

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee](#)
Subject: Fw: Submission to Child Protection and Other Amendment Bill 2020
Date: Monday, 3 August 2020 9:30:09 AM
Attachments: [BLURB -BFA.docx](#)

From: Mandy Williamson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 3 August 2020 9:25 AM
[REDACTED]
Subject: Submission to Child Protection and Other Amendment Bill 2020

SUBMISSION

To Child Protection and Amendment Bill 2020

From- Mandy Williamson
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

As an ADOPTED PERSON (ADOPTEE) - Adoption is not an option and the reasoning why.

There are NO Adoptee approved Supports anywhere in Australia.

- I am now approved with the NDIS under the (Mental Health System) as an Adoptee.

-As an Adoptee I have searched the country over the last 7 years and found none.
other than phone counselling, which is only one facet that an Adopted person requires.

There is so very much more that needs to take place from the government system now,
before ever contemplating Adoption again.

I suggest an enquiry that "hears the voices of the adopted persons" and only then can the
government system rectify the mess of adoption. You the government can not put
Adoption back into society without first supporting all Adoptees now.

You would be putting the lives of the children you wish to be adopted now at risk, without
having any significant supports for them going into their future.

If the Government heard from all adoptees, in an enquiry, the government could then
determine (by hearing all adopted persons)
a significant strategy to reform lives of children in care.

We Adopted persons do not want to know that you have not listened to us and continued down the road of adoption- with the next wave of adopted persons taking their own lives and you the government having no idea why.

Please read attachment - BFA (BABY FOR ADOPTION)

This is the response from - DEPARTMENT of CHILD SAFETY, YOUTH AND WOMEN, ADOPTION and PERMANENT CARE SERVICES.

"Mandy, thank you for welcoming us into your art space and for allowing us to experience the profound emotion of forced adoption. Every detail of your art was incredibly revealing and provided so much meaning to your words. It will have a lasting impact upon us, both personally and professionally."

Kindest regards , Michael and Rachel.

I am now inviting you to come and visit my walk through in the hope that positive changes can be made for all ADOPTED PERSONS.

The story of **FRIENDSHIP** is a compilation of HUNDREDS OF ADOPTED PERSONS LIVED EXPERIENCE.

There is no TIME-FRAME on the word Adoption!

You are not 6 and it stops

You are not 18 and it stops

You are not 50 or dead and it stops.

I will be sharing their journey, from their voices, in an interactive art space with you today in the hope that you leave this place with an awareness that you never would have contemplated.

Sharing and befriending adopted persons for most of my adult life, I found that no one had the capacity, in words, in short form, to enable anyone non adopted to understand the feelings and thoughts of the adopted.

I have spent the last 6 years endeavoring to create what I felt needed to be relayed and discussed. I contemplated every sentence that had ever been said to me, and the multitude of tears, blood and loss of life I have encountered, into every scene that I have created.

If no one could speak it and the adopted persons I know were to broken to speak it anyway, how could any of us ever get any help? So with the strength of my LAST STAND, for my mother, for my father, for every adopted person, I packed up my homeless teary self and rented a house.

I have now created a walk through journey with 5 rooms full of every emotional response you can have plus some you didn't know existed, in order to allow people to feel, rather than- to listen to what we are trying to share. I hope your experience is contemplative.