

Cooley, Dorota (REPS)

From: Leon Voesenek
Sent: Thursday, 18 September 2008 2:18 PM
To: Committee, Treaties (REPS)
Subject: womens's rights treaty

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The Committee Secretary, Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, House of Representatives.

In one of Australia's encounter before the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Committee, on the strength of an outrageously biased shadow report (written largely by the Women's Electoral lobby and soured, I suspect, by the fact that Howard had just discontinued Keating's annual \$50,000 hand-out to the radical feminist cause), Australia came in for some peculiar criticisms. For example, the Committee was "deeply concerned" that single women and lesbian couples in Australia were being "denied" their human right to have children through IVF. Bingo! One more spanking brand new, instant human right! And who recalls the bitter complaint to that same Committee by that privileged few disgruntled women's groups that Australia's sex-discrimination laws contain an exemption for competitive sport? If the Rudd Government would sign this treaty, it admits that our Courts cannot handle these issues. If this is true the government must overhaul the Court system instead of handing over to an overseas body which has not been elected by the Australian people.
Leon Voesenek

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