

**From:** Robert Roy Smith

**Address:**

**Ph:**

**Sent:** Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2008

**To:** Legal and Constitutional Committee (SEN)

**Subject:** Inquiry into the Stolen Generation Compensation Bill Senate Inquiry 2008

Dear Committee members,

I am a member of the Stolen Generations I descend from the Wiradjuri and Wongaibon Nations of NSW.

Myself and my twin sister, were adopted in 1970 after being taken away from our biological parents in 1960 aged 22 months.

I live in fear and stress of people because of the way I was treated by those whose care I had been placed. I was subjected to physical and emotional abuse by being kicked, hit and verbally abused and criticised.

This has affected my ability to learn and how I relate to others. I am on lifetime medication, for psychological and psychiatric conditions as a result. I have low selfesteem and I am on a disability support pension.

I have been denied knowledge and access to my Aboriginal culture, identity and family.

I think that all State and Federal Governments should compensate all Stolen Generations for what they have been denied and also what they have been subjected too, through removal and the resulting abuse and isolation.

Tasmania has compensated its' Stolen Generations and so the rest of Australia should do the same.

I would like to say that any person that rejects this, should just try to imagine what it would be like if it had happened to them or their children

Regards

Robert Smith