

Dave Rennardson, Assisted Care, Acacia Prison



The Principal Research Officer,

Community Development and Justice Standing Committee

Legislative Assembly

Parliament House

PERTH WA 6000.

**Attention: Dr. Brian Gordon**

16 February 2010

**"MAKING OUR PRISONS WORK"**

Please find attached my submission to the above Inquiry. God Bless.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Rennardson".

Dave Rennardson

Encl.

## **"MAKING OUR PRISONS WORK"**

After being denied Parole the following issues have come to my attention:

### **Denial of Natural Justice**

I am appalled at the exclusion of Natural Justice from the Sentence Administration Act and most probably other legislations. I do not know the reasons for the exclusion but believe any exclusion is UnAustralian. In the end I believe everyone no matter what their crime is entitled to a Fair Go and should receive Natural Justice.

### **Parole Review Checklist**

As part of the process of the Prisoners' Review Board deciding a Parole application, it receives and consider a Parole Review Checklist prepared by the Department of Corrections which makes recommendations in respect of Parole. In my experience the statements in it were totally false and adversely impacted upon my Parole. Surely prior to the Parole Review Checklist being submitted to the Prisoners' Review Board it should be submitted to the Prisoner - where if there is disagreement of a particular issue surely there should be some opportunity for the Prisoner to state reasons for the disagreement? Surely Parole is an entitlement decide by a Court and it is an entitlement which should only be denied on legitimate grounds otherwise the cynic might suggest they are denied Parole by a Kangaroo Court.

### **Indigenous Representation on the Prisoners Review Board**

As a Narrygin Kidja man I am appalled at the cultural bigoted attitude adopted against my spiritual wives which has adversely affected my Parole. Given the significant Indigenous proportion of Prisoners there must be a Human Rights; and, Access and Equity case to ensure there is Indigenous involvement in the Prisoners Review Board.