

Martisius, Geraldine

From: CCC
To: gambling@pc.gov.au
Subject: gambling inquiry
Date: Friday, 30 October 1998 3:02PM

Inquiry into Australia's Gambling Industries.

Submission from
Louise Peach
Community Developer/Manager
Caloundra Community Centre Inc.
78 Buderim St
Currimundi Qld 4551

30/10/98

Dear Sir/Madam,

Since the introduction of widespread gambling in our community we have witnessed first hand an increase in family hardships directly related to family members increased gambling habits.

In the past year, appeals for direct financial assistance have increased and continues to increase while our resources have remained fairly constant. We cannot assist many people seeking our help because their financial situation is dire.

Our area has a high unemployment level, many people are seeking to augment their income through 'playing the pokies' and have the time and opportunity to do so.

Clubs and pubs could be acting more responsibly in this by limiting individual spending or disallowing more than three withdrawals from cashiers. Clubs and pubs are expected to take some responsibility for intoxicated persons and can refuse service. Likewise, similar rules should apply to poker machine use and abuse.

Thankyou for the opportunity to contribute to the enquiry.

Yours sincerely

LOUISE PEACH