



10 July 2006

Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
E-mail: pjcis@aph.gov.au

Dear Secretary

Submission Regarding Australian Security Legislation

We understand that the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security is currently conducting a review of various acts relating to terrorism. As the Committee may be aware, the Federation of Community Legal Centres appeared as a witness in the Sheller Inquiry. To assist this Committee's review we therefore enclose the following:

1. Our written submission to the Sheller Inquiry regarding the
 - *Security Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Act 2002 (Cth)*;
 - *Suppression of Financing of Terrorism Act 2002 (Cth)*; and
 - *Criminal Code Amendment (Terrorism) Act 2003 (Cth)*
2. Our submission on the recommendations of the Sheller Inquiry.

The Federation of Community Legal Centres Vic. Inc ('the Federation') is the peak body for fifty-two Community Legal Centres ('CLC's') across Victoria, including both generalist and specialist centres. The above submissions have been prepared on behalf of the Federation by its Anti-Terrorism Laws Working Group, in consultation with various other members of the Federation.

The Anti-Terrorism Laws Working Group is one of a number of issue-specific working groups within the Federation comprising workers from member centres. This Working Group supports CLC's to provide targeted community legal education programs for communities affected by the State and Commonwealth anti-terrorism laws and supports CLC lawyers to provide up-to-date legal advice to clients affected by the State and Commonwealth anti-terrorism laws. The Working Group also works to monitor the impact of State and Commonwealth anti-terrorism laws on affected communities and individuals.

Should you have any questions regarding our submission, please do not hesitate to contact Marika Dias, Convenor Anti-Terrorism Laws Working Group on (03) 9391 2244 or via Marika.Dias@fcl.fl.asn.au.

We hope that the Committee will give due consideration to the matters raised in our submission during the course of its inquiry. We would welcome any opportunity to elaborate further on our submission should the Committee require additional input.

Sincerely

Pauline Spencer
Executive Officer