustrating it is to know that the person I am on the phone to can see my donors name, know everything about him, yet I am not 'allowed' to know this, I am not entitled to medical history or any information that will enable me to complete my self identity. The donors medical history should absolutely be a mandatory requirement for the register. The donor should be expected to update his medical history regularly and be contacted every 5-10 years to do so.

**6. Please comment on the effectiveness and operation of provisions within the Act for record keeping and confidentiality.:** With the introduction of online DNA testing averaging at about \$100 per test, anonymity (and the confidentiality that clinics promised so long ago) is truly gone. Donor conceived people are now able to find their donors and half siblings without the help of the clinics that helped create them. The Government needs to stop clinging to archaic

laws and understand that donor conceived people are a determined group, armed with enough information and DNA results they will be able to find their donors eventually. If a man is donating sperm for the purpose of creating a human life, I think it is highly irresponsible and naive for this person to think that one day their biological child may come looking for them.

**Any Other Matter:** All donor conceived people should have this noted on their birth certificate, similar to adoptees i.e. when they apply for their birth certificate they should be advised that there is more information available should they wish to view it. At this point in time, birth certificates are a false representation of a donor conceived persons biological heritage. Unfortunately, it is not a certificate of who loved and raised you.

Cheers

**Kate Walker**

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