



commission for
children and young people
and child guardian

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14 JUL 2009

Ms Sophie Redmond
Legal Section
Australian Human Rights Commission
GPO Box 5218
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Ms Redmond

Thank you for your correspondence of 29 May 2009 regarding Carnival plc's application for a temporary exemption under s.44(1) of the *Age Discrimination Act 2004 (Cth)*.

I am aware that end of school events, such as Schoolies Week, can attract large groups of unsupervised young people with a resultant increase in risks to the young people's safety and wellbeing.

Where Schoolies events occur on land, government agencies, police and communities have worked together to create engaging, separated and more controlled venues to protect the safety and welfare of celebrating teenagers. Cruise ships have a reduced capacity to achieve such controlled environments, particularly as security and medical services are limited.

During Schoolies Week, I am of the view that the isolation and lack of police presence in cruise environments justify implementing special, temporary measures to prevent and minimise alcohol-related/induced crime in order to protect young Schoolies as well as other passengers, including children and young people.

On this basis, I do not oppose the Australian Human Rights Commissioner granting a temporary exemption from relevant provisions of the *Age Discrimination Act* during the period in question.

If you require further clarification or information in relation to this submission, please do not hesitate to contact the Commission's Principal Policy Officer, Yvette Norris, (07) 3211 6960 or via email: yvette.norris@ccypcg.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Fraser'.

Elizabeth Fraser
**Commissioner for Children and Young People
and Child Guardian**