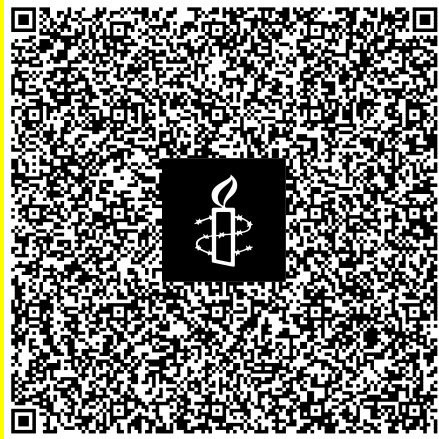


VICTORIA: KIDS NEED COMMUNITY, NOT CONFINEMENT



Victoria's youth detention system is in crisis – children as young as 12 are subjected to solitary confinement and rolling lockdowns that meet the UN definition of torture. These punitive practices cause lasting harm, entrench trauma and disadvantage, and fail to make communities safer – while costing taxpayers extraordinary amounts. Evidence shows there is a better way: supportive, evidence-based alternatives are safer, cheaper and more effective.

Amnesty International calls on the Victorian Government to fully implement its international human rights obligations, including:

1. OPCAT (Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture), ensuring independent, transparent and regular monitoring of all youth detention facilities, with the power to inspect, report, and make binding recommendations.
2. CROC (Convention on the Rights of the Child), including:
 - a. Raising the age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years.
 - b. Ending all treatment that amounts to torture, cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment.
 - c. Guaranteeing access to education, health care, mental health support, and family contact.
3. Legislate minimum standards for youth detention so every child is treated with dignity, safety, and respect.
4. Invest in community-based programs, including Indigenous-led diversion initiatives, to support children, prevent harm, and keep communities safer at far lower cost than detention.

Sign now to demand action!

NAME	POSTCODE	SIGNATURE	EMAIL	MOBILE	DOB

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