

**INQUIRY INTO COMMUNITY BASED SENTENCING
OPTIONS FOR RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS AND
DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS**

Organisation:

Name:

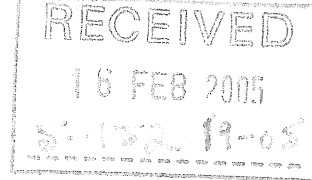
Telephone:

Date Received: 16/02/2005

Theme:

Summary

Partially Confidential



The Director,
Standing Committee on Law and Justice,
Legislative Council,
Parliament House,
Sydney
NSW 2000

**Submission regarding inquiry into community based sentencing options
for rural and remote areas and disadvantaged populations.**

As an Indigenous Australian, a 51 year old male, I would like to offer support for community based sentencing options for minor offences. I believe it is not in the best interests of the individual or the community to send people to jail for minor crimes such as unpaid fines. Jails can have the adverse effect of turning petty criminals into hardened criminals due to the contact they have and the system itself. Other crimes also may benefit from community based options such as community service. We have a saying that some of our people go to jail and come out fat and shining. Everything is laid on in jail and frequently no work is to be done. Some people get very comfortable with this alternative. It is my belief that some people can leave the town they committed the crime in and hide their shame therefore I believe that community based options with adequate support from probation and parole and supervision for community service will act as a deterrent and also benefit the communities that the crimes are being committed in. Many outback towns are in severe need of maintenance and beautification programs whereby they may encourage the community to look after more if locals are doing the initial work.

Thankyou for the opportunity to offer my suggestions. I wish this submission to remain confidential, however please contact me if you wish for further thoughts.

Yours faithfully, _____