

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 21 February 2020

Partially
Confidential

My submission is about the death of my friend Nathan Skropeta who died in 2006 from a ghb overdose. While this may fall outside of the scope of a 'hate crime' for the purposes of this inquiry, I felt that it would be important to include.

After Nathan's death the person responsible for causing him to overdose - Bennett Melville - was not charged. The reason given was that there was not sufficient evidence because police did not adequately secure the crime scene. They brought other people (myself included) to the apartment. I testified at the court case to this effect. I would be happy to be contacted to speak to this further.

I would argue that the negligence of NSW police to adequately respond to and investigate Nathan's death should be included in this inquiry.

<https://www.news.com.au/national/inquest-into-two-ghb-deaths-continues-at-coroner8217s-court/news-story/ae955e23a51fcd74cc3bdd1861ca3400>