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From: Gabrielle Ewers [mailto:hunterge@crcnsw.org.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 February 2006 2:09 PM
To: FPA, Committee (SEN)
Subject: Prisoners' Right to Vote



To whom it may concern

I am saddened, though not shocked (given the attitude of the current government) to hear of the plot to remove prisoners' right to vote.

Prisoners are people, Australian citizens, already housed in an atmosphere which works against rehabilitation or self improvement. I fear that by further reducing their ability to participate in the broader society will only confirm the dehumanisation of an already often disempowered and excluded population.

The Government views prisons as punishment, however society is punished when those dehumanised prisoners are released in to the community without having had the opportunity to address circumstances which led to offence as there are no or few accessible programs accessible..

Let's not take away the Democratic right of Australians to vote!!

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