

Committee Secretary
Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
[mailto:pjcaad@aph.gov.au]

24 March 2005

Dear Sir or Madam,

Submission to PJCAA on the review of Part 3 Division 3 of the *ASIO Act 1979*.

The Civil Rights Network, Sydney, is part of a larger organization which has been formed in response to the passage of national security legislation since 2001. It consists of about 70 people in Sydney and a similar number in Melbourne and has in its network academics, practicing lawyers, law students and community members. More information about the Network can be found at www.civilrightsnetwork.org.

We have been able to read the draft submission of the Community Law Centre, University of Technology, Sydney, and endorse the contents of that submission.

The Civil Rights Network, Sydney, has extreme reservations about the contents of the laws under review. We submit that the harsh nature of Part 3 Division 3 of the *ASIO Act 1979* is such that it should NOT remain in force without a further sunset provision. The future review of the legislation by PJCAAD is essential to ensuring the removal of extraordinary powers contained in the relevant sections when objective circumstances change.

The future review of the relevant legislation, as well as other parts of the anti-terrorism law, is essential to minimize the infringement of our civil rights by these extraordinary powers.

Yours faithfully,

Dale Mills
On behalf of the Civil Rights Network, Sydney