

Submission
No 235

**INQUIRY INTO THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS AND
PRISON-RELATED SERVICES**

Name: Mrs Kate Fitzpatrick-Kassar
Date received: 26/02/2009

THE DISGRACE OF PRIVITISATION

Perhaps if Mr Woodham had stepped down at a more appropriate time the profession as a whole would not be in such a dire mess as it is today, according to him.

HIS USE BY DATE HAS WELL AND TRULY EXPIRED.

I found his recent media statement regarding him/ the department not having control over officers and escapes being attributed to them watching T,V., playing video games laughable to say the least. Where in the stuff is his coal face management? Exactly how many escapes have there been? Under what exact circumstance and over what time frame? MORE INFORMATION IS ESSENTIAL.

This man appears to lack all conscience or dignity.... He needs to step down or be health quested immediately.

He is obviously ineffectual and inadequate as head of this department if as he is stating these things occurred on his watch.

The old Australian jargon of "ignorance is bliss", or Aussie apathy is long time dead. In fact more & more we demand and need to be more fully informed and consulted than ever.

DECISIONS SUCH AS PRISON PRIVITISATION ARE REQUIRED TO BE PUT TO A REFERENDUM...NOT MERELY TO A VOTE BY THE MORTALS OF PARLIAMENT; WHOSE AGENDAS ARE UNEXPLAINED AND THEREFORE UNKNOWN.

This matter HAS to be put fully and AS A MATTER OF URGENCY TO THE VOTING PUBLIC. After all this truly is our community and social decision to make!

"The Voting Public" being all inclusive of... Victims Of Crime, their families & friends, Inmates, their families & friends, Welfare , Social & Religious Groups & their families & friends, ... NOT TO MENTION simple old you and me, all our families, friends and neighbours.

Should this idiotic proposal proceed WHO IS GOING TO TAKE CARE OF:- Self Harmers, Mental Health Patients, Acute Crisis Patients, Drug Addicted Patients and Methadone, etc. Drug dispensing and Rehabilitation Programs, Education, Courts, Bails, Paroles, Inmate Transport, Periodic Detention Centres, Industries, Nursing posts, Receptionist and Secretarial posts...etc. etc.....I.E. ALL CURRENT INFRASTRUCTURES ????

WHO IS GOING TO BE THE BACKBONE OF SAFEGUARDING THE PUBLIC?

PRISON OFFICERS ARE NOT JUST GUARDS....DOES THE GENERAL PUBLIC ACTUALLY KNOW ALL THEY DO?

IN FACT DO THESE SO CALLED DECISION MAKERS ACTUALLY KNOW THEMSELVES ????????

FAIR GO N.S.W. PARLIAMENT.

WE, JOE PUBLIC WANT TO AND NEED TO HAVE A SAY IN THESE PRIVITISATION MATTERS.... AND INDEED THE FINAL SAY.

I SAY ABSOLUTELY NO. NO. NO. NO.!!!!!!!!!

Many a fine officer has been injured or died in the line of duty even after the Department's mega bucks of training. I am not willing to trust an unknown quantity with the welfare of all those I hold dear nor my wider community.

Are the private contractors going to be educated, trained and willing enough to put their lives on the line everyday as our men and women in blue do now????
Namely will THEY man that Oh so thin blue line between Mr, Mrs and Family Public and "The Inmates" with the current integrity, ethic and dedication?

BLUE AND GREEN SHOULD NEVER BE SEEN UNLESS THERE IS SOMETHING
IN BETWEEN!

Our men and women in blue manning the prisons and courts so professionally right now are the "in between" and thank God to date they do it brilliantly. They are protecting us every second of every day right now – think about that please.

Walk a mile in their shoes!!

This without doubt is a public interest matter, put the whole picture to the General Public and let us make the decision that is ours to make...NO BULLDOZING ANYMORE.

THIS DECISION MORALLY, ETHICALLY, LOGICALLY AND RIGHTFULLY BELONGS TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC NOT TO BUREAUCRATIC BULLYING.

WOULD I EVER VOTE FOR THE PARTY PRO PRISON PRIVITISATION?

No
No
No
No
No
NEVER!

Yours sincerely and proudly,

KATE FITZPATRICK - KASSAR