

**INQUIRY INTO ISSUES RELATING TO THE OPERATIONS
AND MANAGEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIVE SERVICES**

Organisation:

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Subject:

Summary

The terms of reference in the current Parliamentary Inquiry have been set by Corrective Services themselves, this in the public eyes is self serving and not in the public interest although we the public are funding such inquiries. I submit that they are not the real issues that need to be looked at. NSW Corrective Services is failing the very reason for which it exists, that is to rehabilitate. Corrective Services are building more and more jails. Corrective Services Ministers drop the portfolio almost as soon as they get it so at the level of government there is no continuity. Given what this establishment is costing the tax-payer and that we are dealing mostly with Australian citizens this should be a major portfolio. There was an inquiry into the incarceration of women. It was blown out by someone to include the whole male and female prison population in NSW. Recommendations were made and Corrective Services has not made an attempt to implement the many alternatives to incarceration. Currently they are a closed system and have been for quite some time. Closed systems breed corruption. As a former chaplain at Mulawa I have personal experience of this. Again I say read Roseanne Catt's book 'Ten Years'. This will show you what the terms of reference should be. It will lead you to conclude that the state of the prisons in NSW is alarming and there needs to be a Royal Commission into every aspect of how they are conducted. There is a centralization of power. It is my guess that the Minister would only rubber stamp whatever Corrective Services needs. If Corrective Services were doing their job there would be less, not more jails. Refer to John Ryan MLC and his recommendations in Hansard and the former Commissioner Leo Keliher.