THE COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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Submission 49

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Crime in the Community Victims, Offenders, and fear of crime.

Catherine Cornish Secretary PECEIVE 1 5 AUG 2002

BY: J. E. Gould

I have not time to submit a formal submission on behalf of the Members of The Country Women's Association of Australia but hope that the House of Representatives standing committee on legal and constitutional affairs will have a successful inquiry

I believe there is a great fear of crime in the city areas in particular with the elderly and also for the young. Many of my members will not go out at night because of this and live behind bars and locked doors.

The perpetrators of many crimes are motivated to this way of life because of a need to support a habit of drug taking. Drug pushers should be put away from the community for life.

Much petty crime is committed by young unemployed people, with no apparent reason for their living, which I feel is very sad.

Victims of crime are sometimes treated worse than the offenders, which is an intolerable situation to be happening in our country.

There is much truancy from school especially in the aboriginal communities. Ab study money should be payed after proven attendance at classes and not up front whether they attend or not. Sentencing in many cases is totally inadequate, with the offender seeming to get more compassion than the victim.

We need more police and less leniency, with the perpetrators of crime.

More support for victims of Crime in the form of community groups. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this small way.

Mrs Marie Lally

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National President C.W.A. of Australia