

Inquiry into donor conception in Australia

Dear Senators,

I am writing to you as a professional educator and aunt of a donor conceived child. I would like you to consider this submission when reviewing the inquiry in donor conception in Australia.

Suggestions:

- The establishment of a National Donor Conception Registry is paramount in ensuring the ongoing service provided is professional and ethical.
- This Registry should record all pregnancies and births (related to donor sperm/eggs)
- This information should be made available to all concerned parties (in a confidential non-identifying format)
- All donors must have an identification tag associated with their submission. This ID must be uniform across the nation and only 1 number per donor (regardless of the clinic) should be allocated.

Conclusion:

It is imperative that donor conceived children have access to information regarding their identity. This is a basic human right and important for the ongoing development of the child's identity and place in the world. In my experience, the parents of donor conceived children are open and honest with their children regarding their conception. It is not considered a dark secret. Access to donor information (if the donor has agreed to it) is the bare minimum required to ensure the same rights are afforded to all children in Australia regardless of their conception story.