



Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc.

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Professor Gillian Triggs
President
Australian Human Rights Commission
GPO Box 5218
Sydney 2001

15th March 2015

Dear Professor Triggs,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Australian Federation of Graduate Women in relation to *The Forgotten Children*, the report of the 2014 Australian Human Rights Commission's National Inquiry into Children in Immigration Detention.

In April 2014 we wrote to commend you on initiating this inquiry and added our concern about the impact that prolonged detention is having on unaccompanied and accompanied children. In particular, we deplored the effect the current situation will have on these children's mental health.

We continue to believe that current policy contradicts basic human rights in areas such as protection, detention, degradation and especially education, and welcome publication of the report. AFGW intends to continue to argue on the behalf of these children and their families; in particular we will take up the issue of the provision of education to children in detention in the coming months. *The Forgotten Children* will add substance to our arguments.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Madeleine Laming
President, Australian Federation of Graduate Women