

Submission
No 61

**INQUIRY INTO THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS AND
PRISON-RELATED SERVICES**

Name: Mr Ron Petersen

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Refer Newcastle Morning Herald H2 section page 2.

In this article Ray Gray calls attention to the case in USA where two judges in the state of Pennsylvania pleaded guilty to accepting bribes of \$2.6 million from private prison owners in return for sentencing kids to their prisons.

Privately run prisons make big money out of accommodating prisoners. They have been involved in many alleged instances of wrong doing in the USA. More people in gaol means more money for the gaol operators.

When the gaols fill the taxpayer builds more and so the cycle continues. Basically, the judges have pleaded guilty, opening the way for a massive law suit by several hundred families.

I believe the privatisation of our gaols will eventually cost the taxpayer substantially more, as well as increased risk of security and opens the possibility of prisoner mistreatment.