

Submission
No 259

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 2/03/2009

Partially Confidential

To whom it may concern,

With concern, I write to you as a professional and advocate of human rights. There are many concerns that I have in relation to the privatisation of Parklea and Cessnock prisons. However, history has taught us that private gaols around the world breeds corruption and aberrant behaviour.

As the process of managing inmates is removed from a system with a high level of public accountability, we can expect a decline in the level of transparency. If people think the system is hard to scrutinise now, under the current Commissioner, they will have almost no effective means of doing so under a private firm. It will be very very difficult to protect the rights of either inmates or staff.

Privatisation of prisons should NOT be about saving money. This Government has been broke for years. It is the mismanagement of money that has led to the option of privatising gaols being tabled. How about you fix the problem of money mismanagement first? Don't make others pay for your incompetence.

Thanking you for listening to me.