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Submission 25

ECEIVE 3 1 111 2002 BY: J. E. Gaula

Thursday, 25 July 2002

Committee Secretary House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs Parliament House CANBERRA QCT 2600

Dear Sir,

In response to a letter I received from Mr. Mal Brough (MP) Federal Member for Longman, may I write on only two of the Terms of Reference. I would like to write on more terms, but will confine myself to just two.

(g) Effectiveness of sentencing.

I have had a small experience with the attitudes of some prisoners, as I taught general mathematics to some inmates at Woodford jail for about five years, upon being requested to do so by TAFE College after I retired from teaching in Primary Schools. I became friendly with many, though I made sure I kept discreet distance from them. One feature that came through clearly was the effect of crime environment. Almost all went back after serving their prison terms to where they had been before and just returned to crime. A few I discreetly encouraged to "move away" or "go west", were, to my knowledge, much more successful in not re-offending. Maybe, Magristates and others in authority could help in some ways to encourage at least small-time criminals to try different environments after their sentences have expired.

(h) Community safety and policing.

I do feel that Neighbourhood Watch Committees would be more effective if financial help could be made available in some form, e.g. in paying Secretaries or similar help to ensure that the Neighbourhood Watch Group functions more consistently and effectively.

These are just two ideas for your consideration. I hope they can help in some small manner with the considerations of the Standing Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Hevin Byrne

Kevin Byrne 38 River Drive Bellmere Caboolture Qld 4510.

Services provided:

✓ Your 'PAL'-' Positive Active Lifestyles' A caring program for lonely frail or aged persons living in the Caboolture Parish & Community.

\boxtimes Visitation

& Personal Transport Home visitation to the sick lonely aged and socially isolated.

Ø Hospitality

& Bereavement Catering for community gatherings, forums, workshops and public meetings; Funeral Teas -& Afternoon Teas following weddings.

BHandyman Program

Limited Handyman assistance for people in genuine need.

Newcomers Information and welcome to newcomers to the area.

Care for Young Families & Individuals Supportive care for young families and people.

All correspondence to ST. PETER'S CARE Caboolture Catholic Parish 30 Beerburrum Road Caboolture Qld 4510

Tele: (07) 5498 3088 Fax: (07) 5495 8820

OUR VISION

To be a caring and Christian organisation, responding to the needs of the local community with compassion, understanding and practical assistance.