

**Submission
No 8**

**INQUIRY INTO GAY AND TRANSGENDER HATE CRIMES
BETWEEN 1970 AND 2010 - 57TH PARLIAMENT**

Name: Mr Chris Kitchener

Date Received: 27 January 2020

Hate Crime

Sydney, early 1980's

The worst hate crime I ever experienced was from the government. They criminalised homosexuality making it illegal for me to have sex. Never falling in love, never kissing passionately, hiding in the lonely shadows watching fun go past me. Feeling robbed of happiness and feeling the angry hatred towards me as people look at me with disgust. Spat on, verbally abused, chased with baseball bats, life threatened and sexually abused.

Instead of protecting me the government made me a criminal. If I got caught being gay I could go to prison and what happens to a young gay boy in men's prison, in the 80's?

Who do I turn to when I need help? I can't go to the police because I'm a criminal.

Lonely

Scared

Self loathing

Angry

Depressed

Anxious

Suicidal

Chris Kitchener