

**INQUIRY INTO INQUIRY INTO THE PROHIBITION ON  
THE PUBLICATION OF NAMES OF CHILDREN INVOLVED  
IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS**

**Organisation:** Victims Advisory Board  
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# victims advisory board

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The Director  
Standing Committee on Law and Justice  
Legislative Council  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

18 DEC 2007

Dear Director

**Re: Inquiry into the prohibition on the publication of names of children involved in criminal proceedings**

Thank you for the opportunity to make submissions to the inquiry into the prohibition on the publication of names of children involved in criminal proceedings.

The Victims Advisory Board has met and discussed the issues relating to this inquiry as set out in the terms of reference. Discussion among Board members produced a number of conundrums relating to the age of children, the types of offences it could apply to and the timing of the publication of names. The Board also discussed the possible affect on the families of young offenders if their names were published and how there could be a positive outcome from this, such as provision of support to the families to prevent recidivism.

The Board would like to submit to the inquiry that consideration be given to amending the legislation in order that for all young people between the ages of 16 years and 18 years, who are convicted of offences that are dealt with "according to law", there be a presumption that their names will be published unless there are compelling reasons not to do so.

The Board would welcome any further opportunity to be consulted on these issues and any draft legislation that may be prepared as a result of the inquiry.

Yours faithfully

Bill Grant  
Chair