

Dear Sir/Madam,

I believe it is blatant sexual discrimination to continue to apply the GST to sanitary napkins and tampons. These items are essential purchases for a large proportion of the population, and relate to non-negotiable biological functioning. To me, this ruling represents an archaic attitude to women which holds that menstruation is a woman's 'problem', to be borne by her, and that the rest of society should not be burdened by it. Of course, menstruation is an intricate part of the perpetuation of the whole of our society, and is not separate from it. This archaic, sexist attitude has also failed to factor in domestic duties to the GDP, and has forced women to sacrifice such things as superannuation payments, relative financial independence and career progression, in order to reproduce.

In the context of items that the GST does not apply to, such as tea and coffee - hardly true necessities - the GST on sanitary products becomes even more insupportable.

Yours sincerely,

Velvet Kay.