

Submission
No 3

INQUIRY INTO SPENT CONVICTIONS FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Organisation: NSW State Parole Authority
Name: Mr Paul Byrnes
Position: Director and Secretary
Date received: 20/01/2010

NSW**STATE PAROLE AUTHORITY**

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Ref: PB

15/1/2010

Hon Christine Robertson MLC
Committee Chair
NSW Legislative Council
Standing Committee on Law and Justice
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Robertson


Re: Inquiry into spent convictions for juvenile offenders

Thank you for your invitation to make a submission in respect of the inquiry into spent convictions for juvenile offenders.

The Parole Authority is aware that Psychological Services within the Department of Corrective Services utilise the "Static-99" – Risk Assessment Tool in determining the actuarial risk applicable to sex offenders. The Static-99 is scored using historical (or static) factors that are unchangeable – such as the offender's criminal history (including juvenile sexual and non sexual offences and there is no distinction between major or minor convictions). All such history is therefore important in ensuring the accuracy of the risk assessment.

However, in terms of the parole consideration process, while the Parole Authority is equally interested in the prior history of the offender it would support those offences falling within (b) and (d) of the Terms of Reference being capable of being spent under the *Criminal Records Act 1991*.

Yours faithfully



P Byrnes
Director and Secretary