



A submission to SENATE INQUIRY into "COMMONWEALTH contribution to  
Former forced adoption policies and practices"

I (...) am a citizen of the Commonwealth of Australia  
resident in South Australia.

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.

Origins SPSA Inc will prove with evidence in their submission the LAWS BROKEN  
and CRIMES committed against mothers. Breach of duty of care, assault,  
kidnapping, and professional negligence are a few of the laws broken. WHEN A  
LAW IS BROKEN IT BECOMES A CRIME. Forbidding us access to our children at  
birth and prior to us signing any legal document authorising them to do so was the  
UNAUTHORISED TAKING OF A CHILD. My submission will be a brief outline  
of why my life became a lie from that day until this.

My life changed forever on 26<sup>th</sup> September 1963, the day my son was born, this is the  
first time I have admitted on paper that this crime was inflicted on me. The only  
people I have told are my children from marriage & Origin members not even my  
now former husband.. My life was permanently affected by the unlawful and  
unnatural separation from my child, grieving in silence looking at every baby boy  
who was about the age my child, hoping he was mine and I could take him with me.  
BIRTHDAYS are a very stressful time even now 47yrs since the separation. I have  
suffered chronic and profound grief but could never tell the truth of why I was often  
upset.

I was not allowed to see my baby or touch (unmarried mothers were forbidden to see  
their baby) the first contact I had was 37yrs later, no longer a baby but a damaged  
and a could be very violent man, I fear any further contact with him. He had lived  
walking distance from me for 37yrs. Story at end of submission of how our lives  
crossed.

My life was blurred why couldn't I remember what happened in the hospital. Prior to my giving birth I had no contact with doctors or hospitals, on admission to labour ward my papers were marked BFA (BABY FOR ADOPTION) how would these nurses know, I hadn't spoken with a living soul proves there was colluding. I was there for approx 10 days but I didn't remember what I did all day or night, Origins filled me in years later. We were fed a diet of mind altering drugs. Sedation was given in this public hospital as a matter of course, easy to manage sedated numbed mothers. No permission was ever given to administer the drug Diethylstilbestrol or the mind altering drugs we were fed.

I was coerced into signing the adoption consent. I was never offered any assistance financial, foster care, counselling, the only assistance I was given was in signing the consent form. I have no memory but I must have had prior meetings with this person as she said this is your last chance to sign. The consent taker was telling me to stop crying and sign as I was never leaving the hospital without signing. I was not told I had time to reconsider adoption and there was no option of foster care. Their job was to get a signature.

No warning of the implications and emotional risks of dire future regret (which they knew about), just told in your drugged state "when you sign you will have surrendered your parental rights". A baby I was not allowed to see gone forever to someone else, no wonder I wouldn't stop crying. Mothers were to be fully aware of the impact of her action, be emotionally and mentally able to appreciate the implications of such a consent. We were drugged on a cocktail of drugs we were not capable of knowing what we were signing. I rang the hospital 10 days after leaving saying I could manage my child, I had found a way after 10 days of no drugs I could think clearly. too late the child had gone to a good home. What about the 30days when you could revoke?

I went to work the morning of the birth and was taken to Crown Street Women's Hospital by ambulance, treated appallingly by some staff in the labour ward, left completely alone, no one spoke to me as a human it was less than animal care. Years later I found from the group Origins that this was the way unmarried girls were treated. In my case you were taken as soon as possible to a home away from the hospital where you gave birth, where you were kept until you signed consent. As we were told not to tell anyone we had had a child just get on with life I carried the burden of a child being taken and was so ashamed of myself. This completely has made my life a string of lies, and lifelong mental health issues,

When the laws changed and mothers were able to get identifying information on their children I had to face the fact my child lived 2kms. from where I lived as a married person. The adoptive parents had this information they knew where we lived all about us we knew nothing of about them. When the laws changed mothers were able to get records of our child's adopted name and last known address.

My son I lost to adoption went to the same school as my children from the marriage. He was good at sport as were my other children so unknowingly I saw this child at many sporting events. I didn't even know what my child looked like I had never seen him or touched him. Worse was to come when he told me he was always at one of best friends places, I saw this boy many times, he was not any boy he was MY SON

and I didn't know it. When he showed me photos of my friends house and him there at times when I was there, my body went numb how could they have done this to us.

The forcible removal of my baby has caused long-term anguish and suffering, even now stories of a still born bring back memories of the cruel way I was treated in labour ward. When I work in the Neonate nursery I am reminded of the cruel and demeaning way I was treated. In 1963 married mothers were not treated as we were, they were treated with respect and all care, feeding touching and caring for their babies. I have medical records of all the children born to me to prove the way I was treated as an unmarried mother was inhumane. As a married person I was not given any drugs after the birth.

The Commonwealth government allowed the States to breach the Constitution and the Common Law as Origins will prove in their submission.

(...)

(...)

28<sup>th</sup> December 2010