Victoria Pymm - inebriates

From:

To: <socia

<socialissues@parliament.nsw.gov.au>

Date: 26/11/2003 8:36 AM

Subject: inebriates

Hello Tanya Bosch,

I am interested in the current proceedings to do with the Inebriates Act. I am unsure about whether I am too late to make a submission.

I worked for the Dept. Health, Prison Medical Service as a Nurse, late 1970's and early 1980's. There was a wing at the Long Bay complex, where inebriates were treated, the facilities and accommodiation were very basic, but delousing etc was carried out by a prisoner, who did as best he could in the caring of these unfortunate people. I think the period of time these people were detained for was 3 months.

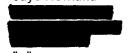
I am unaware of the current housing and treatment of these people who come under the Inebriates Act. I feel that there is a serious lack of facilities for the treatment of drug and alcohol affected people right across the board.

Lack of funds seems to be the major problem, and I put this down to the inappropriate locking up of people in the Prison system, which houses many people with drug and alcohol problems, including those with a psychiatric problem, who also maybe affected by drug or alcohol problems.

I personally believe that non violent prisoners need to be released from the gaols, and community based programs setup for alternative "punishment" for people without a drug or alcohol problem.

This would allow for non custodial accommodiation run by the Dept, Health for much needed treatment centres. I believe that this would be humane and cost affective. The displacement of people only enhances the problems we face now and in the future. This would be a positive start, and there are many other possibilities which can be added.

Sincerely, Jaye Newland



SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS!

NO to GM FOOD! http://www.greenpeace.org.au

GET REAL!

We call a person who blows himself up a "terrorist" when a dozen people are killed, but we call it "self-defense" when the Israeli government invades Palestinian territory with bulldozers, airplanes and bombs, destroying homes and causing at least four Palestinian civilian deaths for every Israeli death.

THE HOWARD GOVERMENT ABUSES INNOCENT CHILDREN!