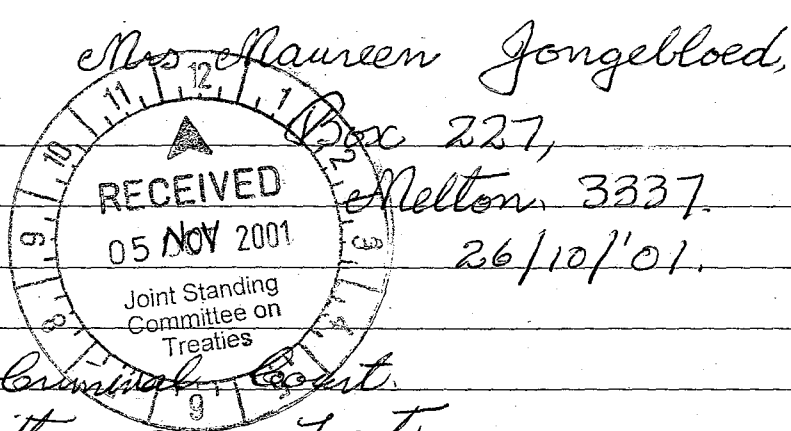


Submission No. 181.1



Re Australia implementing
Statute of International Criminal Court.
Joint Standing Committee on Treaties.

I am totally opposed to Australia, my beloved country, ratifying the Statute of the ICC. We can elect our Government in this country, and can vote them out of power too. We certainly don't want to give any form of control to the United Nations or any other outside body. I don't agree with some of the United Nations ideas now, and it could be worse in the future. Once you have given them a "hold" on you, it would be hard to turn back. In the future those in power may be hostile to our way of thinking.

Some terms are vague and we don't know how they would be interpreted. With our multi-cultural society, one group could plead e.g. mental harm, being humiliated, etc. We have our own court systems to deal with these. I can imagine a disgruntled group taking their accusations to the ICC, causing great expense, time and divisions.

As the recent Terrorism attacks have shown, groups here or even the United Nations could be infiltrated by groups hostile to our well-being. So why give extra powers to outside lawyers/people?

Giving these powers may also be un-Constitutional. I would be very disappointed if Australia gave extra powers to any out-side body.

Yours sincerely
Maureen Jongebloed.