

**SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE  
REFERENCES COMMITTEE**

**INQUIRY INTO GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN  
SERVICES AND AUSTRALIA/US FREE TRADE AGREEMENT**

**SUBMISSION**

**Submission No:** 99

**Submittor:** The Adelaide Day Centre for  
Homeless Persons Inc

**Contact:** Ms Janet Mead

**Address:** 32 Moore Street  
ADELAIDE SA 5000

**Tel:**

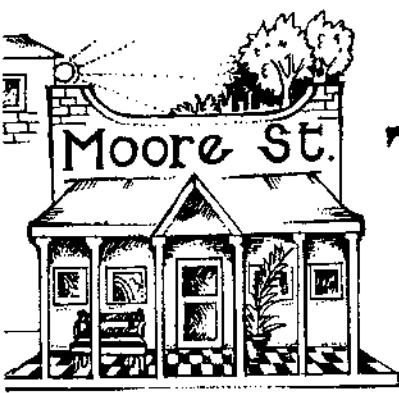
**Fax:** (08)232 0048

**Email:**

**No. of Pages:** 1

**Attachments:** No

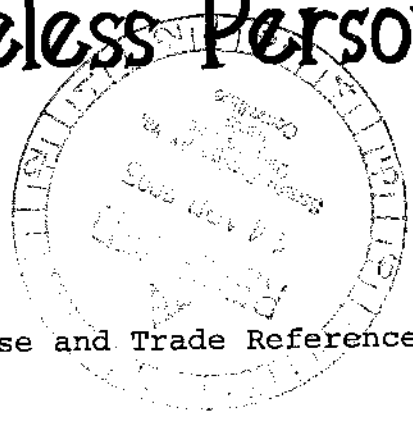
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# The Adelaide Day Centre for Homeless Persons Inc.

March, 2003

The Secretary,  
Senate Foreign Affairs, Defense and Trade References Committee,  
Suite Sl.57,  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA ACT 2600



## SUBMISSION ON THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES

We submit information to your Committee to support our demand that the Government cease participation in negotiations to implement the G.A.T.S.

Public health and other welfare services, e.g. prisons, employment agencies, are clearly seen as a target in G.A.T.S. negotiations. To allow global corporations open access to these and other services is contrary to the general welfare of the Australian people and a threat to our national sovereignty.

Our experience in providing welfare services shows us that for these services to be effective they must retain local control. Recipients of health and welfare support need the flexibility of approach that only a culturally appropriate local service provider can deliver. The very nature of health, welfare and associated services is such that any privatisation, competitive tendering, profit-making, enlarging or distancing control all impact negatively on recipients.

Furthermore, there is no economic or efficiency benefit to be gained by either privatisation or allowing open access to these services by global corporations.

We urge you to cease negotiating to implement the G.A.T.S.

Yours faithfully,

*J. C. Mead R.S.M.*  
(JANET MEAD)