

National Human Rights Consultation Submission

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Submission Text:

I am a student studying Human Rights as apart of my course Community Welfare.. through this I have learnt quite a bit internationally and some within Australia.. However through my own life experiences and the experiences of my family and friends I have formed some opinons of my own..

I don't believe globally that Human Rights are protected or promoted. It seems to me that when it comes to Wars basic human rights can be simply ignored. No other time would the human race think death via weapons as almost acceptable losses at no other time can innocents die without the country where this happens calling for blood or punishment. No other time would the powers that be take a backseat to the issue and leave things to continue.

For me though personally what I believe needs to be worked on is the rights of the aged specifically those who are residents of nursing homes.. the substandard treatment they receive astounds me. Have we forgotten that many of our aging population built our world, fought for us and for others? When did it become alright for our elderly to be treated second class just because they are frail or have illnesses. I say this because my father has Parkinsons Disease as in now a resident of a nursing home and in that time they have just forgotten to give my dad medication and have put him outside in extreme conditions until my father had blisters from being burnt regardless of the fact that my father no longer walks.. People need to remember that one day that could be us and now we need to speak and act so the treatment of aged persons improves.

I am concerned for my daughter and any other children I may have.. Whatever happened to education being free? Where are the children of Australia to go when they complete high school if the HECS debt after the trial in Victoria is considered a success and its applied nationally. I am concerned that my child who plans to do Arts will be unable to because of the HECS debt. I am concerned that the possibility of that debt will be enough to ensure that my child doesn't study and that she takes any job just to survive. How does the government expect people to upskill when they are going to get stuck with a hefty debt just to do so. Why upskill when the more you learn the bigger the debt the more you earn then you have to pay it all back.

How can we as people better promote human rights? by speaking out by raising awareness and by contacting those in power that can change things.

If enough people stand together we can encourage change.

Thank you
Belinda Harvey