

**Submission
No 17**

INQUIRY INTO PUBLIC DISTURBANCES AT MACQUARIE FIELDS

Organisation:

Name: Ms Sherian McKay

Telephone:

Date Received: 15/11/2005

Theme:

Summary

From:
To: <socialissues@parliament.nsw.gov.au>
Date: Tue, Nov 15, 2005 1:09 pm
Subject: Please submit to Macquarie Fields Inquiry]

To the Social Inquiry into the Public Disturbances at Macquarie Fields:

In relation to the disturbances at Macquarie Fields, I would ask you to consider the climate of fear and hatred being encouraged against racial and religious minorities by Federal Government's policies and statements on immigration, national identity and national security. The very real sense of inequality created by these policies must be recognised as an underlying cause of conflict, not only in Macquarie Fields, but also in Redfern amongst our Aboriginal population.

The present French riots should serve as a lesson to us here in Australia. It has been reported (Sydney Morning Herald, 12/11/05) that the French believe these riots are the result of their government's unjust treatment of minority social groups. Please, do not let us neglect any further our duty of care to our own marginalised people. They are part of our communities and should therefore be recognised as a part of our national identity, rather than a threat to it.

Sherian McKay