

Australian Law Reform Commission: Adolescent & Young Adult Feedback

I am making this submission to contribute to the Australian Law Reform Commission's review of Australian surrogacy laws, policies, and practices.

1. I am 13 years old.

2. I was born via surrogacy:

- in Australia
 Overseas

3. I was born with the help of:

- Egg Donor Neither
 Sperm Donor
 Both

4. What are some good things about being born through surrogacy?

You get to bring joy to people who are your parents who could not have children otherwise

5. Describe any tricky or difficult times you've had because you were born through surrogacy?

No, apart from my birth, but that was out of anyone's control.

6. Should there be more education about surrogacy in schools and the media? Why?

There should be more education, like a tertiary subject or club to raise recognition for the cause.

7. When a child is born through surrogacy, should their parents be legally recognised straight away (currently they are not)? Explain why.

They should be recognised, as they will be doing the parenting and caring for the child for at least the next 18 years, and should be recognised legally for this.

8. In Australia, a surrogate is allowed to change their mind about handing over the baby to the parents. What do you think of that?

I have mixed feelings about this, as the birth parent has given birth to the baby, and has carried it for months, but the other parents have been waiting, while the birth parent can have other kids, the other parents can't have kids, and it may be months or years for the other parents to find another surrogate.

9. In Australia, surrogates and donors are not allowed to be paid. What do you think of that?

I feel like the surrogate should be allowed to a certain amount of money, but they should also have the right to refuse the payment.

10. Is there anything else you want to share about surrogacy and the rules around it?

No, thank you for the opportunity to state my feelings about this matter.