

(...)



26th March 2011

The Committee Secretary,  
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs,  
P.O. Box 6100,  
Parliament House,  
Canberra, ACT 2600,  
Australia.

Dear Sir / M.s,

Please find enclosed my submission to the Senate Standing Committees inquiry into former forced adoption policies and practices.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

(...)

Rita M. Carroll

## SUBMISSION

I submit:

That any inquiry into forced adoptions must include consideration of the document:

Releasing the Past

Adoption Practices 1950 – 1998

Final Report

From the New South Wales. Parliament. Legislative Council. Standing Committee on Social Issues. Ordered to be printed 8 December 2000 – Parliamentary Paper No. 600.

That such consideration should be given specifically to:

- Paras 1.20 re experiences of witnesses which are not necessarily experiences of others affected by adoption
- 5.48 re accuracy of allegations, and the limited evidence available to support such allegations.
- 7.81 re anecdotal evidence of excessive drug doses for unmarried mothers which evidence is unable to be substantiated and/or compared with standard drug doses for married women.
- 7.91 re inability to substantiate claims concerning "rapid adoption".
- 10.71)
- 10.72)
- 10.73) re proof of latent injury resulting from a claimed forced adoption
- 10.91 re best interests of the child to be paramount
- 10.95 re negative effects of abolition of adoption
- 10.96 re claims made concerning lifelong trauma caused by adoption; these claims are not applicable to all people involved in adoption.

I submit:

That in any such inquiry, consideration needs to be given to:

- (a) the case of *Arthur v State of Queensland* (2004) QSC 456 where a breach of fiduciary duty is claimed, and
- (b) the findings of the Supreme Court of Queensland in this case (encl).

I submit:

That, furthermore, extracts from the findings of a Background Paper for the Minister of Community and Health Services on Issues relating to Historical Adoption Practices in Tasmania, should also be considered.

This paper was prepared by published by Ann Cunningham. LLB (Hons) on 4<sup>th</sup> December, 1996 (encl).

Rita M. Carroll

(...)

Signed 26th March 2011