

Submission
No 7

**INQUIRY INTO HOMELESSNESS AND LOW-COST
RENTAL ACCOMMODATION**

Name: Mrs Cosette Keena

Date received: 27/02/2009

From

Submission:

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22 Feb. 09.

To

Enquiry into homelessness and
the availability of low-cost rental accommodation

The Standing Committee on Social Issues :-
My letter is entitled "How not to reduce
homelessness & discourage the availability
of low cost rental accommodation!"

An advertisement appeared in our local
"free" paper - "Express - Port Macquarie, (in Dec⁰⁸)
encouraging the private rental market
to offer low cost rental accommodation
to needy Housing Commission tenants,
I contacted a Coffs Harbour member re
the advertisement & was diverted to the
Port Macquarie Housing Commission office.

A pleasant officer "Alexander", liaised
with me re my offer of a 2 B.R. 'B.V.' "cottage"
good cond, set in lawns & garden - convenient
hardy to town - bus stop, flat - 1 step &
a brand new kitchen. rent \$170pw.

Almost 2 weeks passed - & 2 inspections -
and I realised we were getting no-where.
I asked for a decision on my report.
An appointment was made for me to attend

the office of the P.M. H.C. with tenancy forms
& keys.

After a wait, I was shown into an
office by "Helen". Lease papers were on the
desk, I sat down - but Helen had to
go out & make a phone call. About
1/2 hr - 20 mins later "Helen" came back.

She bluntly said, "We don't want it!"
I asked why - but she refused to answer.

"Is it personal?" I said.

"Oh no" - reply from Helen.

No further discussion.

I picked up my lease forms & keys and
was shown the door.

In the words of Pauline Hanson
"Please explain! I don't understand!"

A couple of days later it was in the
local paper that the P.M. H.C. was
demolishing 10 H.C. homes & rebuilding
80 smaller homes.

Sequel: That afternoon I put a "To let" sign &
phone no. on the front fence & I was besieged
by 4 lots of people. I let the unit that day!

The workings of the Housing Commission are
wonderful to behold --- wonderful! but
what are they supposed to be doing?

"Please explain. I don't understand!"

(To be released to the public)
-with an answer)

Yours truthfully,
Cosette Keena.
(owner)