

**Submission
No 8**

MANAGING INFORMATION RELATED TO DONOR CONCEPTION

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON LAW AND SAFETY
MANAGING INFORMATION RELATED TO DONOR CONCEPTION
SUBMISSION BY THE

INTERNATIONAL DONOR OFFSPRING ALLIANCE

Summary of Aims

We assert that people have a moral right to know the truth about their personal history. Where the state has custody of relevant information it has a duty not to collude in deceiving or depriving individuals of such information.

It follows that:

The truth about a donor-conceived person's genetic and social parentage should be freely available to them, regardless of when they were conceived.

Donor-conceived adults should have retrospective access to their donor's identifying information.

The International Donor Offspring Alliance "IDOA"

IDOA was formed in 2007. It exists to act as an advocate for those conceived through the use of donor gametes: eggs or sperm. It has members from Australia, UK, New Zealand, US, Canada, France, and Japan; they include both donor offspring and academics and social work practitioners who have a professional interest in the field.

What we believe

IDOA believes that everyone has the right to know the truth about their own life and that that includes the manner of their conception and the identity of their biological parents. Where the state is involved in providing or regulating donor conception, it must not cause, promote or collude in deceiving people or depriving them of information about their own origins; nor may it discriminate against particular groups in terms of the provision of significant information about their own lives. It follows that donor-conceived adults should have retrospective access to their donor's identifying information.

IDOA believes that retrospective access to identifying information is paramount, and that all other terms of the inquiry are subordinate to this principle. Donor-conceived people had no choice regarding the manner of their conception and must not be denied the truth about their personal history based on agreements to which they were not party.