

25 January 2006



children grow from good beginnings

Mrs Barbara Perry MP
Chair
NSW Parliamentary Committee on
Children and Young People
Parliament House
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Dear Mrs Perry

Re: Inquiry into Children, Young People and the Built Environment

I read with interest the Committee's Issues Papers relating to this Inquiry. As the National Director of a National Charity, *Good Beginnings* Australia, providing support to children 0-8 years and their families, I support many of the recommendations relating to the involvement by children and young people in the design of schools and community services.

Good Beginnings has worked with children to assist in designing and community facility including a skateboard ramp, a BMX bike track and a children's playground. This facility had minimal damage once completed, and the children felt a strong sense of ownership.

We are also working with a developer to assist them in designing child friendly shopping centres – again we will seek opinions from children.

I fully support the strategy that engages with children and young people with relation to the built environment.

I wish the Committee well on its deliberations and hopefully there will be a change of policy as a result of your findings.

Yours sincerely

Barbara Wellesley
National Director
Good Beginnings Australia

National Patrons

Rosemary Sinclair AO

The Hon Warwick Smith

National Goodwill
Ambassadors

Debra Adelaide

Melissa Cariton OAM

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Prof Kim Oates AM

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