

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday 25 January 2011

The Face of Birth: Where the Personal Gets Political

On Saturday 10th March 2011, Pregnancy Birth and Beyond will host the inaugural NSW Screening of the documentary 'The Face of Birth: Where the Personal Gets Political'.

Three years in the making, and filmed across the globe from London to Alice Springs, The Face of Birth is a moving documentary with vital information for anyone considering giving birth in Australia today. The Face of Birth traces the experiences of a diverse group of Australian women, laying bare the facts about home birth and challenging the myths currently proliferating Australian society.

The Face of Birth includes interviews with more than 25 of the world's top birth experts, including the famed author Sheila Kitzinger, founder of modern midwifery in the USA, Ina May Gaskin and Australian pro home birth obstetricians Euan Wallace and Andrew Bisits. The Face of Birth aims to separate the facts from the fiction in relation to the politics, risks, safety and fear in birth.

Taking place at Event Cinemas Parramatta, the screening will be preceded by drinks and canapés in the Gold Class lounge. Following the film, guests will be joined by a host of prominent Australians, who will share their experiences and knowledge of the highly political and deeply personal topic that is home birth. Speakers include:

- Noni Hazelhurst: Iconic Australian actress, ambassador and patron for numerous child welfare organisations, and proud home birth mother
- Dr Andrew Bisits FRACOG: Senior Staff Specialist at the Royal Hospital for Women, Sydney and major statistical and epidemiological consultant for the Mothers and Babies Research Centre
- Associate Professor Hannah Dahlen: Australia's leading midwifery researcher, internationally renowned midwifery scholar, and member of the NSW Health Department's, Maternal and Perinatal Health Priority Taskforce
- Kate Gorman: Actress of stage and screen, award winning writer, director and producer, and proud home birth mother
- Gavin Banks: Leading Australian director and producer, founder of boutique production company GoodEyeDeer, and director of The BirthRite Experience and Safely into Water

The Face of Birth: Where the Personal Gets Political:

Saturday 10 March 2011: from 7:30 pm

Event Cinemas Parramatta: Level 4, 159-175 Church Street

Tickets \$27.50: Available online at <u>www.pregnancy.com.au</u> or by calling 1300 MIDWYF (1300 643 993)

For more information on the Face of Birth screening please contact Jane directly.

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