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## Fwd: Our Surrogacy Journey for consideration in the surrogacy review

Sonia Allan [drsoniaallan@gmail.com]

To: [HRTSR](#)

Submission below - Greg Chang

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From: **Greg Chang** [REDACTED]  
Date: 21 April 2018 at 22:08  
Subject: Our Surrogacy Journey for consideration in the surrogacy review  
To: "[drsoniaallan@gmail.com](mailto:drsoniaallan@gmail.com)" <[drsoniaallan@gmail.com](mailto:drsoniaallan@gmail.com)>

Hi Dr Allan,

Thank you so much for taking part in the surrogacy act 2008 WA Review. It was a pleasure meeting up with you on Friday 20th April, here in Perth Western Australia.

I have submitted the following story of our journey as part of the Gay Dads WA submission. As discussed yesterday, I am including it for your use/ reference.

To Whom it may concern,

Ever since I held my one-month-old twin nephews, when I was 19yo, I instinctively knew I wanted to be a parent. Being a gay man, I knew it was going to be tough. I never met any gay man that was interested in becoming a parent, perhaps I was not in the right crowd or have not been dating the right person.

Many years later, it was getting apparent to me that my biological clock was ticking and potentially running out. I gave myself a deadline of 40yo for my parenthood to occur. It was an arbitrary age, but something that made more sense to me as I did not want to be a dad to teenagers when I was in my late 50's or 60's. It was becoming progressively harder with each date I went on. Fortunately, at 35, I met my partner, Mark, where this topic was discussed on our first date. After many discussions, it was decided that we would embark on our parenting journey.

In 2010, we reviewed what was available to us to fulfill our dream to become parents. We looked at adoption, fostering, finding a female friend to help us on this journey. Many of these options were difficult to achieve as we are gay men. We searched through the several options in depth. The number of babies that were available for adoption was really low < 100 for opposite-sexed couples; let alone to gay males. The only couple that we knew of that were successful, we heard on the news. And, that was because the gay male couple knew the birth mother. Fostering was something that whilst we would have entertained the idea, the very thought that the child/ren could return to their legal guardian, was just too much to bear. Finding a female friend or acquaintance to help us in our quest proved challenging. Our circle of female friends were already embarking on their personal journey to become parents. It was through this searching that it consolidated for us that we would want our own biological children and, that we would be the primary parents.

After many countless hours spent researching we found that overseas commercial surrogacy was the only way forward for us.