



**Australian Government**

**Australian Institute of Family Studies**

**Office of the Director**

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5 November 2014

Ms Sophie Dunstone  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

*Email: [legcon.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:legcon.sen@aph.gov.au)*

Dear Ms Dunstone,

**Re: Inquiry into the Australian Citizenship and Other Legislation  
Amendment Bill 2014**

Thank you for the invitation received on 31 October 2014 to make a submission to the above Inquiry.

Until recently, the Institute has not conducted any major research directly relating to this topic. However, in 2012 we commenced a specific research project focussing on Building a New Life in Australia (BNLA), which tracks the progress of 1500 migrating units on their journey to eligibility for citizenship. Over time, as this longitudinal study progresses, the outcomes of the project will be useful in addressing these issues.

An outline of the methods, topic areas and timelines for the BNLA study can be found at <http://www.aifs.gov.au/bnla>.

We also have a number of resources for the child/family welfare sector accessible through our Child Family Community Australia information exchange. Please see: [https://www3.aifs.gov.au/cfca/search/site/migrant?f\[0\]=sm\\_vid\\_Tags%3ACulturally%20and%20linguistically%20diverse%20families](https://www3.aifs.gov.au/cfca/search/site/migrant?f[0]=sm_vid_Tags%3ACulturally%20and%20linguistically%20diverse%20families).

Yours sincerely,

**Professor Alan Hayes AM  
Director**