

**Sent:** Thursday, 14 July 2011 12:03 PM  
**To:** FADT, Committee (SEN)  
**Subject:** Australian citizens kidnapped overseas

Committee,

I have an extensive family living overseas, in an area where kidnapping for ransom was once rife. Although my family are not Australian citizens, it is well known locally that they are of an Australian family.

The merest hint that the Australian government may become involved in the ransoming of kidnap victims makes me apprehensive, because of the perception in the minds of some people that this is an indication that any ransom will be underwritten by our government, rather than an impecunious foreigner.

I would suggest that any government involvement be reactive support after the event of a kidnapping, each case assessed individually on its merits. Having said that, if the unthinkable is visited on my family, I will certainly be begging DFAT to intervene on my behalf.

Yours faithfully,

Name withheld