Entry type: Organisation
Entry ID: AWE1118

Children By Choice Association Incorporated

(1972 -)

Born	19720101, Brisbane Queensland Australia
Occupation	Women's Reproductive Health Service

Summary

A lobby group that promotes women's sexual and reproductive health choices in relation to unplanned pregnancy, Children by Choice (CbyC) was established in 1972 as an offshoot of the Queensland branch of the Abortion Law Reform Association (ALRA), to offer family planning advice and counselling to women confronted by the reality of an unplanned pregnancy. At this time, legislation dating back to 1899 criminalised abortion and most Queensland women had to travel interstate to obtain one. This legal reality led to staff at CbyC expanding their range of activities to include offering counselling and medical referral services to doctors at St Anne's Hospital in Sydney. By 1975 CbyC had developed a package deal with Ansett Airlines and Population Services International (PSI) to help women to travel to Sydney for abortions. It was not the original intention for CbyC to become an abortion referral service, but this became the Association's best known activity at that early point in its history.

Despite having bricks thrown through the windows of their premises and their funding slashed periodically throughout the last three decades, CbyC have continued to provide essential counselling services to the women of Queensland. 'The survival of Children by Choice has been a story of struggle and sacrifice.'

Published resources

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

Mitchell and Dixson Libraries Manuscripts Collection
Julia Trubridge-Freebury further papers, 1960s-2004

Fryer Library, The University of Queensland
Ephemera relating to women's movement organisations

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