

VICTORIA POLICE

**General Policing Department
Whittlesea District Headquarters
Region Division 3**

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785 High Street
Epping 3076
Victoria, Australia
DX 212417
Telephone 9409 8155
Facsimile 9409 8181

Reference A submission to the Standing Committee on Employment,
Education and Workplace Relations Inquiry into the Education of
Boys:

I am writing to highlight the potential impact education of young males has beyond the academic sphere on Crime and community safety. In 1999 a publication entitled Pathways to prevention: Developmental and early intervention approaches to crime in Australia was distributed under the auspices of the National Anti-Crime Strategy through the Commonwealth Attorney General's Department. Responses were invited in respect to that document. In my response I highlighted the disproportionate number of young males compared to females who were detected committing crime. I suggested a number of areas that potentially impacted on the socialisation skills in the early and middle years of schooling needed to be considered and middle years of schooling needed to be considered and researched, being:

- for many young males a more experimental method of learning is required,
- the importance of significant positive male role models needs to be fully researched.

The impact of such measures may mean not only a better academic and employment outcome, but that we achieve a safer, healthier and more productive community. A copy of my response is attached.

John THEXTON
Inspector