

Submission
No 220

**INQUIRY INTO THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS AND
PRISON-RELATED SERVICES**

Name: Name suppressed
Date received: 25/02/2009

Partially Confidential

Dear members of the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 of the current NSW Government Legislative Council

I am writing to express my dismay at the news of the NSW Government's desire to privatise two NSW goals. I am opposed to the privatisation of state services, particularly goals, which house people largely of Aboriginal background, and those poorest and least educated in our society.

How can you imagine any company could make a profitable business from imprisoning these people without severely compromising the already limited conditions they experience in NSW government prisons at present? The examples of the privatised detention centres in which the Howard government incarcerated refugee asylum-seekers in was nothing short of appalling.

Major and hugely problematic tensions already exist between the realities prisoners and prison staff face in our government gaols and the aim of prisons to rehabilitate offenders and return them to society in better shape than when they arrived.

My knowledge of the privatised prison systems in the USA is that they are largely places of punishment and brutality. Privatised prison systems do not have a place in our society.

I urge you to take my strong misgivings about the privatisation of prisons and prison-related services into consideration when conducting your enquiry and making your findings and final recommendations to government.

Yours sincerely

Wednesday 25th February 2009