



ACART Submission
Barry Smith
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To:

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I'm sorry, but because of a heavy work load this past several weeks (I know – we're all in this state), I have inadvertently missed the deadline for comment around the Surrogacy Review.

However, I commend ACART for carrying out a review of these guidelines which is timely and, moreover, ACART has done a very good job in its consultation document (that deals with a complex and emotionally laden aspect of human life) of 'cutting to the chase' and succinctly describing and elucidating the key components of the arguments for change.

I support the suggested changes across the board but especially on the following grounds.

- (1) Arguments around the need to focus on the principle of equality while not generating harm to those either external or internal to the process is well established and supportable.
- (2) The dimensions of fidelity and integrity are important elements when devising guidelines where the key motivation is to support and protect those in the population who have a genuine justification for access to technology and processes in order to fulfil a fundamental need for which conventional options have been persistently unhelpful.
- (3) In terms of 'protecting' whakapapa, and of following the principle of 'compressing' and carefully delineating the acceptable 'use' of genetic material, ACART's position also seems sound.
- (4) Given the possible changes to the definition of marriage, and the research evidence around the impacts on children of same-sex carers, there seems little basis to argue against the nature of the suggested changes.

Best regards
Barry

Barry Smith (Dr)

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