

CHILDREN BILL

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Ten things you need to know about the new Children Bill:

1. **THE PERSONAL DETAILS OF YOUR CHILD** will be put on to a **database**. **This is not just about children at risk of abuse.**
2. **CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION** about **YOUR CHILD** will be shared amongst a lot of people and organisations. The Bill will force them to do this and **even your GP** will have to comply.
3. **CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION** about **YOU** will also be shared on the database.
4. The "information" does not have to be "facts". People must report their "**concerns**" about your child and you. The Government says that things like poor SATs results or low birth weight should be a "concern". **THERE DOES NOT HAVE TO BE EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT A "CONCERN"**.
5. **YOU WILL NOT KNOW IF INFORMATION IS SHARED. YOU WILL NOT KNOW WHAT INFORMATION IS SHARED. YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO CORRECT MISTAKES.**
6. **YOU WON'T KNOW WHO HAS ACCESS TO THE DATABASE AND HOW THEY MIGHT USE THE INFORMATION.** All databases can be hacked and it's easy for information to end up in the wrong hands - would you put your child's details on the Internet? The Government wants to.
7. **A lot of people will share and access the information:** schools, doctors and nurses, hospitals, social workers, housing benefit, police, Connexions - and plenty more besides that.
8. **The database will be accessible - and hackable - on a national level.**
9. The Government has a dreadful record on maintaining the **security** and **accuracy** of large databases. This database will be **DANGEROUS** to **YOUR CHILD** and to the children this Bill is meant to protect - those who are abused or at risk of harm.
10. Did you know we are short of thousands of social workers? **Protecting children does not need a database. The money would be better spent on social workers to carry out the jobs they are trained to do.**

DO YOU WANT STRANGERS TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOUR CHILD?

TAKE ACTION NOW - WRITE TO YOUR MP!

More information and sample letter at: www.arch-ed.org

The logo for ARCH (Action on Rights for Children) features the word "ARCH" in a stylized, handwritten-style font. The letters are white and set against a dark grey background that has a subtle horizontal gradient.

Action on Rights for Children