

## Inquiry into the Management of Child Sex Offender Information

Ms Andrea Bennett

### CONTACT DETAILS

**Phone:**

**Email:**

**Organisation Name:**

**Organisation Postion:**

**Address:**

**Suburb:**

**State:**

**Postcode:**

**Your age group:**

### YOUR SUBMISSION

**Submission:**

As a social worker, individual and parent to three young children I would like to address this commission.

I submit that in regard to the Terms of Reference, Section A, that I should be able to contact a local Police Station and ask if there are any convicted sexual offenders residing in a 5-10km radius of my street address. This would enable me to make informed decisions as to where I would want my family to reside and whether any enhanced safety and security features were required around my home.

I submit that in regard to the Terms of Reference, Section B, if general locations in which sex offenders reside were known, there would be increased public vigilance in regard to any suspicious behaviour around children or homes, particularly during times when children are unaccompanied such as walking to and from school. I believe that the safety of children trumps all and that with increased knowledge comes increased power to be steadily watchful and take careful and informed actions as a parent i.e. allowing children to walk unaccompanied or down isolated paths etc.

In relation to the Terms of Reference Section C, I submit that there is a difference in degree between a sexual offender that has had consensual sex but is considered a perpetrator due to minimum age limits, and that of a sexual offender who has raped/attempted to rape/penetrated a child without consent. I submit that the latter has terminated their rights to privacy with their actions and that the rights of all other children trump their right to privacy. Having said that, I would not condone a street name or number being published for that individual, but would submit that a 5-10km radius zone would be sufficient for the public to increase their watchfulness.

I appreciate the Parliament raising this inquiry and I hope for the safety of all our children, that an appropriate outcome that has their safety at the fore, is forthcoming. Thankyou.

**Are you interested in appearing before the committee in person to talk about your submission?**

No

### FILE ATTACHMENTS

**File1:**

**File2:**

**File3:**

**Confidentiality:**

**Signature:**

Andrea Bennett