## Senate Inquiry into "Commonwealth contribution to former forced adoption policies and practices."

I Geoffrey <sup>(...)</sup> GONG am a citizen of the Commonwealth of Australia resident in New South Wales As a citizen of the Commonwealth of Australia I have an inalienable right to protection

under the Australian Constitution and the Common Law of this country

As an Australian citizen, the Commonwealth affords me protection from the unlawful and harmful actions that threaten my right to life, liberty and justice from those who would deny me these rights, within and without, the borders of Australia .

## Submission

Friday, December 03, 2010

of Adoptee Geoffrey<sup>(...)</sup> GONG

. I was Born as (...) August 1958 my Mother is (...) I was relinquished for Adoption in 1958 and adopted by an older couple in Orange NSW my first stepmother died not long after, I was 2 Years old ... I was then cared for by Her sister Until I reached School age. My Stepfather remarried during this time and I only remember me just before I was about to start School and live with His new wife and Family

It was extremely traumatic for me to have to leave my Aunt and go and live with `strangers' .

It was clear from the outset that his SECOND Wife and Her daughter were not keen on the idea of another family member just turning up I can relate numerous other events that caused me great psychological distress. I wasn't told that I'd been adopted until I was thirteen, by my second stepmother In a fit of rage, She just blurted it out on front of the Family. She later told me, when no one else could hear, that my (birth) Mother had died.

This wasn't true as in 2008 I located and met my Mother . and were now having a wonderful time catching up on all those years .

I hope my submission points out the fact that not ALL Adoptions came to benefit Children that in the eye's of the adoption agencies and so called `experts' , who believed we would be better off in other Homes .

in the case of `Legal' adoptions, I think every adopted child's wellbeing should be followed up on a regular basis ,and that the child should be advised by the appropriate Welfare agency, on reaching the age of 21, that they are, in fact adopted In case they are never told by the adoptive family .and offered assistance to Identify and locate their Real Family if it's possible.

I'd also like a review of an Adopted Childs LEGAL rights as I was not only ostracized by my Stepfathers 2<sup>nd</sup> wife but DISINHERITED as well,none of my first stepmothers estate was considered to be mine, also with regard to Birth Families ,most who did not willingly relinquish the Child that Child now has no Legal rights or claim to anything ,sentimental or otherwise even If it is their real families wish to do so.

Although this is not directly concerning the Senate Enquiry I'd like my story To be on record

any names in this document should be treated as CONFIDENTIAL where appropriate PLEASE NOTE a HARDCOPY of this submission will also be posted