

Submission
No 168

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

Name: Dr Peggy Goldsmith

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I wish to indicate that my experience with refugees and asylum seekers who have been in some of our Detention Centres run privately, is that they are run for profit and not for the good of the people incarcerated.

It seems morally wrong that our State Government is not take prepared to take responsibility for the people we have committed to prison. They need to be rehabilitated, and to be in a place which is run for profit by a company that has that as its bottom line, does not auger well for the people committed to prison. Minimum standards seem to me to be all that will be achieved. In the past private companies from United States of America have been in charge of our Detention Centres, and then their employees are not even Australians. This is poor from two points of view:

1. We need to have warders and employees who at least understand the Australian way of life.
2. We don't need to be sending our money (as a taxpayer) out of the country and employing people from overseas. These jobs should be kept for Australians.

I am very concerned if this privatisation of prisons goes ahead.