

5<sup>th</sup> September 2008

Senator McEwen, Chair  
Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts  
by email to [eca.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:eca.sen@aph.gov.au)

Dear Senator McEwen,

Please accept this submission to the inquiry into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008.

My name is David Granville, I am now 35 and have been fishing since I was three years old. My father and I shared many wonderful days at sea together as I grew up. I am so glad I had an upbringing like this instead of being stuck in front of a TV, computer or worse exposed to drugs. Indeed a lifestyle of fishing is a very healthy family pastime.

I now enjoy fishing with my wife, friends and taking my nephews fishing also so I can teach them what their grandpa taught me.

Like most fisherman these days the majority of the fishing I do is catch and release. I'm sure you will find that most fisherman are conservationists at heart but enjoy the right to take a feed of fish for the table from time to time. I know I release a lot more fish than I keep.

While I agree with sustainable fisheries management, which may include green zones, bag limits and spatial management, I totally disagree with blanket bans on fishing based on only your so-called Precautionary Principle. Who came up with that one? What a crock!

Show us some solid scientific evidence that recreational fishing is having a real detrimental affect on habitats and fish populations. Please don't show such blatant disrespect by accusing us to be fish murderers and ocean rapists. Then with solid evidence and informed fisheries management we may accept your green zones. But right now you have a fight on your hands so be prepared. We won't give in as easy as you would like.

Regards

David Granville