

From: Ken Helsby
To: [Select Committee on Personal Choice and Community Safety; Ken Helsby](#)
Subject: Further Submission re Pool Fencing
Date: Wednesday, 19 September 2018 9:24:48 AM

SUBMISSION RE SWIMMING POOL FENCING LAWS

Forced enclosure of suburban yard swimming pools is an over-reaction to the serious and emotional issue of toddler drownings.

It is ludicrous that expensive fencing which limits the utility and access to a back yard is imposed on people who don't have young children and who never have children visiting.

It is a gross imposition on the property rights of such homeowners, negatively affecting visual amenity and impeding movement from house to pool area when the pool is located close by. It can be very difficult to design structures such as automatically closing external doors when sliding doors better suit the property.

Logically, if private property owners are forced to enclose all pools, why isn't government at all levels forced to enclose ponds and lakes in public parks, the rivers and ocean shorelines?

The situation is farcical - one rule for the goose, another for the gander.

Ordinary people clearly see this is nuts, so why can't politicians and bureaucrats see it?

A compromise would be to give Local Government the power to waiver the usual fencing requirements on receipt of a Statutory Declaration from householders who can honestly declare young children never set foot on their property.

When a house is rented or sold, the new residents would provide a similar Stat Dec.

Ken Helsby