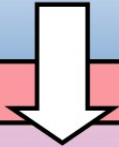


# How does the law surrounding surrogacy need reforming in the UK?

## What is surrogacy?

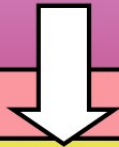
When a surrogate mother carries a baby for the intended parents



## What is the UK's current stance on surrogacy?

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990: the surrogate is the legal mother, intended parents must apply for a parental order.

Surrogacy Arrangements Act 1985: bans commercial surrogacy, surrogacy arrangements are not legally binding.



## Why does the current system need reform?

Applying for a parental order is strenuous, "expenses reasonably incurred" creates confusion. There is the risk that the surrogate will change her mind and want to keep the baby as surrogacy agreements are not contractual. The laws are overall outdated.

## International Surrogacy– Why do so many travel abroad?

There are professional services in places like the US and India, unlike the UK whose surrogacy agencies are minimal. They enter legal contracts which they can rely on in court. There is more safeguarding and legal certainty abroad, this emphasises the need for change.



## Reforms that are needed:

- Legal parents should be resolved at a parental order before birth
- Payment provisions made should be confirmed in legislation
- There should be a more clear and transparent legal process, which would require safeguards, such as counselling and legal advice

By Aliyah, Megan, Lilly, Brodie and Shannon