

Submission

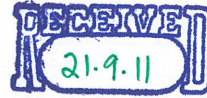
No 1

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ACCOMMODATION IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Leisa Ross

Date Received: 21/09/2011

19/09/2011



The Committee Manager

Social Policy Committee

Parliament House

Macquarie St, Sydney NSW 2000

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing regarding the Inquiry into International Student Accommodation.

I believe there is most likely a gap in the investigation and policing with regards to illegal and inappropriate operations of boarding houses. I think the confusion lies in the definition of a boarding house. A boarding house is a house at which board or board and lodging may be obtained for payment. Most investigations to date seem to focus on boarding houses where the owners are not occupants.

I would appreciate the inquiry to also include cases where property owners actually live on the premises and still cram as many students as possible into their home. I have personally seen a landowner in our villa complex create extra rooms in her home by placing wardrobes and curtains to divide each space. Initially she had internal gyprock walls placed in different rooms to create extra rooms but we were able to stop this through the powers of strata due to her not receiving permission to make changes to common property walls. She has therefore now divided these spaces using wardrobes and curtains.

The local councils have difficulty policing this type of arrangement, because the owner actually resides there too. What I have been told by a City of Ryde employee is that they can't police or take action as it is just like anyone at home inviting people to stay over their house – i.e. no-one can stop you inviting as many people over to stay at your home.

Regards,

Mrs Leisa Ross