

**Julie Thompson**

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**From:** Sally O'Wheel <campaigns@good.do>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 8 November 2016 1:15 PM  
**To:** fgm  
**Subject:** Submission to the Joint Select Committee on Future Gaming Markets

Dear Members of the Committee,

I am a teacher at a local primary school in Devonport.

I was appalled to learn that \$12 million is lost to the pokies out of Devonport every year.

It appalled me because I see the large numbers of children who come to our school and eat the breakfast provided by a local church. What kind of society is it, where primary age children are sent to school without breakfast?

The other thing I notice about Devonport is the empty shops. Small business can't seem to make a go of it.

I don't think rural towns like Devonport can afford to loose millions of dollars to pokies every year. It means that children are not being properly cared for and people have no money to spend in local shops. It leads to a spiral of disadvantage.

I understand the machines in pubs and clubs in Devonport are rigged so that people lose. I understand they trigger an endorphin rush in the gambler and that they are highly addictive.

I know that there are no pokies in pubs and clubs in Western Australia and yet, pubs and clubs do not go out of business. Pokies should be confined to casinos and not embedded in disadvantaged communities like Devonport.

Please take them out of pubs and clubs.

Yours sincerely, Sally O'Wheel Forth.

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Please reply to Sally O'Wheel at [sowheel@gmail.com](mailto:sowheel@gmail.com).

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