

From: Linda Davis [REDACTED]
Date: 11 March 2021 at 4:18:42 pm AEST
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Youth Justice

Dear Mr Russo,

I write to you in relation to the proposed changes to the Youth Justice act.

From a Human Rights perspective I'd like to argue for Youth Justice legislation to avoid any changes to Bail provisions which will see more youth behind bars. Criminalisation of Breach of Bail and other changes to Bail could foreseeably result in overflowing watchhouses and Youth Detention Centres.

It would be preferable and in the interests of youth for them to be diverted directly into Youth Programs which are Indigenous or Community led.

It is important to avoid the incarceration of youth as far as is possible, and there are many proven programs which address the root causes of youth offending.

To allay community fears, I urge the government to bolster the strength and capacity of Youth Programs to cater for all youth considered to be 'at risk' youth both before and after they have committed crimes.

Yours Sincerely,

Linda Davis

Townsville