

The logo for 'yourSAy' is displayed in a stylized font. The 'y' is lowercase and the 'SAy' is uppercase. The background of the logo is a grayscale photograph of a group of people, possibly a family, smiling and interacting.

Online Submission Form for the review of the Assisted Reproductive Treatment Act 1988 (SA)

Contact Details

Contact Name: Mrs Rosalie Dow-Schmidt

Contact Address1: [REDACTED]

Contact Address2:

Suburb: [REDACTED]

Postcode: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Preliminary Data

What is your association to assisted reproductive treatment?: Currently
in the process of using ART

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.: This seems like an appropriate position. However, I am unclear who is in charge of decision-making about what constitutes the best welfare for children? Particularly, it

seems that the current laws position gay, lesbian, and single parents as being not in the best interest of the child. What is to prevent future regulations from preventing people access to ART based on race, class, etc.?

2. Please comment upon the replacement of the previous licensing scheme with a registration scheme for A.R.T. clinics

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.: My partner and I have recently been approved to use ART in South Australia. I say approved, because as a lesbian couple we quite literally we had to undergo testing to find something "wrong" with us so we could be deemed medically infertile. This is quite different from other states, who allow those who are "socially infertile" to access ART. This system means that for couples like us, accessing ART is made far more difficult than it should be. We are made by the law to feel like second class citizens. We are placed in the sickening situation of asking family and friends to pray that our bodies will be defective, just enough to be allowed to have a baby, but not so much as to be unable to have one. We are currently celebrating because we have a low egg count, and won't have to travel to Melbourne for all IVF appointments. This act of gate-keeping should not be seen as anything other than discriminatory.

5. Please comment on the effectiveness and operation of the Act in relation to it providing for the establishment of a donor conception register.:

6. Please comment on the effectiveness and operation of provisions within the Act for record keeping and confidentiality.:

Any Other Matter:



Government of
South Australia