

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am sending this on behalf of my two children. Jason van Riel, aged 24 and Kirstin van Riel, aged 21.

I am an Australian citizen, born and raised in Sydney. When I was 21 I met and married my Dutch husband, in Holland. I therefore lost my Australian citizenship, as Holland at that time, did not recognise dual citizenship, and my knowledge of the Dutch language was minimal. My father inlaw. a police officer, arranged everything.

I got my citizenship back in 1986 and applied for the children straight away. They were born in 1981 and 1984. I was married in 1974. It was refused for them. We lived at that stage in Brunei, where my daughter was born. My son was born in Nigeria. My husband worked for Shell. We have therefore lived very little in Holland as most of our married life was spent overseas. The children went to highschool in Holland, spending their holiday in Australia with family. They have more attachment to Australia than Holland as they know it better and feel at home here.

My problem is that I would like to apply for citizenship by decent for them. I am now living in Australia, Maclean where we have our own home. My family also lives here. We have money in the bank so they would not be a burden on the Australia people, their English is very good, both written and spoken. My daughter is a qualified veterinaire nurse and my son is at University in Leiden in Holland and is nearly finished. My daughter is out here at present on a working holiday.

Therefore my submission for citizenship for both my children. I am 3rd generation Australian and think they will be able to add to the Australian way of life.

Thank you,  
Kind regards,

Lynn van Riel  
Maclean. NSW