

INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL ASSAULT MATTERS

Terms of Reference

The Standing Committee on Law and Justice is to inquire into and report on:

The circumstances surrounding the prosecution of child sexual assault matters, including:

- (1) communication between the police and the complainant, and the complainant and the prosecution concerning the consequences of pursuing a prosecution for child sexual assault;
- (2) the role of sexual assault counsellors in the complaint process
- (3) the impact of the application of the rules of evidence, other legislative provisions and court practices in prosecutions for child sexual assault offences
- (4) alternative procedures for the prosecution of child sexual assault matters including alternative models for the punishment of offenders
- (5) possible civil responses to perpetrators and victims of child sexual assault
- (6) appropriate methods of sustaining ongoing dialogue between the community, government and non-government agencies about issues of common concern with respect to child sexual assault; and
- (7) any related matter concerning approaches to child sexual assault in the justice system.

Closing date for submissions is Friday 15 February 2002