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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Submission 5
TT 11 October 2005

27th October 2005

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BY: *Gillian Jones*

Mrs Margaret May MP
Acting Committee Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mrs May

Thank you for your letter dated 12th October addressed to the Hon. Don Wing MLC, President of the Legislative Council, advising of the treaty action tabled on the 11th October 2005.

The Member for Murchison, Ms Ruth Forrest, has some issues regarding the Treaty, *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (New York, 25 May 2000)*.

Ms Forrest's comments are as follows –

'Article 2(a) Sale of Children

I am concerned that this article is ambiguous and seek clarification that it could not be misinterpreted to include "any" normal adoption of a child.

My other comment that I would like noted is that this treaty does not appear to cover material in particular advertising material that describes or **depicts** a person who is or who **appears to be** under the age of 18 years in a sexual context or activity. This would include advertising of entertainment media and sexual services.'

I would appreciate you responding direct to Hon Ms Forrest's at PO Box 104, Wynyard, Tasmania 7325 clarifying her concerns.

Yours sincerely

WENDY PEDDLE
Clerk-Assistant