

Submission
No 306

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

Name: Ms Bev Smiles

Date received: 2/03/2009

The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3
Parliament House
Macquarie St
Sydney NSW 2000

Submission to
The privatisation of prisons and prison-related services (Inquiry).

Dear Sir/Madam

I object to the NSW Government's plans to privatise both Cessnock and Parklea prisons because there has not been enough independent research on the performance of private prisons in Australia. It is a major risk to allow further private management of prisons before such research is carry out and the findings considered.

There are a number of problems relating to the management of private prisons. I believe there is a higher rate of assaults on both prisoners and prison officers than publicly operated prisons.

I also believe the standard of care for prisoners in privately operated prisons is not as high as in public prisons.

Privatisation of Cessnock Prison will result in less jobs in our local area. I don't believe that the state economy will benefit from this additional sale of public property.

Bev Smiles