

The Committee Secretary,

30<sup>th</sup> March, 2001.

Joint Standing Committee on Treaties,  
Dept. of House of Representatives,  
Parliament House,  
Canberra, ACT 2600.

Submission No. 183

Dear Committee Secretary,

Re ratification of the International Criminal Court Statute

Australia should NOT ratify the International Criminal Court Statute because this treaty would significantly undermine Australia's sovereignty.

The International Criminal Court with its broad definitional problems relating to "most serious crimes of international concern" would, if ratified, become in effect, the highest court of Australia.

The loose definition of genocide, for example, would give rise to many vexatious or frivolous actions that would not be in the wider interest of the Australian community.

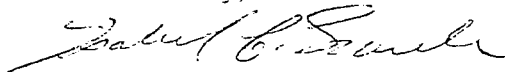
Australia has demonstrated itself to be a just and democratic country, well able to solve internally its own domestic controversies. Therefore, further appeals to an International Criminal Court would seem unnecessary.

This Statute, would appear to be a means by which international groups with particular social engineering or obscure "rights" objectives could bring about forced changes in Australian domestic law, as a result of trumped up complaints (which are intended to be an embarrassment to Australia) to an International Court, thereby undermining Australia's sovereignty.

I have in the recent past, attended three United Nations Conferences, i.e. the Commission on Population and Development; the Commission on the Status of Women, and the Beijing +5 Prep Com. I am not convinced that the United Nations Meetings are an appropriate setting for matters of domestic concern to Australia to be decided.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns.

Yours faithfully,



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