

To The Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House Canberra, ACT 2600

From Thelma Adams

2<sup>nd</sup> January 2012

Dear Senators

Re: Commonwealth of Australia Enquiry into former adoption policies and practices.

I Thelma Adams am a Citizen of the Commonwealth of Australia and I am a resident in the state of Victoria.

In 1973, I found myself pregnant at the age of 14, I was sent to Kedish, a home for unmarried mothers in Kew. After suffering home sickness I was taken back home and locked away in my bedroom until the birth of my baby.

My child was born on the        of December 1973 after a 24 hour labour, I never saw my baby.

After the birth I was taken by my mother to sign the adoption papers, when i spoke up and said I loved and wanted to keep my baby, I was told I didn't know what love was. At 14 years of age I was told if I did not sign the papers I would be put in a girls home and my baby would be taken anyway. I was told to go home and get on with life. I have had 20 years of psychiatric therapy for severe depression and panic attacks , I still take medication to this day.

Yours Sincerely

Thelma Adams