Prison Teachers Removal – Forum Media Release Thursday 18 August 2016

"Research highlights the importance of education as a very significant factor in reducing recidivism. Removing specialist teachers from the prisons as proposed by the Government **requires public justification after consultation** with all the stakeholders. The lockdown of prisoners in cells for over eighteen hours a day gives very little time for education, especially with the huge increase of imprisonment" said Community Justice Coalition President, the Hon **John Dowd** AO QC.

The Community Justice Coalition and the International Commission of Jurists will hold a Public Forum on Prisoner Education. It will be held in the Macquarie Room, Parliament House on Tuesday the 23rd of August at 5:30pm.

Representatives of political parties and the NSW Teachers Federation will be on the panel. Corrective Services NSW officers present will clarify issues that arise.

"The difficulty of delivering **education to women** in prison is even more pronounced due to their smaller numbers and shorter sentences. It is essential that specialist teachers coupled with **in-cell technology** be available to improve their prospects for the future" said The Hon **Elizabeth Evatt** AC, ICJ Commissioner and former Chief Justice of the Family Court of Australia.

Forum Paper download here

President

Community Justice Coalition info@communityjusticecoalition.org http://www.communityjusticecoalition.org/
P.O. Box 345, Broadway, NSW 2007 Australia