



I wish to make a submission
to the Forced Adoption Inquiry.

I was 15 and pregnant in 1960.
I know how it happened but
a severe lack of knowledge
in those days was a big
contributing factor.

I was sent to the Elm Home
at West Hobart in Tasmania
to give birth.

No one spoke of what to expect
or certainly no support or
comfort.

I was made to feel a second
class person and 51 years
later that stigma is still
deep in my heart.

The screams of other girls giving
birth tied to a bed with
bruises and bleeding arms
next door to where 6 of us
lay awake and listen in
great fear of what torture
was ahead.

2.

My baby was taken away
without any discussions
at any time about anything.

I feel the disappointment my
mother showed to me for
the rest of her long life
and my feeling of not being
worthy of her love has been
a big weight to carry all
my life.