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STANDING COMMITTEE
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FAMILY, COMMUNITY,
HOUSING & YOUTH

Submission No. 72.1

(Youth Violence)

A.O.C. Date: 17/03/2010

The Chair

Committee on Community, Family, Housing & Youth
Inquiry on the Impact of Violence on Young Australians

Dear Chair & Committee

This is a follow up on my earlier letter. The reason — overall we as individual identities, plus also as communities, do not really understand what Childhood is actually made for." By this I mean why the length of gestation prior to birthing followed by the various stages of development that is both mental & specially — configuring as well as physically growing & developing, programming ones responses to ones body needs & ability to perform tasks.

I've felt I understood something about life & where I felt I fitted in. You have something of that in my previous letter.

Since writing you I've picked up some books I've been reading & digesting from time to time. These cover medical & scientific material in language that any person reasonably educated can understand, though sometimes a dictionary of modern terminology comes in handy.

Darwin, & friends, ideas about evolution gave botanists quite an insight into the way plants pass on the many generations of experience of their environment that is keyed within the genetics in each seed. When we finally were able to "see" graphically the genetic DNA/RNA spiralling structure & the tendrils it was found how ~~how~~ all of life on Earth has this same type of structure with variations that make each quite peculiarly individual, their own expression, the great variety of life, & also how we ourselves are quite separate identities, & energy intelligences. Apart from the initial conception, how an embryo develops & what mother inputs is more than food to make blood & bone. Her life & emotional experiences are part of the input. Same with those whom are her friends & family.

Chara & Comm: Thee

Once the brain develops & the various sensory abilities begin, baby is aware. Sounds carry into the placenta, light also, & because babies eyes are as yet not ready for strong light the eyelids close, but the eyes are getting ready to "see" when ready to do so after birthing. It takes 4 to 6 years to be fully sighted, but meantime being able to see, to touch, to taste & to hear & smell all contribute to child's ability to discern position - depth, width, height, which is so accepted as normal. Feelings play a big part in all of this, much more so than one realises. It's really a special time that needs much attention, on many levels, very urgently. Since the availability of T.V., then computers, with Play Station, the internet, & now the many things from the internet, Email, Hot mail, E bag, Facebook, Twitter, Webpages, Virtual Reality, plus all of this now also on cell (mobile) phones, we have so much more material to deal with & to understand how to best manage. We have not seen the problem all this development is bringing along with it. Childhood is the time we are meant to use, so we learn how we manage ourselves in this world. But with the Play Station the user is put into the action, they are the one challenging with the objective of defeating. Cinema also showed this kind of concept. TV began to adopt this way as well. Same with Radio & also the music of latter years. It's in your face society, up you attitude, swearing, & so on, that's now everywhere, & sex is used for selling, for fashion, for humour, everything. Why? Because the media push it & people say we are adults, our human rights stuff. Step back & look at the big picture, see the reality. You are asking why the violence? Simply because in so many homes there is no attempt to teach what is real reality & where discrimination & evaluation should begin. TV & games keep kids out of the way of adults. It's a blessing they say. Wrong. Psychologists today are showing that the early childhood & later development experiences & behaviour are not only related, they are the direct result of those influences. What that means is that people shape & make their lives, both mentally & also their physical health, by their emotional experiences, beginning from early childhood & family background & associates.

So many have not learnt the basic ability of separating appearances & evaluating feelings & so understanding the world they live within. So many do not understand this, nor how to manage their life & wellbeing.

That the problem. It's quite a task to find a solution, but it's essential to do so.

Respectfully Harry W. Hebin