

MEDIA RELEASE
CONSIDERING SURROGACY – THE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS.

Individuals and couples who cannot otherwise conceive a child naturally now have access to a range of different services to achieve their dream of having children, such as IVF, adoption and surrogacy.

Along with emotional and financial implications, consideration must also be given to the legal implications before they choose the surrogacy path.

From 1 June 2010, the *Surrogacy Act 2010* established a regulatory framework which enables infertile parent(s) who are otherwise unable to conceive children themselves, the ability to utilise surrogacy with a view to eventually obtaining a Court Order permitting them to be named as the child/ren's parent(s) on the birth certificate.

However, the regulatory pathway to obtain that Court Order is difficult, costly, and somewhat rigid in its timeframes – adherence to which, if not followed, may lead to an inability for the Court to make the Parenting Orders.

Brisbane Family Law Centre (BFLC) will be holding a free information session on Tuesday, 29 November 2011 to provide some answers for anyone considering surrogacy. The session will cover matters such as:

- The basics of the Surrogacy Act;
- The steps necessary to obtain a Parentage Order;
- Options available if a Parentage Order cannot be obtained or is not wanted;
- What experience or skills are required for someone to provide counselling or medical assistance under the Act;
- What is illegal in relation to surrogacy and tips to avoid liability.



The image is a promotional banner for the Brisbane Family Law Centre (BFLC). On the left, the BFLC logo is displayed in orange and black on a white brick background. The text 'BRISBANE FAMILY LAW CENTRE' is written in bold black letters, with a small icon of a family (two adults and a child) under the word 'LAW'. To the right of the logo is a red brick wall with the yellow graffiti-style text 'START YOUR NEW LIFE WITH US'. Below the wall is the website address 'www.brisbanefamilylawcentre.com.au'. On the far right, contact information is listed in white text on a black background: '10 Albion Road, Albion Qld 4010', 'Ph: 07 3862 1955', 'Fx: 07 3862 1255', and 'info@bflc.com.au'. Below this is the name 'Director: Clarissa Rayward BA LLB' and the ABN '17 130966317'. At the bottom of the banner, a red bar contains the text 'a SPECIALIST FAMILY LAW FIRM focusing on collaborative law, mediation and out of Court dispute resolution' in white.

The session will be held from 6pm at the offices of BFLC, a boutique law firm specializing in family law matters, at 10 Albion Road. Places are limited so please contact BFLC on telephone 3862 1955 or email alex@bflc.com.au to reserve your place. For further information on surrogacy and family relationships generally, see our website at www.brisbanefamilylawcentre.com.au.

Issued: 24 November 2011

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About BFLC

Brisbane Family Law Centre is a boutique law firm specializing in family law matters, with offices located at 10 Albion Road, Albion. The firm focuses on collaborative law, mediation and out of Court dispute resolution.

Telephone: 07 3862 1955

Email: info@bflc.com.au

Website: www.brisbanefamilylawcentre.com.au