

Kathryn Williams
Homebirth Midwife

14th April 2011

RE: Senate Inquiry into the **administration of health practitioner registration by the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)** – in particular Home birth Midwife Registration.

Home birth is a safe and legitimate choice for women in Australia. Women must retain control and choice over their bodies during the birthing process to uphold basic human rights. Women must have choice to birth where and with or without whom she chooses.

Registered Midwives' are currently being treated in an unjust manner, with their registration being immediately removed WITHOUT any investigation or process of evidence. This has massive implications for the midwife (source of income, career) and their clients (left without their care-provider).

The process is currently totally unacceptable, unfair, unjust and unethical. A midwife must have rights to a defence before having conditions placed on his/her registration.

I ask that you restore fairness and a proper system of investigation before any conditions are placed on any midwife's registration.

Yours Sincerely,

Kathryn Williams