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Submission 34

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29TH JULY 2002

The Secretary,  
House of Representatives,  
Standing committee in Legal and Constitutional Affairs,  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA ACT. 2600

Dear Secretary,

I am writing in reply to a request by Mr Cobb, who spoke on Radio 2CR at 9.45am Tuesday 23rd July 2002.

I may have the incorrect context of his speech as it was only on air for a few minutes and the information was not repeated. But I gather he requested people to write in about the crime rate in country towns.

In Coonamble, alone, it is on the increase. The latest incident being the destruction of the awnings over the Olympic Pool at an estimated cost of \$16,000.00.

Tourists have complained to the council of the disgusting state of the public toilets, but this is not the council's fault, as no sooner than the toilets facilities are cleaned by a council employee, than they are made filthy again by a certain group of youths in the town.

The break and entry is on the increase. The elderly in retirement units complain that the gauze on their security doors is slashed and a hand or fingers can fit through the hole and then turn the key on the inside of the door and enter the unit and they then demand money from the occupants.

We had a break-in many years ago when living 75ks from town. Very little was taken from the house but great destruction was done to the house and furniture. The juveniles were caught and they were put in custody. I inquired as to where the girl was sent and what training she was given. Her daily routine was to make her bed and the rest of the time she would probably play hand ball. No training was given as to learn to cook, clean, sew, etc. This particular girl is out in the community still causing trouble.

I hope this information is helpful to what Mr Cobb was requiring.

Yours faithfully,

*C. Miller*

Carmen Miller ( Mrs DE Miller)