



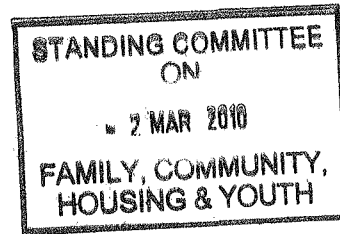
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Submission No. 57.2 (Youth Violence) A.O.C. Date: 02/03/2010

Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
AUSTRALIA



Dear Sir/Madam,

Additional materials on impact of violence on young Australians

On Wednesday 10 February, the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) appeared before the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth. During this appearance, the Committee requested further information on a number of issues related to the impact of violence on young Australians.

The AIC has undertaken a literature search on these issues to assist the Committee. Please find enclosed the following publications:

- McGregor K 2009. *National community attitudes towards violence against women survey 2009: Project technical report*. Canberra: AIC

This report includes an analysis of remoteness and its impact on attitudes and violent behaviours. See, for example, tables 12, 13, 17, 25, 26, 30 and 31, and figures 27 to 32.

- Roberts L & Indermaur D 2009. *What Australians think about crime and justice: Results from the 2007 survey of social attitudes*. Canberra: AIC

This report considers attitudes towards victimisation. Figure 11, for example, shows concern about becoming a victim of different types of crime by geographical location. Residents in rural areas appear to have fewer fears of personal victimisation than urban residents.

- Williams J et al. 2009. *Violent and antisocial behaviours among young adolescents in Australian communities: an analysis of risk and protective factors*. Perth: Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth, 2009

This research considers the survey responses of year 6 and year 8 students in Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia in relation to violent behaviour. Communities surveyed were categorised by urban/regional status and socioeconomic status.

The Committee may also find the website of the New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, which ranks Local Government Areas for selected offences, useful in this

regard. See:

http://www.bocsar.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/bocsar/ll_bocsar.nsf/pages/bocsar_lga_ranking.

- Dixon D & Maher L 2005. Policing, crime and public health: lessons for Australia from the 'New York' miracle. *Criminology and criminal justice* 5(2): 115-143

This article provides a summary of responses to claims from both sides about the success of zero tolerance policing in New York City.

- Dietze P et al. 2009. Income inequality and alcohol attributable harm in Australia. *BMC Public Health* 9(70): 1-9

This article shows that while alcohol-attributable harms generally increased with increasing income inequality, alcohol-attributable hospitalisations showed the reverse relationship. These findings are incompatible with previous explanations of the relationship between income inequality and health-related harms.

- Keyes K, Hasin D & Hasin D 2008. Socio-economic status and problem alcohol use : the positive relationship between income and the DSM-IV alcohol abuse diagnosis. *Addiction* 103(7): 1120-1130

This article shows that because hazardous use is the most commonly-endorsed criterion of alcohol abuse, the link between income level and alcohol abuse raises questions about whether the current alcohol abuse diagnosis can capture the full range of alcohol abusers in every socioeconomic class.

- Hayes-Smith J & Bridges Whaley R 2009. Community characteristics and methamphetamine use : a social disorganization perspective. *Journal of Drug Issues* 39(3): 547-576

This research indicates that low socioeconomic status and residential instability are associated with methamphetamine use.

- Warburton A & Shepherd J 2006. Tackling alcohol related violence in city centres: effect of emergency medicine and police intervention. *Emergency Medicine Journal* 23: 12-17

This article identifies correlates of alcohol-related violence in one European capital city. This study found a significant relationship between the number of licensed premises and rates of violence. It also found, however, that the major predictor of violence in entertainment precincts was the proximity of premises to each other.

- Homel R & Tomsen S 1993. *Hot spots for violence: The environment of pubs and clubs*. Canberra: AIC

This research found that the social class of patrons of licensed venues cannot explain the differences between violent premises and more peaceful premises.

I hope that this additional information is able to address the Committee's questions about regional variations in attitudes towards violence, zero tolerance policing, rates of alcohol and other drug use in low socioeconomic areas, and rates of violence near licensed premises in urban and suburban locations.

Please do not hesitate to contact me in relation to any of the above.

(Dr) Adam Tomison
Director