

Submission No 24
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**NSW COUNCIL FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY
INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY RIGHTS SERVICE**

**Submission to inquiry on Indigenous juveniles and young adults in the
criminal justice system**

December 2009

Both our organisations have considerable experience with issues facing people with intellectual disability in the criminal justice system, including the double disadvantage faced by Indigenous people with intellectual disability.

NSW governmental studies show very high rates of both people with intellectual disabilities and Indigenous people in the juvenile justice system. See *NSW Young People on Community Orders Health Survey 2003 - 2006* and *Young People in Custody Health Survey 2003* at <http://www.justicehealth.nsw.gov.au/publications>

Time pressures unfortunately prevent us from making a detailed submission to the current inquiry. However, we ask the Committee to take note of detailed publications on these issues which we have produced or been associated with:

Criminal Justice and Indigenous People with Cognitive Disabilities, a discussion paper prepared for the Australian Government in 2004.
<http://www.beyondbars.org.au/links.htm>

The Framework Report, Appropriate community services in NSW for offenders with intellectual disabilities and those at risk of offending, 2001
<http://www.idrs.org.au/publications.html>

FRAMEWORK PLUS 5 - Human Services in NSW for Offenders with Intellectual Disabilities - Five years on from the Framework Report
<http://www.nswcid.org.au/images/pdfs/criminal%20justice%20position%20paper%20standard.pdf>

Enabling Justice, A report on problems and solutions in relation to diversion of alleged offenders with intellectual disability from the NSW Local Courts System.
<http://www.idrs.org.au>

Another very important resource is the Australian Human Rights Commission report *Preventing Crime and Promoting Rights for Indigenous Young People with Cognitive Disabilities and Mental Health Issues* (2008)
http://www.humanrights.gov.au/social_justice/publications.html

We are happy to discuss relevant issues with the inquiry if that would be helpful.

