

The Alliance keeps up the pressure

From: Christine Cole [mailto:C.Cole@uws.edu.au]
Posted At: Monday, 1 March 2010 4:05 PM
Posted To: HA_Office_Email
Conversation: Apology Alliance: Call to action for an Apology
Subject: Apology Alliance: Call to action for an Apology

Hi Everyone,

David Templeman, a WA MP, has delivered a Private Members' Statement, February 24, 2010, calling on the WA government to apologise to white families separated by past government sanctioned removalist policies, as was promised by Dr. Kim Hanes, Deputy Premier, in 2009. Sue Macdonald and representatives from ARMS WA attended parliament to hear Mr. Templeman's impassioned plea. Many MPs were moved to tears as was Templeman himself. Sue and ARMS are members of the Apology Alliance and Sue has called on all members of the Alliance to do what she has done and visit their local state and federal MPs.

Attached is a very moving account from Sue about her feelings on the day she attended the WA parliament. Also attached is David Templeman's Private Members' Statement. Some of you may have already received the Statement as Barbara Maison, another Alliance member, was so excited when she received it, she has already forwarded it on.

For just over 2 years now the Apology Alliance has operated Australia wide, to unite all those impacted by past government removalist policies. Our mission has been and is to call for federal and state apologies. The Alliance has worked to educate and inform its members: mothers, fathers and our now adult children as well as government, post adoption resource centres and others who support us, with the most up to date research.

Sent: Sunday, March 07, 2010 4:18 PM
To: Letters to the Editor, WA Newspapers,
Cc: Dr Kim Hanes - Minister for Health; David Templeman MLA - Mandurah
Subject: announcement of recognition of illegal adoption practices

Sunday 7th March, 2010

Dear Editor,

Across the eastern states of Australia there is currently much interest following the announcement of Dr Kim Hanes of recognition and acknowledgement by

the government, and of mothers and children forced into adoptions and harmed by illegal adoption practices, from the 1950s into the 1980s.

Sincere appreciation and congratulations have been widely expressed here for Kim Hanes and David Templeman, for their courage in taking the initiative for

Western Australia: actually listening, and hearing, those constituents whose voices have been ignored and dismissed so for long in the other states

of Australia, despite years of pleading for the truth to be out in the open so our children can truly understand.

Listening to mothers, grieving still and traumatised, some for more than half a century, some unable to live with the injustice of the callous taking

of our babies, as our basic human rights as mothers were ignored and corrupted.

Admiration for Sue and other brave mothers attending Parliament with David Templeman, who told their stories (despite the ignorant sceptics who

mock, and those who deny and contradict, merely to salve their own consciences) of pain and ongoing trauma as a result of the corrupt and socially

punitive procedures by those professed 'moral' persons in the authoritative positions that gave them the powers to be judge, jury and lifetime gaolers!

As a self-exiled Sandgroper together with many families across Australia, are all watching and waiting to see the "**West Finally Lead the Way Forward!**"

sincerely

Barbara Maison
1/5 Charles Street,
Drouin. Victoria 3818