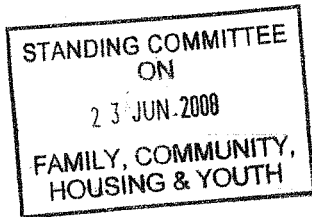


Dorothy



18. th June 2008

Committee Secretary,
 Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing & Youth
 P.O. Box 6021
 House of Representatives
 Parliament House,
 Canberra A.C.T. 2600.

Head Secretary,

I wish to make a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth's inquiry into Better Support for Carers.

I feel that mine & other carers take a very important contribution to Australian society by the mere fact that we in most cases are the sole providers for our loved ones.

Up till now I have been able to provide the help my husband needs as he suffers from Parkinson Disease, but I am 74 years old & suffer kidney problems. This worries me as we have always been very independent. I myself worked up until I was 70 years old, when my husband was diagnosed with the disease.

I can't fully participate in a social life because going out for dinner and such as my husband has problems eating, he can't cut his meals as you can imagine for him it is very unbracing. He cannot walk very far so this causes problems just going shopping, so we are very restricted in any outings.

I have only outlined a few problems, and I'm

sure - there are many hundreds of carers who have more problems than mine, financial & many who have difficulties accessing services that they need.

Thank you for taking my views into consideration as part of the Committee inquiry. I look forward to reviewing any recommendations you make to improve life for carers in Australia.