

I would like to start by simply saying “ditto” to submission no. 4. As someone in a similar situation it resonated with me in a way that only someone in our position could truly understand or appreciate. I can only strongly endorse everything that was said.

I am the mother of two children with significant disabilities. A daughter 19 and a son 17. My daughter recently had a Mirena inserted in the hope that her periods would cease. To date this doesn't unfortunately appear to be working. The pill was not an option as she simply wouldn't take it and we have enough difficulty getting her Epilepsy medication in daily.

My daughter is non verbal, has a significant intellectual disability, autism and cerebral palsy and has extremely challenging behaviours. She needs help with all aspects of personal care and is totally reliant on us for all her needs. Why does she need to go through having a period monthly when we have the ability to do something about it. Surely she has enough to deal with. What is so wrong about trying to improve her life and our families life. How in heavens name would she be able to look after someone else were she to fall pregnant when she is incapable of looking after herself. . Please direct your energies towards making their lives better.

Our children's lives and our lives are compromised to a degree I hope you never have to experience. We love our children and want nothing but the very best for them and we are the ones who know them best. We would just like each case to be based on its merits without all this judgement. This should be a matter between the families their doctors and the person with a disability, not with people unconnected with our lives. Having to front a panel of people with no knowledge of us to “plead our case” is demeaning.

Please support us. There are many other loving families out there in a similar position.

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