

Legislation Committee

From: Rosemarie Pol [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April 2019 8:51 PM
To: Legislation Committee
Subject: Submission to Inquiry into Human Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Legislation Amendment Bill 2018

Dear Members of the Standing Committee on Legislation,

I am writing to address your inquiry into the *Human Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Legislation Amendment Bill 2018*, which I understand will amend the *Human Reproductive Technology Act 1991* and the *Surrogacy Act 2008* to enable male same-sex couples and single men to access surrogacy.

I am not in favour of the amendment to these Acts for several reasons:

- I don't believe a woman's body should be a 'rentable' commodity
- The focus seems to be too much on the so-called 'equal rights' for males in a same-sex relationship, rather than on the rights of the children who have no say about the matter. Instead they will grow up with confused family relationships, with potentially a birth mother and a genetic mother, a genetic father and a social father (the partner of the genetic father), and other such possibilities. A children has a right to grow up in a family where they have a mother and a father, instead of all kinds of confusing constructs of parental relationships.
- In its current form the law will create a double standard, placing restrictions on women but not on men. Women would still need to meet the criteria of 'medical reasons' to access surrogacy, but men, who are unable biologically to give birth to children, will have no restrictions, creating 'unequal' rights between men and women.

Please consider these matters carefully, as the family unit has such a profound impact on society.

Yours faithfully,

Rosemarie Pol
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]