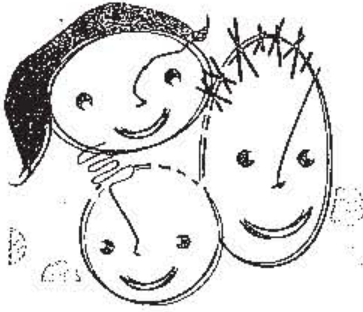
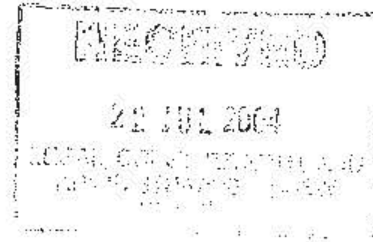


Submission No 14



Commission for Children and Young People

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Ref: 9331

Your ref: Spec 46

21 July 2004

Dr Lesley Clark MP
Chair
Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee
Parliament House
George St
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Dr Clark 

I refer to your letter dated 17 June 2004 under cover of which you provided a copy of the Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee's issues paper titled *A preamble for the Queensland Constitution?* Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the inquiry.

Views as to whether there should be a preamble, and the elements it should contain, are personal and diverse. In this regard, I have provided a copy of your issues paper to all staff of the Commission for Children and Young People so that they can consider the issues and provide feedback to you in a personal capacity.

The Commission for Children and Young People wishes to make only a few comments.

Issue 18: Should the preamble contain other elements, and if so, what should they be?

The Commission for Children and Young People would be supportive of recognising the rights of children or the protection of children in any preamble. In making this statement, I am aware that there are many aspects of Queensland's culture and society that could be included in a preamble, if one were to be adopted. However, the protection of children is an issue which could be considered to be of such universal importance that it is appropriate for adoption in a preamble.



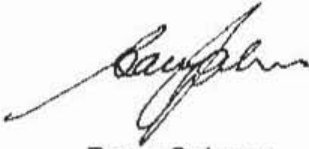
Commission for
Children & Young People
Queensland Government

Issue 19 – 21: Developing the text

The Commission for Children and Young People considers that any attempts to draft a preamble for the Queensland Constitution should be done with input from children and young people. As suggested in the Committee's paper, this could be done through schools, competitions or by including youth on a decision-making panel. The Commission would be pleased to assist in any way it can by promoting your committee's inquiry or any future work on a preamble.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on (07) 3247 5527 or Ms Allison Tait, Principal Policy Advisor, on (07) 3247 5509 in relation to this matter. I wish the Committee well in its deliberations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barry Salmon', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left.

Barry Salmon
A/Commissioner for Children and Young People