

**INQUIRY INTO COMMUNITY BASED SENTENCING
OPTIONS FOR RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS AND
DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS**

Organisation:

Name: Name suppressed

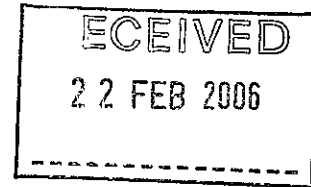
Telephone:

Date Received: 22/02/2006

Partially Confidential

To The Chair of Standing on Law & Justice

Attention: Christine Robertson



I am writing to you in relation to the inquiry into community based sentencing options. Please accept my late submissions.

I understand as a part of this inquiry you are looking into the viability of 'Back-End Home Detention'.

I feel that back end home detention is beneficial and an excellent transition for long term inmates blending back into the community.

My Husband [redacted] is an inmate at Kirk Connell Correction Centre and has a current classification as a C3 inmate, this means has he comes home on a fortnightly basis on the weekend. He has been incarcerated since 2nd August 2002, his earliest release date is 2nd Feb 2007.

If the option of back end home detention was available for my husband, I know that this would be a great benefit not only to his health, but to our family; we have 3 children, aged 12yrs, 7yrs and 4 yrs old, the youngest was 10months old when [redacted] was incarcerated. He has not been able to grow up with his father at home; all 3 of our boys have been greatly missing out on the father's influence that is needed by all children.

We greatly appreciate the current program he is on, as he is able to slowly get used to life at home, and to the routine of the community, this has been able to assist the whole family in functioning as a unit again. I feel that back end home detention is a perfect next step to get used to the every day life at home and being a full time parent again. This would also help me as well as I am working full time and having to raise our 3 boys on my own, if [redacted] was at home I know I would not have to carry the cost of Childcare as they would be able to come home after school and our youngest would not have to go to pre-school full time. [redacted] being incarcerated is very hard financially as well as emotionally, on the whole family.

[redacted] has also been very ill whilst in gaol, if he was home he would be able to receive professional treatment, he would also be able to be on a diet that would ease his condition.

While in gaol [redacted] waited 8 months for an URGENT haemorrhoidectomy, which was supposed to be done in 2 weeks, but corrections health kept on re-scheduling it, [redacted] was bleeding every day while waiting, he is now anaemic due to the constant blood loss which has also exasperated all his other ailments, from his heart to the Gastro Intestinal Reflux Disease. Doctors have recommended that he wear a halter monitor to be able to properly diagnose him, they have also said he needs an angiogram, but while in gaol this won't be able to be done. If [redacted] was on home detention he would be able to have all these tests done by a Doctor; not only that his condition in the first place would not have become so detrimental to his health.

Home detention is a more financially viable option for the Government as well. They do not have to feed, clothe, house or look after the health care of the inmate. It would cost Corrections a lot less money to monitor the inmate via ankle bracelet than to hire Officers to guard the gaols. I know that my Husband and I would gladly pay for the Ankle bracelet, if he was able to do his sentence at home.

We appreciate Law and Justice in looking into this option and feel that for inmates like my husband whom are serving a long term out of the community and who have gone through the rigorous interviews to have been trusted to be classified as a C3, and who have a supportive family unit on the out side, should be able to have the option of serving the back end of their sentence in their home environment. If in the future you are looking at doing any case studies on home detention, I believe my husband would be a perfect candidate.

I thank you for your time and attention to my submissions.

Regards