

23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2020

LA LSIC - FORCED ADOPTIONS INQUIRY  
SUBMISSION NO. 33  
RECEIVED 28 FEBRUARY 2020

LEGAL & SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE,  
PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
SPRING ST  
EAST MELBOURNE  
ATT:- YUKI SIMMONDS.

My name is Cheryllyn Harris. In 1963 I lost my daughter to a forced adoption at the Salvation Army Haven in Melbourne.

The couple (strangers) she was placed with also had an adopted boy aged one year.

When my daughter was around three years old the couple had their own daughter. They absolutely adored her. Finding it difficult to cope with the adopted two, my daughter was sent to school at around 3½ yrs old. As time went by my daughter felt rejected by the couple because their real daughter was favored in every way possible inc. expensive gifts, holidays etc. Eventually the couple and their daughter built a house a great distance away from my daughter and cut off all contact with her.

She now has no family in Melbourne. In Tasmania she has myself, a brother (I married her father), three nieces, a 93 old grandmother plus a large extended family.

I BELIEVE HAD I BEEN ALLOWED TO KEEP HER SHE  
WOULD HAVE HAD A HAPPY AND SECURE LIFE WITH US.

HER & I SPEND AROUND THREE HOURS A WEEK ON  
THE PHONE GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER.

I WOULD LIKE TO SEE COMPENSATION OR  
FUNDING FOR VISITS BETWEEN STATES.

AT AGE 56, SHE NEEDS TO MEET HER REAL FAMILY  
AND FIND HER IDENTITY.

I AM 71 NOW, FRUSTRATION AND ANGER OVER THE  
LAST 56 YEARS HAS NOT HELPED MY HEALTH.



REBANDS,

CHERYL N HARRIS

