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From: Yvette Pritchard [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 28 January 2020 10:21 PM
To: sentencingcouncil
Subject: Review of sentencing for murder and manslaughter (Attorney General of NSW)

I support Mr Mark Speakman's call for amendments to be made to the existing legislation. I feel that non-parole life sentencing for murder and manslaughter is quite pointless for a few reasons. Firstly, it denies the prisoner any hope of a meaningful future, which does not seem to me to offer any benefits. Certainly no benefit to the prisoner, no motivation for him or her to have a positive attitude, or strive to be productive in any way.

Also there is certainly no benefit to the Government or the taxpayer, in that the cost of supporting a person in custody for the term of their life is huge. In many cases, the prisoner may pose absolutely no threat to society, in which case the present non-discretionary legislation seems unfair. If legislation allowing for discretionary sentencing were introduced, there would be an incentive for prisoners to strive towards rehabilitation and a reason to be positive.

It seems extremely inhumane and draconian to allow this rigid non-discretionary jurisdiction to remain in force.

Thank you for considering my opinion in this matter .
Yvette Pritchard