

*Monitoring for human rights in places of detention
NPMs and IMBs – how effective are they in securing human rights?*

Dr Bronwyn Naylor

Associate Chair Monash University Human Research Ethics Committee
Chaired by **Professor Loraine Gelsthorpe**

Wednesday 18th May 2011, 5.00pm
Seminar Room B4, Institute of Criminology, Sidgwick Ave

To be followed by informal drinks for all attendees

Formal treaties and statutes spell out aspirations for respectful treatment of people in prisons and other places of detention. But what is needed to make these values part of day-to-day practice? Many countries have formal monitoring bodies, some long-established and others a response to the ratification of Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT). The UK Prisons Inspectorate has been since 2009 the UK's peak monitoring body, its 'National Preventive Mechanism' (NPM) under OPCAT. At the same time many countries see a role for civil society in protecting rights, with community visitors and Independent Monitoring Boards (IMBs). To what extent can monitoring bodies – formal and informal; government and community – really protect rights in detention? Dr Bronwyn Naylor will discuss some of her current research in which she is examining ways of protecting rights in prisons, in immigration detention and in forensic psychiatric facilities.

Bronwyn Naylor is a Senior Lecturer in Law at Monash University, Australia, Co-Chair of that University's Human Research Ethics Committee, and Chief Investigator on a major Australian research project 'Applying Human Rights Legislation In Closed Environments: A Strategic Framework For Managing Compliance'.

All welcome