



Centre Against Sexual Violence Inc.

13th September 2016

The Research Director
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

**Submission for Limitations of Actions Institutional Child Sexual Abuse
and other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016**

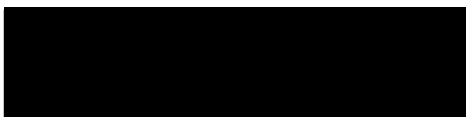
The Centre Against Sexual Violence Inc. (CASV) is a not-for-profit non-government community organisation funded by the Queensland State Government. The core business of the organisation is to provide sexual assault counselling, advocacy and support to all women 12 years and over residing in the Logan, Beaudesert and Redlands region who have experienced sexual assault at any time in their life.

The CASV welcomes the legislation to abolish limitation periods for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse; the introduction of 'Class Actions'; improved solicitors' trust accounts administration; and the preservation of JP QCAT jurisdiction.

We would also like the legislation to include the removal of civil statutory time limitations and procedural time limits for personal injury actions arising from **ALL** forms of child sexual abuse, not just those acts that occurred within an institutional context.

The introduction of legislative changes in one area only (the institutional context) as proposed in the Limitation of Actions (Institutional Child Sexual Abuse) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2016 essentially establishes significantly different legal responses available to victims/survivors of childhood sexual abuse depending on where the abuse took place. All victims/survivors of childhood sexual abuse should have the same access to civil proceedings for personal injury arising from acts of child abuse, irrespective of whether the abuse took place in an 'institutional context' or a private context such as the home.

Yours sincerely



Debbie Aldridge

On behalf of the CASV Association