

# CA

## Alcohol and violence at the coal face

SOLOMON  
on victims

Local Government  
and crime

THE RIGHT  
DATA

FEAR  
in a small town

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# CRIMINOLOGY AUSTRALIA

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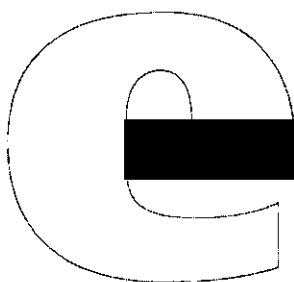
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## EDITORIAL

**CRIMINOLOGY AUSTRALIA**  
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**S**ome years ago the Australian Institute of Criminology produced some statistics which led to the conclusion that certain crime rates in Australia were higher than in other areas of the world, such as Europe. One of those crimes was car theft. It led an AIC criminologist to suggest that because of our climate we were more likely to experience car theft and similar crimes. It was a classic case of lateral thinking.

It is that time again. Summer. This indeed is the Summer issue of CA. And so we will be out of our houses, using our cars more, opening up more opportunities for crime among the less law abiding citizens.

But is it really the case? That criminologist of yore was not saying we are more "criminal" than the rest of the world; he was saying that where the opportunity existed it was grasped. In other crimes, we were not in the global Top Ten.

In this Summer edition, three reports highlight the Shadow of Crime, that is the fear of crime that is not necessarily backed up by the reality.

Adam Graycar's regular feature, Turning the Page, describes a meeting in Tasmania where the audience were obviously very fearful about crime in their town. No figures would convince them otherwise. David Solomon's article lays some of the blame at the door of the media, particularly during election time. And what do we have approaching? Of course a federal election! But let us look at the positive side. The Glenorchy

Council is looking to the substance not the shadow; in its local government-based crime prevention program, it is confronting the problems at ground level.

The Commonwealth Government's Safer Australia Program also recognises the shadow and the substance; it is planning to combat the problems which each raises. But more of that in future issues!

Our social lives give little heed to the seasons, especially when it comes to the Australian penchant for alcohol. Professor Ross Homel, from Griffith University in Queensland, is continuing his innovative research into the link between alcohol and violence; a CA interview reports on the man and his work.

So that's CA for the Summer. In '96 we will continue to bring you the mainstream stories and features in crime prevention and criminal justice.

**GARRY RAFFAELE** EDITOR

# ALCOHOL VIOLENCE

## Looking for a Link GARRY RAFFAELE

One of the last places you might expect to see an academic — at least in a working capacity — is in a pub! But, for Professor Ross Homel of Griffith University, Queensland, it is the front line of the work he and a team of researchers are pursuing, and have been pursuing for some years now.

The problem? To establish if there is any link between alcohol and violence.

The evidence? Previously anecdotal in the main, for example, "All young men when they get drunk like to punch out other young men" is a common belief.

And a decade later? Two series of observations and analyses have been completed in the Sydney environment and a series of programs applying the lessons, first in Surfers Paradise and being replicated in Townsville, Mackay and Cairns, are just now getting underway.

Homel's work is innovative although one other significant study (from Canada) is a precursor. Ross Homel, an affable man and a researcher regarded by his peers as one of the leaders in his field, had heard the stories. He had also seen the Canadian research which suggested certain lines of inquiry — lines which did not have the traditional tone.

The theory — in lay terms at least? To observe the archetypal context of alcohol: in pubs and clubs and to measure cause and effect.

So where did it all start?

Ross Homel initially described his current position, Head of the School of Justice Administration, Griffith University in Queensland.

"I'm a minority time researcher", he said.

"I'd like to devote all my time to research and writing but as a head of department and also a part-time Commissioner with the Queensland Criminal Justice Commission and of course a lecturer, I find little time to do research.



*Professor Ross Homel*

**"I need to hear the disaster stories as well as the success stories and hopefully we can help to evolve that body of knowledge ... and, at the same time, improve our understanding of our society."**

"That hasn't stopped me from taking on a large number of projects, all of which are now overdue, and of course included in that is the work on prevention of alcohol-related violence and other kinds of alcohol-related harm which is part of a series of studies I've been doing."

In the 1980s, he had done a lot of work on drinking and driving.

"I've always had a strong concern to prevent injury and accidents. I guess I have a view that social science should be useful and that, by being useful, you can also discover a great deal about the world.

"So my philosophy is... well, John Wesley once said that the world was his parish; well, the world is my laboratory.

"I have a twofold aim — one is to reduce accidents and injury but the other is to understand how interventions work in terms of our theories of human behaviour, our criminological theories.

He says the work he did in the 1980s on random breath testing sensitised him to the enormous importance alcohol has as a factor in trauma. In this country, up to the late '80s, there had been very little interest in or work on alcohol-related violence or alcohol-related crime.

"Any police officer you ever spoke to always said that alcohol was one of the major problems that they dealt with. I've never met a police officer who has denied that.

"But there's been very little systematic research in Australia up until the late '80s on that issue, and when I looked at the literature, my particular interest remained in changing environments".

He felt it was very hard to change human behaviour directly but, by changing incentive structures and by changing environments, Homel believes we can change behaviour.

"Much of what we do is conditioned by opportunities that arise in the routine activities of daily life. It doesn't help to be moralistic about what people do, but people generally will take short cuts or do what seems to them to be right or is most convenient in specific situations.

"You simply have to understand those situations from the perspective of the people involved, and see if we can modify those situations to reduce the risk of harm to those individuals or to other individuals that they might come into contact with."

He discovered that there was almost nothing in the empirical literature on the relationship between drinking environments and the risks of violence.

There had been one study that had been conducted in 1980 in Vancouver by a researcher, Kate Graham, from the Dickson Research Foundation. She had gone with a couple of students into bars in Vancouver and spent some 600 hours observing aggressive and violent incidents, correlating them with a vast array of items that she and her students raided from the environment of these places.

"She came up with some very interesting findings, and so when the National Committee on Violence was established in Australia in the late 1980s and they were making money available for research on violence, it became fairly clear to me that this was a golden opportunity to do some work."

The availability of research funds, an interest in alcohol-related trauma, the observation that there had been very little work in the field, combined with Homel's strong interest in injury reduction (which, according to Homel, is probably one of the most important aspects of his work generally) lead to the establishment of the first project in Sydney.

It followed to some extent the Canadian model. The work, it seemed, had to be done at the coal face, in environments which were described by Homel as often "blood houses".

"I began with some colleagues in Sydney — and I have to give all due credit to Dr Steve Tomsen from the University of Newcastle. He was a research fellow at Macquarie; he'd just graduated with his PhD in Sociology.

"I worked closely with him for a year and he did the vast bulk of the observations together with a NSW policewoman, Jennifer Thommeny, who was loaned to us by the Police Department.

"I have to give all credit to Jennifer and Stephen for their amazing work and the careful nature of the observations that they did in pubs and clubs.

"We concentrated on a small number of blood houses — violent places — but we also tried to find, and I think, succeeded in finding two or three very well-managed, low-risk establishments for contrast."

The aim was to find out what it was about some drinking environments that made them regularly violent.

"We used qualitative rather than quantitative methods.

"We used open-ended observation — unstructured, unobtrusive observation and then spent a long time coding up the transcripts of the visits, the accounts of the visits and arguing about interpretation and analysis. We published three or four papers from that phase of the research."

At that point Dr Homel moved from Macquarie University in Sydney to Queensland to the Chair in Justice Administration at Griffith University.

"In the year before I moved, I had worked with a group of about 20 students in a course in psychology in a critical research project which again involved going into pubs and clubs and doing observation, but this time using a very quantitative structured approach.

**"Most drinking environments are quite safe for most of the time. There's very little risk of any kind of incident occurring. You could spend hundreds of hours in most places and never observe anyone being violent."**

"I wanted to see whether the insights which we thought we had arrived at from the open-ended qualitative unstructured observation would be confirmed if we used a much more structured instrument and observation schedule based on our experience in the previous study.

"And so the students got very enthusiastically behind this and I remember being dragged off on a number of occasions to various drinking holes and 'supervising' the work."

Research, he says, is not easy. You have to spend many hours in various places.

"Most drinking environments are quite safe for most of the time. There's very little risk of any kind of incident occurring. You could spend hundreds of hours in most places and never observe anyone being violent.

"There are places as I've just said, though, that are regularly violent and we had to spend a lot of time in two-hour blocks observing in pubs and clubs and we racked up about 300 hours of observation. I think this was about what we'd done in the previous study.

"That was in pubs and clubs all over Sydney.

"But it was a more extensive sample of pubs and clubs and it was a more quantitative analysis. Now that's been published as well.

"On the whole, the second program did support the previous study. It didn't provide the richness of material which of course is the difference between qualitative and quantitative."

What was a little surprising was that this latter study reinforced the importance of intoxication as a variable.

"Interestingly, levels of rate of intoxication didn't so much predict physical violence but non-physical aggression. That is, verbal abuse and arguments and things like that. But what did predict violence was mass intoxication induced by a lot of people getting drunk very quickly through price discounting."

Professor Homel also revealed inept serving practices and bar staff handling of drunks. A lot of violence occurred when the staff tried to say "no" to drunks, highlighting the importance of training bar staff in how to refuse service and how to do it in a way that doesn't provoke further confrontation.

"We have seen it done very successfully. It can be done but it does require some skills. One of the things that we did observe in our first study in Sydney but not in the second was that a lot of violence was instigated by bouncers.

"I don't really know why. Maybe it was that the students weren't equipped to observe it or we weren't in the right places, I don't know or maybe things have improved. I think things did get better at about that time.

"People became aware that some bouncers were being conscripted directly off the gym floor and were on steroids and so on. In our earlier studies, about a third of all the serious incidents we'd observed had been instigated by bouncers, often involving fairly small, drunk males who were on their own— they weren't equal attacks in any sense."

Homel says they did not see that so much in the second study — it was the way the staff handled the problem of intoxication that was one of the key issues.

"I have to say that race was an issue in the second study. We'd observed it in the first study but it did arise both in the race of the staff and the race of the patrons, so it was a factor.

"There's no question in my mind that many places where a large number of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders congregate to drink are on the whole more violent or more aggressive than is generally the case."

That, according to the researcher, was simply a matter of fact. That issue was a factor in the second study with Tomsen and Thommeny.

So now comes the third phase. Homel moved to Griffith University in a more high profile role.

"When I moved to Griffith, I was interviewed by a number of newspapers. One of those newspapers was the *Gold Coast Bulletin* and they asked me to make some comments about Surfers Paradise which had and still has a very poor reputation for sleaze and for violence and that kind of thing.

Surfers Sleaze was the headline ("I didn't actually say that but I did say that Surfers Paradise had a problem").

"This resulted in a pretty severe reaction from the then mayor and the tourist promotion officer down at the Gold Coast. That gave me the opportunity to start talking to the local people, the local council down there.

"Incidentally, I'd been very impressed, as were a number of people, with the work done in Melbourne by Judy Dixon and her colleagues from the Community Council Against Violence.

"I'd been interested in the community intervention models for some years. I'd worked with people like Mary Lane from the University of Sydney in previous years to look at models of community development so I was very attracted to the community development principles that the West End Forum people of Melbourne had used."

The Gold Coast option offered a chance to broaden the scope.

"It seemed to me that that model could be applied very effectively with appropriate modifications of course to the Gold Coast situation.

"We were able to attract some funding through the Prevention of Drug Abuse Program, Commonwealth Health Department; that funded the employment of a project officer and the setting up of the steering committee and the before and after evaluation of the effectiveness of the intervention.

"During 1993, the actual project got off the ground, having done the groundwork in 1992. The evaluation that we've done so far suggests that there was an influence or an impact on violence in the area.

"We used several methods of data collection. We extended the direct observation methods we'd used previously to do before and after unobtrusive studies in the nightclubs in the centre of Surfers Paradise.

"We also looked at the police data. We went down to the Surfers Paradise police station and looked through individual records of crimes to see which ones had occurred in the immediate vicinity of the nightclubs and which were outside the area."

The researchers were also able to persuade the security companies employed by the Chamber of Commerce to keep records of the incidents that they dealt with out in the street.

"Then finally, with the cooperation and great assistance of Russell Carvolth from the Queensland Department of Health, we were able to do what are called risk assessments within the night clubs.

"That is, we were able to interview the nightclub managers about their management practices, particularly look at risky aspects of the practices, and we were able to show very significant changes in those practices after the project.

"That correlated very well with the drop in not only assaults but other kinds of crimes counted by the police department; it correlated with the drop that showed in the security data, and it also correlated with what we observed directly.

"So we're fairly confident that there was a drop in violence and also in other crimes like stealing.

"Now, of course, to establish absolutely that that was because of the project is very difficult. But, if we sense when we look at the police data for the whole Gold Coast district — that is not just the Surfers Paradise area but the larger area surrounding — there was an overall increase in most categories of crime during that time, that could be partly attributable perhaps to displacement. That is, we'd moved the problem out to some extent from Surfers Paradise to adjoining areas like Broadbeach."

Homel's group did not have the resources to check that through direct observation; it was not funded to do that.



The process by which the intervention occurred in Surfers Paradise has been closely documented. And he believes a reasonable case can be made for the causal impact of the program.

"But, to strengthen our confidence in the usefulness of this community intervention model, we are replicating the program in three other areas in Queensland, down the coast from Cairns, Mackay and Townsville.

"Through the Health Department and Commonwealth drug funding, local councils are employing project officers and we're conducting an evaluation and also training those project officers. So we have continuing involvement with those projects, but I should emphasise that each of these projects has been owned by the local community.

"Although I did design the Surfers Paradise project, I have to say that, with the Queensland Police, the Health Department, the local council, the local residents, the women's groups, the local business people, it was a model of cooperation.

"Everybody acknowledged that there was a problem in Surfers Paradise so, in a sense, there was a very strong economic incentive for the project to work. There was goodwill but people could see that the area could benefit from an improvement in its image and that there did need to be direct action.

"I think people realised that this kind of community-based approach which involves various task forces looking at transportation, licensing issues, policing issues and working cooperatively is a sensible model. It's been used not only by us and in Melbourne and, of course, in many other places.

Homel said he felt the general standard of evaluation of these projects was poor.

"And my major criticism of the West End [Melbourne] project for all my admiration of its methods and the innovativeness of it, there is no data at all. What they did worked, but there hasn't been any ongoing quantitative monitoring.

"That isn't necessarily a fatal criticism but, when we're trying to relate interventions to policy and to make out a case for a certain model of regulation which is really what we're talking about, it's very important to be able to demonstrate the arguments by requesting data."

This was not denigrating the Melbourne project or any other of the safety action programs. Homel just wanted to emphasise the fundamental importance of adequate evaluation.

"We know how difficult it is; we're still coping with some aspects of our own data collection problems.

"It's a very complex problem and, as I indicated, you've got to use several methods to add reliability to believability to your results.

He wants to encourage a model which involves vigorous evaluation and works with the local

# Alcohol the trigger?



PHOTO: THE CANBERRA TIMES

community to the extent that they actually own the whole project: "It's their project, not a university project or a government project — and also the importance of replication [must be emphasised], particularly the importance of replication within different kinds of communities so that you're varying the social context."

The northern cities in the replications had a higher percentage of Aboriginal patrons than typically observed in Surfers Paradise. He admitted that some methods might not work as well with

**"There's no question in my mind that many places where a large number of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders congregate to drink are on the whole more violent or more aggressive than is generally the case."**

those kinds of communities; other approaches might be needed.

"You need the flexibility and there's a great need to know what are the critical ingredients in these directions and what is superfluous. What works in one area may not work in another area.

"One of my hypotheses I mentioned is a new model of regulation that fits very well to my way of thinking with John Braithwaite's work on responsive regulation or enforced self-regulation. [Professor John Braithwaite is with the Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University.]

"The key to the success of Surfers, and other safety action projects as well, was the fact that the nightclub managers themselves got behind the project, or most of them did, and they policed it themselves."

He said they set up their own code of practice and they tried to police black sheep who went beyond that. "In addition, we were able to set up a monitoring committee which consisted of community representatives — not police and not liquor licensing inspectors — to deal with the complaints against errant managers and to try and bring moral pressure to bear on them.

"That might sound like a toothless tiger but, in fact, these committees can be very close to the action; they can act very quickly and, although they don't have any formal legal powers under our current structures, we believe they can be very effective, particularly if they've got reliable information, and if the majority of night club managers are working."

How are the monitoring committees structured?

"Griffith University had a representative, the Health Department, the local council and the licensees. The nightclub managers were not represented of course, as that would have been a conflict of interest, nor were the police or liquor licensing because we didn't want to confuse that committee with the formal regulatory structures.

"There were the local business people — it was a group of about six or eight — and some public servants with a particular interest in the project. That monitoring committee has now ceased to exist in the form in which we created it; it's now a more formal structure with representatives of police and liquor licensing."

One of the unanswered questions was whether this was a better or worse model. Theoretically, the thing which interested Homel was the relationship between self-regulation, community-based monitoring and the formal aspects of regulation through police and liquor licensing.

"There's a whole 100 years or more of probably ineffective regulation by police and liquor licensing authorities. I've written about that in previous studies.

"Again, that's not taking cheap shots at anybody, it's simply to acknowledge that the policing of licensed premises has historically been a very difficult area for the authorities to deal with".

Homel said that uniformed police were rarely seen within licensed premises in this country; there were perhaps good reasons for that — "they're often not welcome. But then you have to ask why can't they go in in uniform when on duty for a quiet and friendly chat with the manager?

"Why not lay the groundwork? There are debates about the place of undercover operations by police to detect inappropriate serving practices, perhaps serving drunks to intoxication, that kind of thing which is contrary to the *Liquor Act*.

"Or is it better to have the uniform presence? — that's probably still one of the unanswered questions. Do you need either? Perhaps the community-based monitoring is adequate.

"I doubt that it is. I think it's a complex inter-relationship between the three levels of regulation: self-regulation, the community based monitoring and the formal licensing divisions and police.

"I have to say I don't really have a clear idea of what the optimum mix is or whether there is one single optimum mix."

One of the things Homel is hoping to learn from the safety action projects that he is involved with, is what works and what doesn't work with a view to developing a model of best practice in regulation of licensed premises.

"The model has to be acceptable to the politicians and to licensees and to the community generally.

"So that's where my work is going. I see it essentially now as a study in regulation and I'm using Braithwaite's work and Peter Grabosky's work and some others as the framework of my thinking and hopefully extending our understanding of regulatory structures." [Peter Grabosky is Research Director with the Australian Institute of Criminology.]

Talking of the current work in Queensland, Homel said that those replications and indeed the Surfers Paradise project itself could not have happened without the help of Dr Marge Hauritz, Director of the Research Centre in his Griffith School, and also Julian McIlwaine, Project Officer at Surfers, who has also assisted in the training of project officers for the new Queensland projects.

"People say Ross Homel's work on alcohol and violence but, in fact, all the way down the line, it's been very much a combined effort. It's impossible for one person to do this kind of work, particularly in more recent years in my job here at Griffith."

**W**hat interested me about Homel's research — in fact his team's research — was that it was a case of practice leading to theory, observation at the real coal-face leading to practical solutions. Often the approach that is used is to study the literature, look at statistics and develop a cogent and challenging theory from there.

It was obviously not a new question to the researcher. "I believe I stand very strongly in a tradition of criminology in Australia which is very practical and very oriented to questions of social policy.

"A colleague at Griffith University, Associate Professor Mark Finnane who is an historian, tells me that, when you look at the papers of Sir John Barry who was one of the founding fathers of criminology in this country, it's very, very clear that his objective was to have social scientists and lawyers and others develop a body of knowledge which would be useful to the practitioner.

"That is the tradition in which I stand. I don't step back from theory; I think theory is just a working model of why things work and, without theory, the whole thing is pointless.

"I think of the justice issue in having tens of thousands of young patrons in places which are

occasionally very, very nasty; I believe we have a duty of care and we ought to recognise that these places are the major places of entertainment for young people in this country. That's become very much more the case in the last thirty years or so than it was in a previous generation for women and men.

"It's been a major change in our society that young women particularly now drink in the same numbers in licensed premises as men do.

"I believe, as a society, we have a duty to these young people to minimise the harm that flows from inappropriate management practices in some of those places.

"So there's a strong commitment to social justice, a strong commitment to injury reduction and, as I indicated in my discussion of regulatory models, I am very interested in using interventions and community-based experiments, if you like, to aid in our understanding of human behaviour and criminological theory generally."

The other aspect that is very important to Homel is that this also assists in teaching — "We have a nexus between research and community-service attention.


"We can take back from our experiences in these kinds of research projects models which we can directly teach to students at the Master's level or the undergraduate level.

"We can promote the concept of the reflective practitioner, that is most of our students are going to get jobs in the Public Service or in the police or in the prison system or some justice-related field. We want them to be reflective about their practices, not simply to do what's always been done."

Homel said there was clearly a problem of police treating violence in licensed premises in a reactive way because this was the way it had always been treated. His view was that they should adopt a problem-oriented and preventive approach.

"We want graduates of ours who are going into the police or into other agencies to learn from our experiences and to be better practitioners as a result of our experiences and to come back and teach us.

"We'd be happy for students in a few years time to come and say, 'Well, I know your discussions of problem-oriented policing, and I tried it, and I tell you it was an absolute disaster; and we used your community-based method and nobody wanted to have anything to do with the police, and it was a total disaster.'

"I need to hear the disaster stories as well as the success stories and hopefully we can help to evolve that body of knowledge that John Barry was concerned about and, at the same time, improve our understanding of our society." 



## **Justice Kirby named to senior international position**

Justice Michael Kirby, President of the NSW Court of Appeal, has been appointed head of the International Commission of Jurists.

Justice Kirby, who wrote a major piece in the previous issue of *CA*, was elected president of the body at the Commission's triennial meeting in Bangalore, India.

The Commission's role is the maintenance of the rule of law and human rights.

He is the first Australian to fill the top role since the ICJ was founded in 1952.

## **Personal Chair in Criminology, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand**

In recognition of outstanding teaching and research, Dr Allison Morris has been appointed to a personal chair in criminology. Professor Morris has been director of Victoria University's Institute of Criminology since 1993, following three earlier visits to

the Institute when she was on staff at Cambridge University's Institute of Criminology. Her research interests include women in the justice system and juvenile justice in New Zealand.

## **Electronic research at QUT assists the Queensland Police Department**

Research at the Signal Processing Research Centre of the Queensland University of Technology is assisting the Queensland Police Department to find a solution to a problem relating to the storage of police interview tapes. The work involves compressing the data of speech interviews to acceptable intelligibility and the goal is to reduce by 100 times the tape time or storage space of the present system. Research leader for coding and decoding of speech and sound in the School of Electrical and Electronic Systems Engineering at QUT is Dr Mohammed Deriche.

Another police project at QUT is being supervised by Professor Miles Moody and Dr Sridha Sridharan and this involves separating and identifying speech from recorded conversations in high-noise areas.

# Turning the Page

ADAM GRAYCAR

Many more people are afraid of crime than ever become victims of crime. Given the high incidence of fear and the considerably lower incidence of victimisation, it is often suggested that the high level of fear is irrational.



However, if somebody is afraid, the fear is real — the behaviour is not irrational. Our task is to identify the basis of the fear that pervades communities and work on that fear, as much as we work on the incidence of crime.

*Dr Adam Graycar*

Crime prevention strategies which establish partnerships and enhance communities focus on both the incidence and fear of crime.

While not presuming that fear is irrational, how do we acquire knowledge to address both the incidence and the fear?

The acquisition of knowledge is a multi-faceted process.

The resources to assist in this process at the AIC include Australia's leading criminal justice

## If somebody is afraid, the fear is real — the behaviour is not irrational.

library which acquires information and materials from far and wide to add to its excellent holdings. As a national organisation, we have data banks and statistics on crime in Australia and overseas. However, I recently had an experience which taught me a lot in a more personal way about fear of crime in the Australian community.

The AIC has been running a number of half-day seminars around Australia. The purpose of these seminars is to bring our product to people who may not be able to afford to travel and attend two- or three-day conferences. Furthermore, we do these half-day seminars in conjunction with a local organisation or agency, and focus on a topic of interest and concern in that city.

Our first half-day seminar was held in Hobart earlier this year, and the topic was Crime Prevention in Tasmania.

A few weeks before the seminar, a federal parliamentarian asked me if I would address a meeting in Burnie on crime in Tasmania, the night before the Hobart seminar. It seemed an efficient way of doing things — make the most out of a visit to Tasmania and bring the Institute's work to a different audience.

I was surprised when I was told that about 400 people were expected at the meeting. I asked what was expected of me, and his response was that he wanted me to present data on the current state of crime in Tasmania — to do so clearly, and to ensure that the local people were adequately equipped with data in order to identify their concerns and have an informed debate.

I arrived about 15 minutes before the scheduled starting time, and the small number of people present were busy adorning the Civic Centre with banners which read "Enough is Enough", and

"Let the Punishment Fit the Crime". There were also posters announcing a "Reclaim the Night" march. While I was the main speaker (the one from the Mainland!), four politicians were to share the platform — two members of the Tasmanian Parliament, a Senate candidate and a local alderman.

The session started in front of an audience approaching 200. It was suggested that the shortfall in numbers was due to the fact that most people in Burnie were too afraid to leave their homes at night, even to attend a meeting such as this.

I started on my speech, outlining what we know and what we don't know about crime and its causes.

With the help of some coloured slides, I showed the 1993 and 1994 incidence and rates of the major crimes in Tasmania, and compared them with the national average, noting that for homicides, sexual assault, unarmed and armed robbery, and motor vehicle theft, Tasmanian rates were about half of the national rate. The exception was burglary data which showed that Tasmania's rate was greater than the national rate.

Not only were 1994 rates for most crimes about half of the national rate, data from the Tasmania Police showed that, in the first quarter of 1995, incidence of all crimes had dropped from the 1994 levels.

My simple pitch was "these are the facts: let's develop partnerships between community groups, the police and local and State government, work across sectors, undertake safety audits, and enhance communities through programs like Safer Australia which focus on things that affect local communities — things that these communities can do something about".

Some of the other speeches that evening delivered a different message — there were calls for longer sentences, more severe punishment, more police on the streets, corporal punishment, the right to defend oneself with guns and so on.

The next 45 minutes were devoted to comments from the audience — each comment strictly limited to two minutes. About 25 people spoke, and among them only three women. The

statistics from the AIC did not appear to have been reassuring.

Some spoke of the deterioration of order, the violence in the streets, the murders, rapes and assaults which they seemed to think happen all the time (I pointed out that in 1994 there had been five murders in the State).

Other comments focused on punishment — on making it tougher for transgressors. It was said that judges and magistrates were too soft, gaols were too comfortable and the work was not sufficiently back-breaking.

Opinions expressed were very similar, with only four of the 25 questioning a tough law and order approach. One speaker cautioned against the threat to liberty if we flog or hang first and ask questions later, while another pointed out that gaol wasn't productive in the long term and Tasmania had received 88 000 hours from people serving community service orders last year — 88 000 hours of benefit to the community.

Two of the three women who spoke warned against treating young people too severely and suggested we all look long and hard at our changing world.

Then there were the questions which had no simple answers: Why can't you make kids more responsible? Why can't you make sure everybody's taught to use a gun with which to protect themselves? Why can't you control the judges and magistrates better so they reflect community wishes?

When responding, I pointed out that in reality, Tasmania in 1994 experienced five homicides and that this number had been constant for many years. Of the five in 1994, only one was committed on the street, but the majority of the 140 sexual assaults occurred in the victim's home. Furthermore, five was almost certainly the real number of murders as none go unreported, while 140 was an under-reported figure for sexual assault and assault within a domestic environment, as many such assaults are not reported.

I also offered some helpful information:

- community effort, not just policing alone, is feasible and produces returns;
  - effectiveness in the criminal justice system involves actions across many sectors and agencies;
  - the Australian Institute of Criminology is publishing some practical crime prevention material which illustrates that partnerships can bring about safety audits and cohesive crime prevention measures, such as that in Glenorchy, (see page 24).
- It is not an easy task to combat this intense level of fear, but if the facts are studied carefully, then perhaps the people of Burnie will be reassured that their community is in fact a relatively safe one, and as a community working together, they can do much to promote simple crime prevention measures.
- Distilling that fear and promoting an awareness of crime prevention strategies will continue to be an important part of our work at the AIC.
- Unfortunately, maybe it is becoming difficult to divorce fiction from reality. It had been a vigorous discussion and I had learned a lot about fear of crime. Later that evening I flicked on the television and in the space of half-an-hour saw five television homicides. 
- positive steps by individuals and communities can be taken to reduce burglary;

**A few weeks before the seminar, a federal parliamentarian asked me if I would address a meeting in Burnie on crime in Tasmania, the night before the Hobart seminar. It seemed an efficient way of doing things — make the most out of a visit to Tasmania and bring the Institute's work to a different audience.**

# News

## Free Legal Information on the Internet

*ACT LawNet* is a new service recently launched by the ACT Attorney-General, Mr Gary Humphries. Detailed information about the ACT legal system will be available on the Internet following a collaborative project between the University of Canberra and the ACT Attorney-General's Department. The free service includes detailed indexes to ACT legislation, as well as reports and discussion papers prepared by the ACT Law Review program and the Community Law Reform Committee. *ACT LawNet* can be found at:

<http://actag.canberra.edu.au/actag/ag1.html>.

It includes a link to the University of Canberra "front page" and access to information about UC's law program.

For more information, contact Professor Eugene Clark of the University of Canberra's School of Law on 61 6 201 5287.

## Centre for Southeast Asian Law

A new teaching and research centre offering an external Masters Degree in Comparative Law is to be established within the Law Faculty at the Northern Territory University (NTU). Fifteen specialists in the field of Asian comparative law from universities throughout the ASEAN/Australasia region have been retained as consultants and adjunct professors to write the course. Dean of NTU's Law Faculty is Professor Ned Aughterson and the Centre for Southeast Asian Law's interim director is Associate Professor Jesse Wu. It is proposed that next year the Centre will begin

publication of an *International Journal of Southeast Asian and Comparative Law*.

## New degrees in Law

The University of Sydney's Law Faculty has announced two new degrees: the Master of Health Law (MHL) and the Master of Administrative Law and Policy (MALP). Both will be open to non-lawyers working in health care and public policy. Professor Terry Carney, head of the Department of Law, said the new degrees would encourage greater interaction and understanding between lawyers and other professionals in health care and public policy.

## Trade Practice in Queensland

National uniform trade practice legislation has been drafted in response to the recent *Hilmer Report* which recommended the inclusion of government, previously exempt from trade practices legislation. Associate Professor Bryan Horrigan and Professor Stephen Coronos of Queensland University of Technology's Law Faculty, are developing a reference document and compliance strategy to make the transition for Queensland Government commercial enterprises as smooth as possible. Awarded a two-year Australia Research Council grant worth \$13 000, the researchers will assess the legal minefield arising from the landmark law.

## Use Words that Help, not Hurt

Research has shown the harmful effect that verbal abuse can have on children — it can often occur in the context of physical abuse, neglect and domestic violence. The National Association for Prevention of

Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) has launched a campaign to raise community awareness of the harmful effects of verbal abuse on children with the long-term aim of bringing about a change in attitudes and beliefs and promoting the adoption of effective and positive practices in communicating with children. For more information about "Words that *Help* not *Hurt*", contact NAPCAN, GPO Box 3658, Sydney NSW 2001 (tel: 61 2 223 3565).

## New Men's Prison in Victoria

A New 600-bed men's metropolitan prison to be located at Laverton North, Victoria, should be completed by mid-1997 and will pave the way for the closure of the Coburg Complex, including Pentridge and the Metropolitan Reception Prison. The new prison will be multi-functional, accommodating all remand and some mainstream prisoners, with a prison hospital and a 30-bed unit for people with psycho-social disorders.

## Well, what's Number one?

The ebullient Michael Moore, the ACT independent politician aligned with the proposed heroin trial in the national capital, said in an interview in the previous issue of CA that the drug trade was the second most lucrative business on earth. Several bemused readers rang CA's offices to check on No 1.

The answer? The arms trade, of course. Then drugs. Coming in No 3 is oil.



# data bank

The DataBank is a regular feature of CA.

Drawn from the research program of the Australian Institute of Criminology, this section defines parts of the Australian social scene in a unique way.

## Crime and Safety Australia

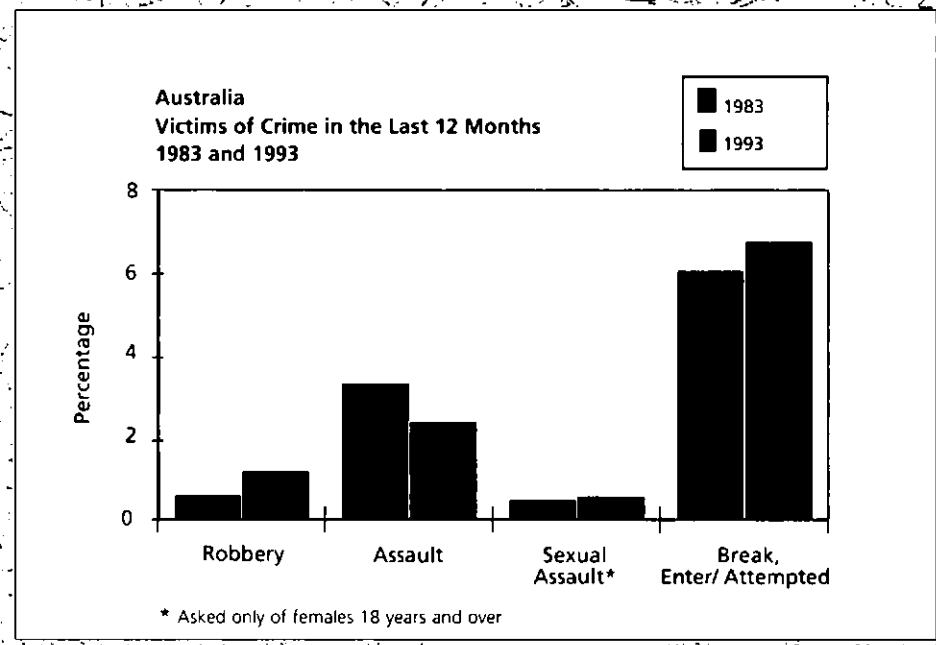
### Victims of crime 1983 and 1993

According to the *Crime and Safety Australia 1993* survey victimisation rates have increased for some crimes and declined for others since the 1983 survey. Proportionately more people were victimised for robbery, sexual assault, and burglary than in 1983; the victimisation rate for assault was less in 1993 than in 1983.

	Percentage	
	1983	1993
Robbery	0.6	1.2
Assault	3.4	2.5
Sexual Assault*	0.5	0.6
Break, Enter/ Attempted	6.1	6.8

\* Asked only of females 18 years and over

Source: *Crime and Safety Australia* April 1993, ABS Catalogue No. 4509.0



\* Asked only of females 18 years and over

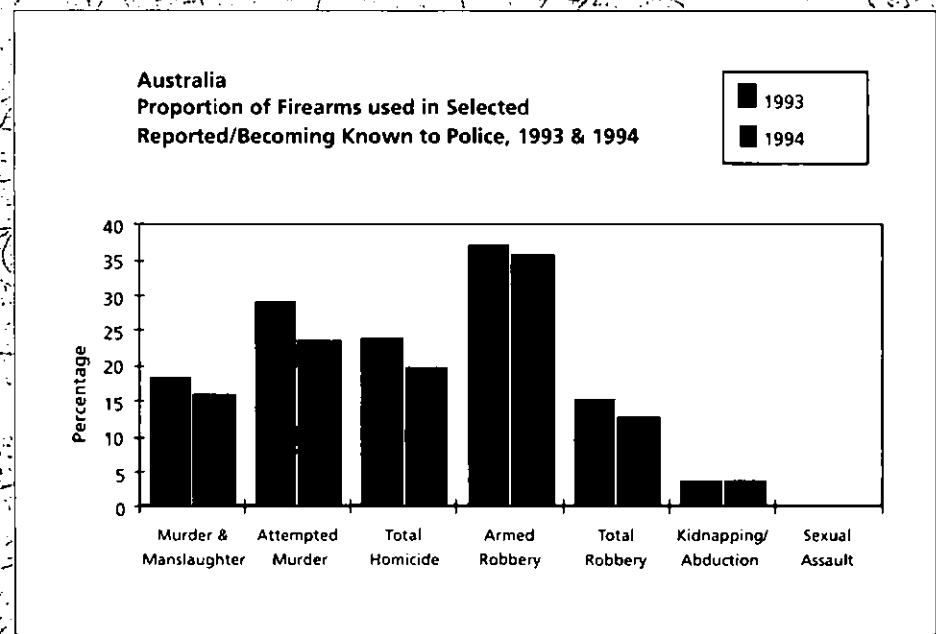
### Firearms used in selected offences

Use of firearms in crimes is a matter of concern in many Western societies. Overall, one in 14 violent offences (homicide, robbery, kidnapping, and sexual assault) reported to the police involved the use of firearms in 1994. Armed robberies pose the maximum threat, more than one in three of these involved the use of firearms.

	Percentage	
	1993	1994
Murder & Manslaughter	19	16
Attempted Murder	29	24
Total Homicide	24	20
Armed Robbery	37	36
Total Robbery	16	13
Kidnapping/Abduction	4	4
Sexual Assault	#	#

# Less than 0.5

Source: *National Crime Statistics January to December 1993 and 1994*, ABS Catalogue No. 4510.0



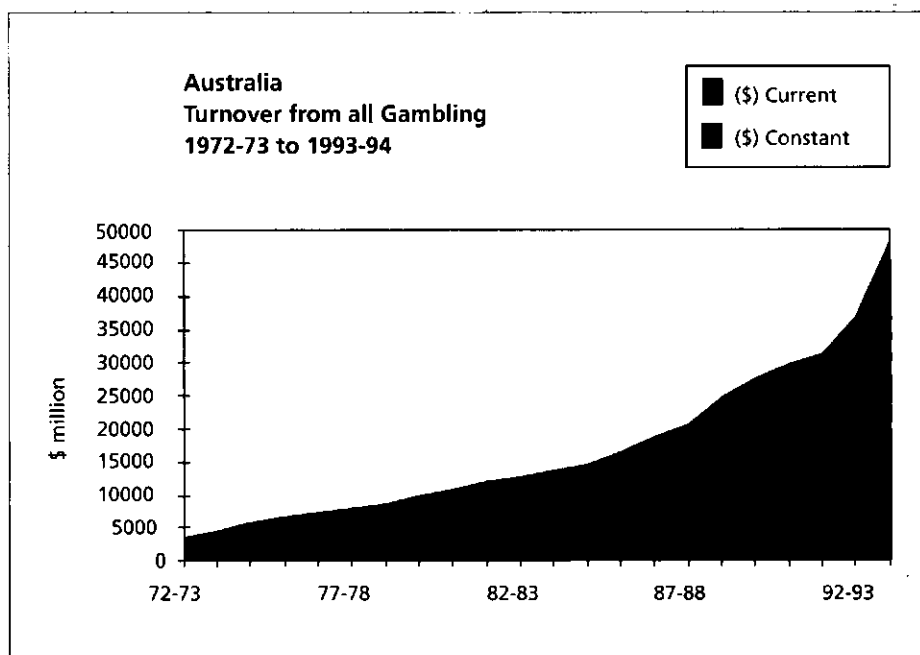
# AUSTRALIAN GAMBLING STATISTICS

## 1972-73 TO 1993-94

All States and Territories in Australia offer avenues for various forms of legal gambling. As far as racing is concerned all Australian jurisdictions have TABs, on-course totalisator, and on-course bookmakers. For gaming there are lotteries, Tattsлото/lotto, pools, poker/gaming machines, and so on. With the opening of the Sydney Casino in September 1995, all Australian jurisdictions now have legal casinos. Annually, a significant amount of cash changes hands in the form of turnover, expenditure or revenue to

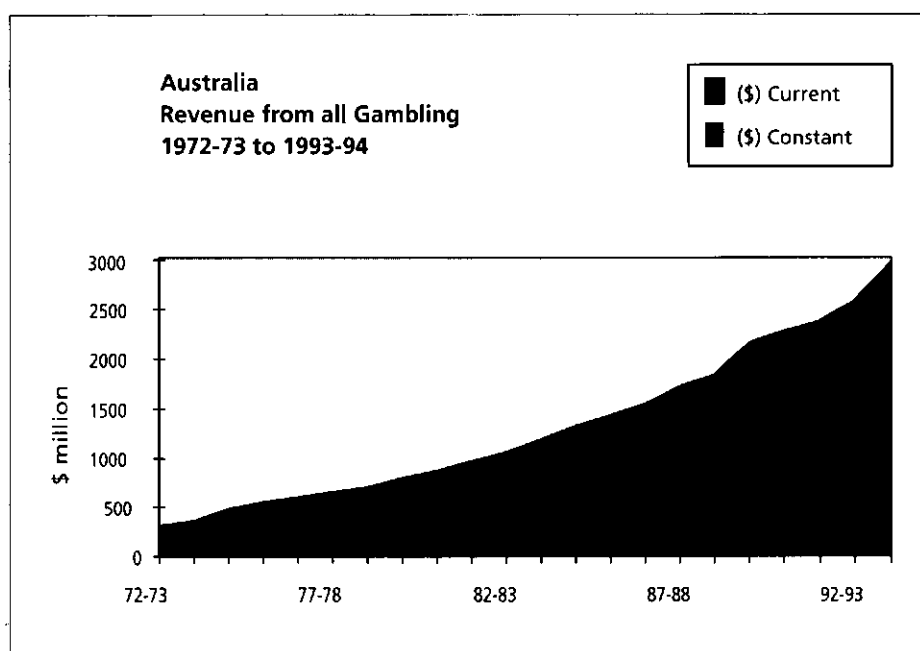
### Turnover from all Gambling

	Current (\$)	Constant (\$)
72-73	3688.263	3688.263
73-74	4374.927	3868.194
74-75	5784.139	4381.923
75-76	6589.088	4425.177
76-77	7306.358	4305.456
77-78	7944.346	4278.054
78-79	8740.573	4348.544
79-80	9801.743	4429.165
80-81	10951.540	4523.561
81-82	12033.780	4501.976
82-83	12631.830	4237.446
83-84	13778.320	4324.645
84-85	14795.180	4452.355
85-86	16594.810	4607.110
86-87	18608.920	4726.674
87-88	20632.520	4884.592
88-89	24681.000	5439.938
89-90	27487.630	5609.720
90-91	29684.960	5752.898
91-92	31334.570	5959.408
92-93	36836.610	6935.908
93-94	48165.500	8917.885



### Revenue from all Gambling

	Current (\$)	Constant (\$)
72-73	168.377	168.377
73-74	205.185	181.419
74-75	276.988	209.839
75-76	337.882	226.919
76-77	390.933	230.367
77-78	432.523	232.915
78-79	480.495	239.052
79-80	563.004	254.408
80-81	628.849	259.748
81-82	714.445	267.282
82-83	809.448	271.536
83-84	926.571	290.826
84-85	1039.257	312.747
85-86	1142.561	317.202
86-87	1253.709	318.443
87-88	1409.833	333.767
88-89	1525.205	336.170
89-90	1803.905	368.144
90-91	1931.617	374.344
91-92	2016.917	383.590
92-93	2190.575	412.460
93-94	2519.174	466.427



governments. The following four charts provide a glimpse of legal gambling in Australia since 1972-73.

Total gambling turnover, ie the amount wagered (excluding additional charges like agents' commission), has increased from under \$4,000 million in 1972-73 to over \$48,000 million. In the financial year 1993-94, turnover per adult Australian was over \$3,600. At 1972-73 prices the total gambling turnover has increased to about \$8,918 million.

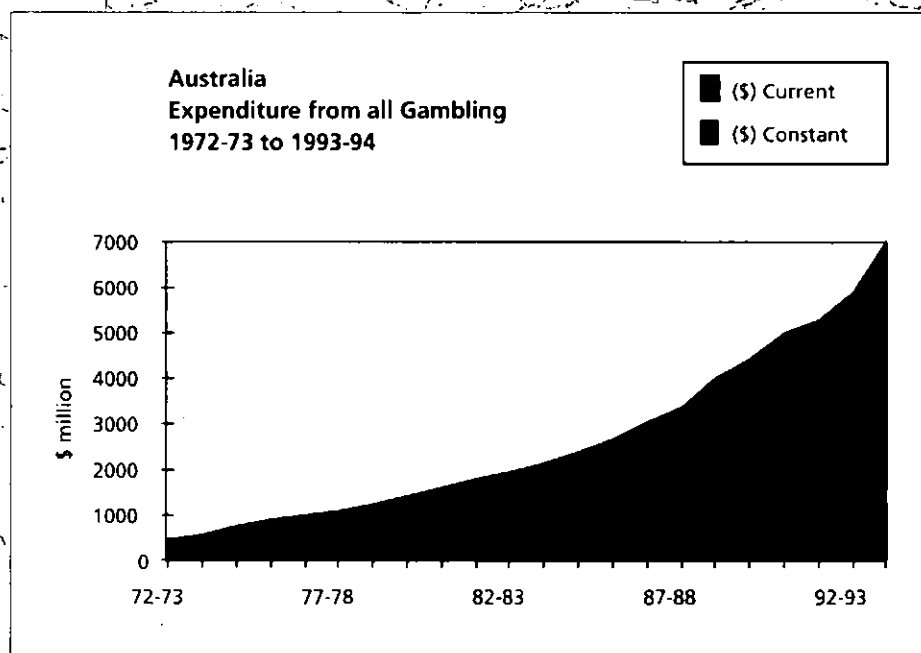
Gambling expenditure, for example the net amount spent (amount wagered less the amount won) by adult Australians who gamble, was under \$7,000 million, or \$527 per capita in 1993-94.

Legal gambling is a significant source of revenue for Australian governments. In 1993-94 total government revenue from all legal gambling was over \$2,500 million.

Source: Tasmanian Gaming Commission,  
Australian Gambling Statistics 1973 to 1994

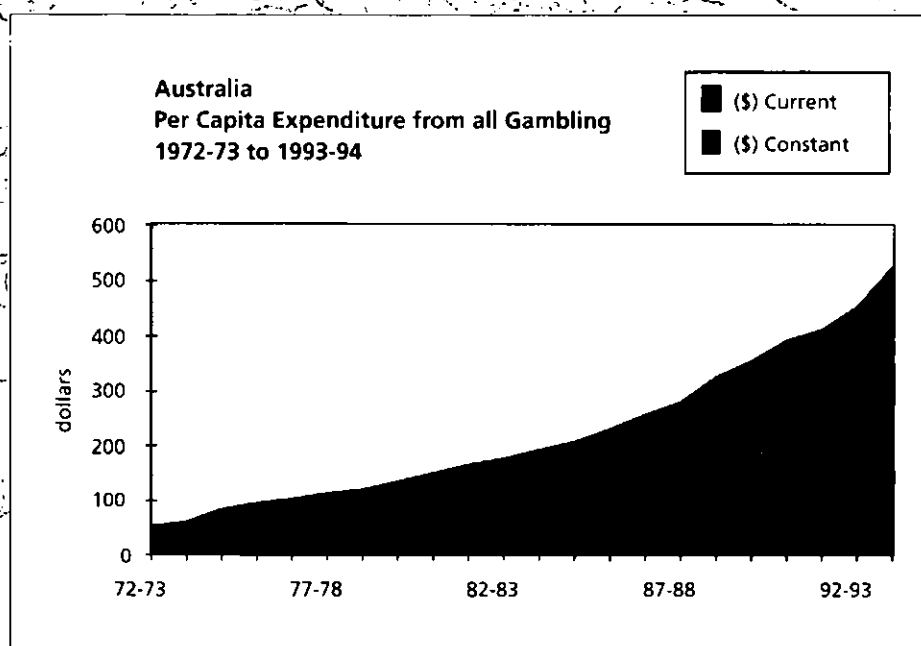
## Expenditure from all Gambling

	Current (\$)	Constant (\$)
72-73	463.872	463.872
73-74	556.583	492.116
74-75	757.072	573.539
75-76	883.585	593.408
76-77	995.173	586.431
77-78	1104.092	594.557
78-79	1236.360	615.104
79-80	1411.807	637.961
80-81	1592.524	657.796
81-82	1781.452	666.462
82-83	1924.481	645.582
83-84	2140.790	671.937
84-85	2361.067	710.523
85-86	2672.137	741.848
86-87	3031.860	770.094
87-88	3377.986	799.713
88-89	4001.866	882.051
89-90	4431.436	904.375
90-91	5015.281	971.954
91-92	5305.263	1008.989
92-93	5921.500	1114.950
93-94	6978.574	1292.089



## Per Capita Expenditure from all Gambling

	Current (\$)	Constant (\$)
72-73	52.40	52.40
73-74	61.61	54.47
74-75	82.36	62.39
75-76	94.66	63.57
76-77	103.89	61.22
77-78	113.16	60.94
78-79	123.56	61.47
79-80	138.26	62.48
80-81	152.60	63.03
81-82	167.10	62.51
82-83	177.21	59.45
83-84	193.74	60.81
84-85	209.76	63.12
85-86	232.12	64.44
86-87	258.58	65.68
87-88	281.19	66.57
88-89	326.15	71.89
89-90	354.43	72.33
90-91	394.56	76.47
91-92	411.07	78.18
92-93	453.03	85.30
93-94	527.12	97.60



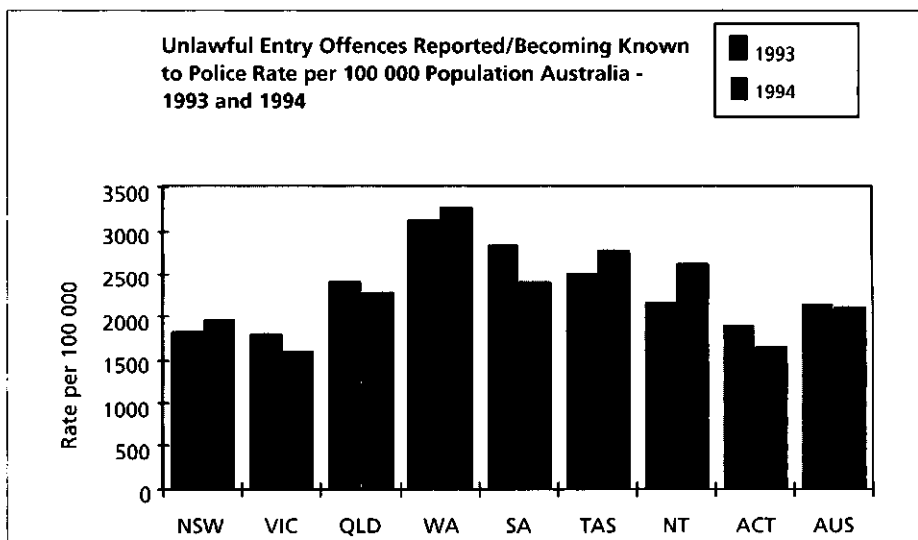
## Unlawful entry offences

The level of unlawful entry offences, (commonly known as break enter and steal) has remained stable for Australia. However, it varies between States and Territories.

### Rate per 100 000 Population

	1993	1994
NSW	1842	1983
VIC	1804	1614
QLD	2426	2296
WA	3148	3285
SA	2842	2437
TAS	2534	2804
NT	2178	2637
ACT	1915	1661
AUS	2165	2131

Source: National Crime Statistics January to December 1993 to 1994, ABS Catalogue No. 4510.0



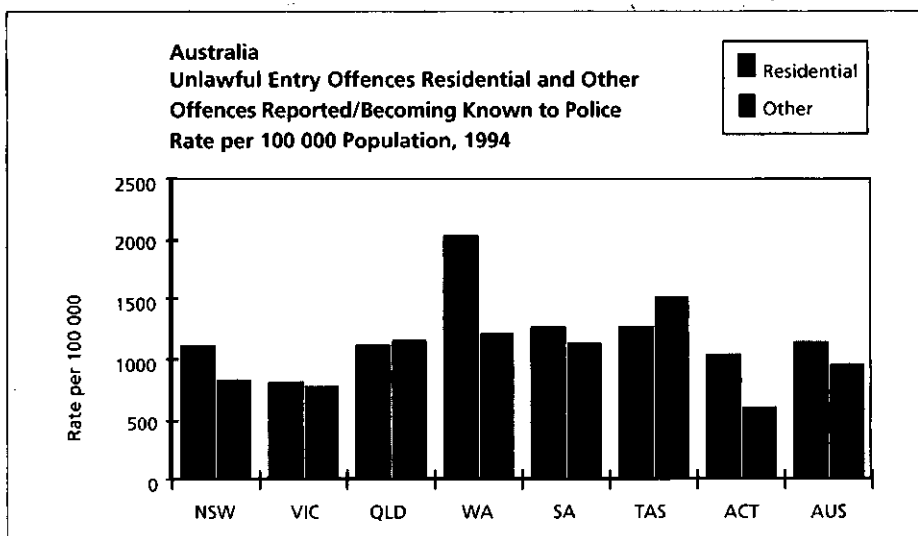
## Unlawful entry offences / and type of Premises

Unlawful entry offences also vary by type of premises. More than half of these offences take place in private dwellings.

### Rate per 100 000 Population

Rate	Residential	Other
NSW	1131	852
VIC	812	803
QLD	1119	1177
WA	2059	1226
SA	1283	1154
TAS	1274	1529
ACT	1051	610
AUS	1152	974

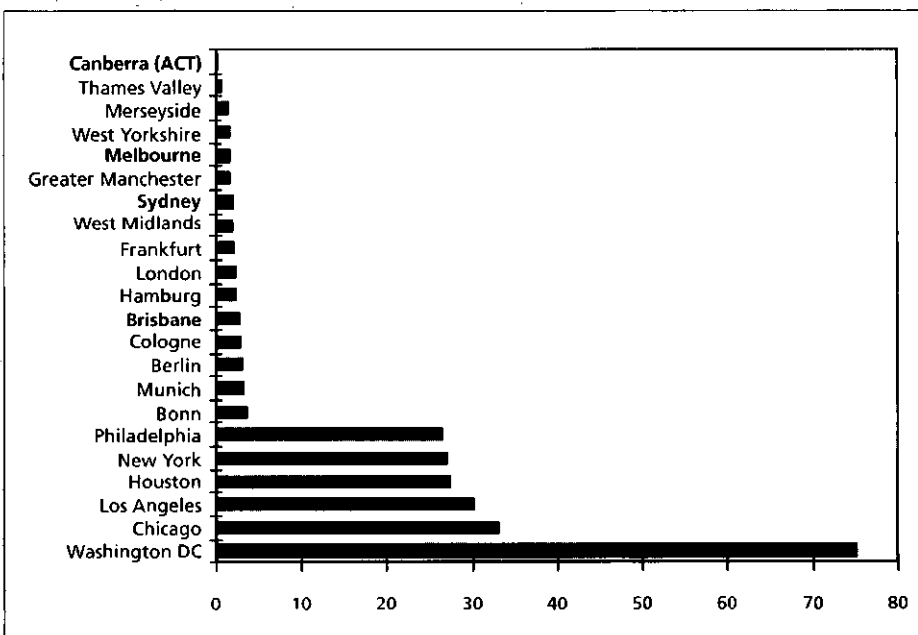
Source: National Crime Statistics January to December 1993 to 1994, ABS Catalogue No. 4510.0



## Reported Crime Rate per 100 000 population International Cities, 1992, Homicide

In the previous issue of CA, figures on the base line of the Reported Crime Rate International Cities, 1992, Homicide, were incorrect. This was a typesetter's error.

	Homicide
Washington DC	75.21
Chicago	33.15
Los Angeles	30.26
Houston	27.43
New York	27.05
Philadelphia	26.50
Bonn	3.67
Munich	3.42
Berlin	3.16
Cologne	3.03
Brisbane	2.76
Hamburg	2.52
London	2.36
Frankfurt	2.29
West Midlands	2.14
Sydney	2.00
Greater Manchester	1.80
Melbourne	1.69
West Yorkshire	1.65
Merseyside	1.53
Thames Valley	0.81
Canberra (ACT)	0.33



# Muted help for the victim

DAVID SOLOMON

David Solomon is at the forefront of Australian legal journalism. He has written for *The Canberra Times* and *The Australian* where he distinguished himself as a ground-breaking reporter and analyst of the High Court. He moved to Queensland as Chairman of the State's Electoral and Administrative Review Commission; he is now a Contributing Editor of the *Courier Mail* where he maintains his contribution to the law in Australia.

**B**ecause I often write about legal issues, I receive many letters or calls from people with complaints about the legal system. The ones which worry me the most are those from victims of crime, who think they have been badly treated by the system.

For the most part, these are not people complaining that they have not received sufficient financial compensation for the injuries they have suffered. Nor are they like those people you see on the nightly news, clamouring for the perpetual internment and preferably the hanging, drawing and quartering of the perpetrator of a particularly gruesome crime against a child. The people who make contact with me are mostly concerned that for some reason the full facts of their case did not emerge in court, and that as a consequence the judge (and sometimes the jury) was not properly informed about the true nature of the crime.

Let me give a relatively minor example which explains the problem. I reported on a decision of the Queensland Court of Appeal in a case involving a Vietnamese man who had been convicted of assault and criminal damage. The Vietnamese man and his

brother were in a car which pulled up at some traffic lights. Another car pulled up outside them, and the male passenger yelled out at them in an offensive, racist manner. The Vietnamese was provoked into jumping out of his car, grabbing an iron bar, and damaging the windscreen of the other car. When the male passenger emerged to stop him, he was attacked too. Eventually the people were separated by other road users.

The Vietnamese man was found guilty of various charges. He sought a reduction in the monetary penalties imposed on him and also that no conviction should be recorded against him. He was only partly successful, the conviction remaining against his name.

Shortly after the story was printed I received a call from a woman who claimed to have been the driver of the other car. She said my account left out the fact that her young child was in the back of the car and was injured (or might have been) by the flying glass, and that the fight involved the three men (two Vietnamese plus her companion) and did not take the form I suggested.

I tried to explain that my account was, so far as I was aware, quite factual. The facts I recounted were those which had been detailed in the Court of Appeal judgment. No, I was told, it didn't happen that way. For the purposes of this account there is no need for me to recount the woman's story. What is important is that she was furious that the Court of Appeal had been misled about the events of that day.

There has been a growing awareness in the past five years or so of the need for the justice system to make better provision for victims and their families. Last year, for example, Royce Miller QC, the Queensland Director of Prosecutions (whose title has now been changed to the standard DPP) issued a directive to all his prosecutors to be more aware of the needs of victims during the sentencing process. He wrote, "A victim's story can at most be inadequately put by the prosecutor if he or she merely summarises the account given in the witness statement.

"Photographs evidencing the victim's injuries should be put before the sentencer as well as any doctor's description of the injuries he or she treated. If the victim was in intensive care, the period of care should be stated to the court. If the victim will have long-term difficulties they must be mentioned to the judge too.

"It is to be remembered that pleas in mitigation can be so readily manufactured. Victims of crime, particularly those associated with an offender, are often the best source of information. They should be advised of the sentencing date. They should be requested to be present. And as well, they should be told that if when present in court there is anything said by the defence which they know to be false they should immediately inform the prosecutor so that a challenge might be made to the assertion of fact."

The incident I began with suggests that the Crown should also make victims aware of any appeal processes — for it is even easier for the "facts" to be lost, ignored or distorted if the victim is not present and if the original prosecutor is not involved in the case (as would be normal).

Victims' rights received considerable publicity during Queensland's mid-year election. As in the NSW election earlier in the year, the main focus of these rights was the punishment of offenders. Queensland had its own version of the "three strikes and you're in" debate through the creation of a new crime. In the lead-up to the elections the Government forced through Parliament a substantially revised Criminal Code (to replace the Code produced by Sir Samuel Griffith almost a century ago). As well as featuring higher penalties, the legislation was accompanied with a promise by the Government to amend its *Penalties as Sentences Act* to remove the directive that imprisonment should be a last resort.

During the campaign itself the major parties competed over the number of extra police they would fund, the number of additional prisons and more generally, just how tough they would be. There was also a somewhat bizarre argument over the extent to which people should be allowed to use guns to defend their homes — highlighted by a couple of cases where people who may or may not have been intruders were shot. One man was prosecuted for wounding another, but acquitted. The government later announced that his costs would be paid. The Opposition said people who used guns to defend themselves should not be prosecuted in any event.

In the aftermath of the election there was one positive development: cabinet approved a victim's charter — "Fundamental principles of justice for victims of crime" — and made some changes to compensation payments which would be available to victims. The latter included an increase in the maximum compensation available to a victim (up slightly to \$75 000 compared to \$50 000 in most other States), payments to the relatives of murder or manslaughter victims to a maximum of \$20 000 in relation to each death, the creation of a new sentencing option to allow courts to impose a compensation fine, and a change in the way compensation payments would be awarded — by a judge, at the time of sentencing. The improved scheme would be financed partly by getting money from offenders (where that was practical) but essentially through increasing all fines — the basic penalty unit jumps from \$60 to \$75.

The new victims' charter is aimed primarily at police and prosecutors and is intended to ensure that victims are treated properly and given as much information as possible. It covers issues such as victim statements, and the need to keep victims informed of the progress of prosecutions (including any decision not to proceed with a prosecution). Victims in sexual cases would also be informed of sentencing details of the offender, including release dates.

Significantly the charter does not give the victim any direct rights in court processes — everything is done through the prosecutor. This caution is understandable: it is important that the trial process should not be changed so as to further change the present balance of the criminal trial. (This is happening in some States and Territories through legislative changes in relation to majority verdicts, and to the right of silence of the accused.)

However, there will be pressure along these lines. Some victims believe the state is too concerned with justice for the accused, and insufficiently with retribution on the victim's behalf. Political pressure will continue to be generated by the victims' rights movements, and politicians seem unable to resist (indeed, they embrace the victims' cause). The problem is likely

to worsen and it will require the courts themselves to begin devising ways of meeting the needs (though not all the demands) of deserving victims. Perhaps that is a task which should be undertaken by the Australian Institute of Judicial Administration, or the new Australian Judicial Conference.

[On 12 October 1995, the Australian Institute of Criminology conducted a half-day conference in Brisbane on Victims. At that conference Queensland Attorney-General Matt Foley foreshadowed new legislation].

#### **FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME [QUEENSLAND]**

1. A victim of crime is a person who has suffered physical, mental or emotional harm as a result of the violation of the criminal laws of Queensland and includes, where appropriate, the immediate family or defendants of a victim and persons who have suffered harm in intervening to assist a victim in distress or to prevent victimisation.
  2. These principles apply whether or not the offender has been identified, apprehended, prosecuted or convicted.
- Access to Justice and Fair Treatment**
3. A victim should be treated -
    - (a) with courtesy, compassion and respect for personal dignity; and
    - (b) in a manner responsive to age, gender, ethnic, cultural and linguistic differences or any disability or other special need; and given access to the mechanisms of justice.
  4. The responsiveness of personnel dealing with victims of crime should be facilitated by the provision of appropriate guidelines for the implementation of these principles.
  5. A victim should be given, upon request, information about crime prevention methods.
  6. A victim's privacy should be protected and inconvenience to the victim minimized. Any property owned by a victim that is held for the purposes of investigation or evidence should be returned as soon as reasonably possible.
  7. A victim's statement about an offence should be taken as soon as reasonably possible after the offence happened.
  8. A victim should be afforded all necessary protection from violence and intimidation by a person accused of the offence.
  9. The welfare of a victim should, without prejudice to a person accused of the offence, be considered at all appropriate stages of the investigation and prosecution.
  10. The prosecuting officer should, subject to the wishes of the victim, inform the sentencing court of the physical and emotional harm caused to the victim by the offence.

#### **Information about the investigation of the case and the prosecution of the offender**


11. (a) A victim should, upon request, be advised of
  - (i) the progress of investigations being conducted (except where disclosure is likely to jeopardise the investigation);
  - (ii) the charges laid in relation to the offence and details of the venue and date of hearing of the matter;
  - (iii) the name of the person charged (subject to exceptions under the Juvenile Justice Act);
  - (iv) the reasons for a decision by a prosecuting officer not to proceed with the prosecution or to alter a charge or to accept a plea to a lesser charge;
  - (v) any arrangements that have been made as to bail or otherwise for the person charged during the investigation and prosecution, bail conditions imposed and any applications for variation of those conditions which may affect the safety and welfare of the victim;
  - (vi) the outcome of any proceedings, including proceedings on appeal.
- (b) A victim of a sexual offence or an offence involving personal violence should also, upon request be advised of -
  - (i) the date of commencement and length of sentence imposed on the offender; and
  - (ii) eligibility dates for the offender to have staged release into the community, parole and final discharge in relation to the offence against the victim.

12. A victim who is a witness in the trial should be informed about the trial process and the roll of the victim as a witness in the prosecution of the case.

#### **Information About Services**

13. A victim should have access to information about available welfare, health, counselling, medical and legal assistance responsive to their needs.

#### **Compensation and Restitution**

14. A victim should have access to information about compensation or restitution and is entitled, upon request, to have relevant information provided by the victim placed before the court by the prosecuting officer seeking an order for compensation or restitution for loss of, or damage to, property caused by the offender.
15. There should be recourse to a criminal injuries compensation scheme provided by the State. 

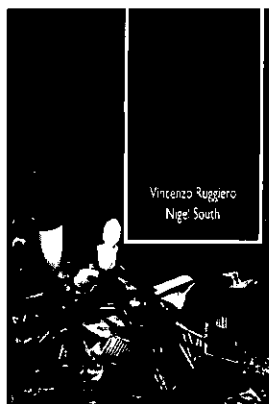
# Books...

## Criminal Justice on the Spot

Infringement Penalties in Victoria

RICHARD G. FOX

Australian Studies in Law, Crime and Justice



### CRIMINAL JUSTICE ON THE SPOT: INFRINGEMENT PENALTIES IN VICTORIA

RICHARD G. FOX

OCTOBER 1995. ISBN 0 642 22987 2. AUSTRALIAN STUDIES IN LAW, CRIME AND JUSTICE SERIES, AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY, CANBERRA. 348 PP. A\$30.00. SOFT COVER.

Infringement notices, or on-the-spot fines as they are more commonly known, are mainly used for traffic and motor vehicle offences, but increasingly they are also used for many other offences. Use of infringement notices appears to be one of the few areas in which criminal enforcement pays a cash dividend, and this bonus has not escaped the notice of enforcement agencies. What are the legal and criminological aspects of this feature of the criminal justice system? What are the broader implications of the surveillance techniques upon which on-the-spot fines depend? Have crime control and correctional objectives become secondary to fiscal goals? *Criminal Justice on the Spot* examines these questions and offers a timely review of the infringement notice system. Richard Fox, Professor of Law at Monash University, looks at changes which have occurred recently in this area of law and practice in Victoria. It is essential reading for those with an interest in sentencing and in monitoring the use of this aspect of law enforcement generally.

### AUSTRALIAN PRISONERS 1993

SATYANSHU MUKHERJEE AND DIANNE DAGGER

OCTOBER 1995. ISBN 0 642 24002 7. AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY, CANBERRA. 118 PP. A\$20.00. SOFT COVER.

This report, containing the results of the twelfth annual National Prison Census, is the last to be compiled and published by the Australian Institute of Criminology. As at 1 July 1995, the work of compiling the Census data was handed over to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The 1993 Census includes all persons (sentenced, awaiting to be sentenced, and awaiting trial) held in adult correctional institutions in all Australian jurisdictions on 30 June 1993.

### AUSTRALIAN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AWARDS 1994

COMPILED BY JO HERLIHY

OCTOBER 1995. ISBN 0 642 24001 9. AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY, CANBERRA. 122 PP. A\$15.00. SOFT COVER.

The Australian Violence Prevention Award is designed to encourage the development of efficient and cost-effective projects and programs to combat violence in Australia, and to provide a database on which communities can call for information about what works. The Awards are a clear demonstration of the political will and commitment, at all levels of government in Australia, to the prevention and control of violence. There are a wide variety of violence

### THE THREE LATEST PAPERS IN THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY'S TRENDS AND ISSUES SERIES ARE:

#### NO. 48 CANNABIS, THE LAW AND SOCIAL IMPACTS IN AUSTRALIA

LYNN ATKINSON AND DAVID MCDONALD.

OCTOBER 1995. ISBN 0 642 23324 1.

#### NO. 49 BURGLARY PREVENTION

P.N. GRABOSKY

OCTOBER 1995. ISBN 0 642 23437 X.

#### NO. 50 INFRINGEMENT NOTICES: TIME FOR REFORM?

RICHARD FOX.

NOVEMBER 1995. ISBN 0 642 24000 0.

### TRENDS AND ISSUES IN CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

GENERAL EDITOR: DR ADAM GRAYCAR

ISSN 0817-8543

SUBSCRIPTION A\$40 P.A.

(MINIMUM 10 ISSUES PER ANNUM)

prevention programs at work around Australia. This booklet describes the 1994 winners of the Award, lists the 1992 and 1993 winners, and provides a contact list for all winning projects.

### 23RD ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY AND THE CRIMINOLOGY RESEARCH COUNCIL 1995.

ISSN 0311-449X AND ISSN 0311-4481. AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY, CANBERRA. 96 PP. A\$20.00. SOFT COVER.

Published by the Centre for Crime Policy and Public Safety, School of Justice Administration, Griffith University and available from the Australian Institute of Criminology:

### RESEARCH AND POLICY PAPER NO. 7

*A Survey of the Education and Training Needs  
of the Security Industry*

Tim Prenzler, Peta Mackay and Jeff Clarke

June 1995. ISBN 0 86857 678 6. 24 pp. A\$7.50.

Soft cover.

### RESEARCH AND POLICY PAPER NO. 8

*The Impact of the Surfers Paradise Safety  
Action Project: Key findings of the Evaluation*

Ross Homel, Marge Hauritz, Richard Wortley and Jeff Clarke

July 1994. ISBN 0 86857 679 4. 44 pp. A\$7.50. Soft cover.



### 101 ALTERNATIVES TO WHACKING A CHILD

BY THE CHILDREN OF AUSTRALIA

1994. ISBN 0 646 20188 3. LAND OF OZ PUBLICATIONS. A\$8.95.

AVAILABLE FROM GPO BOX 3833, SYDNEY, NSW 2001.

The National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect has long been involved with the argument against smacking of children. To support its case, the Association has produced this booklet, written — as its cover boasts — by the children of Australia. NAPCAN's latest contribution to the debate is a pocket-sized volume which does canvass alternatives to "whacking".

Included here are alternatives for children and for parents. Daniel (8) suggests instead of a whacking he doesn't get any of his favourite lollies. Heidi (16), perhaps more technologically advanced, says perhaps she should lose her computer for a while instead of receiving physical punishment.

For parents, the suggestions range widely. Lauren, aged 11, says that the aggrieved parent might take her for a walk so "we can have a talk". Anthony (13): Tell me why you're angry, say what upsets you and get it out of the way before it gets out of control and you hit me. Ian (9): Stop! Think of the funniest moment in your life.

There are pearls here — of humour but of naive wisdom. It is a lesson in simple crime prevention. At its most basic, *Alternatives* is a clever way to draw attention to the problem of violence against children. It is light reading with some appealing cartoons.

### JUVENILE JUSTICE: AN AUSTRALIAN PERSPECTIVE.

CHRIS CUNNEEN AND ROB WHITE.

AUGUST 1995. ISBN 0 19 553613 4. OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS. 304 PP. A\$34.95. SOFT COVER.

Young offenders and juvenile crime have a high public profile today. In most advanced industrialised countries there is the same heightened awareness of youth issues, fuelled by extensive media hype surrounding youthful deviance and anti-social behaviour. *Juvenile Justice: An Australian Perspective* describes and examines the issues, people and institutions involved in juvenile justice in Australia. The actual workings of the juvenile justice system are analysed and a consolidated overview is given of the dynamics of youth crime and the institutions of social control.

### EURODRUGS: DRUG USE, MARKETS AND TRAFFICKING IN EUROPE

VINCENZO RUGGIERO AND NIGEL SOUTH.

JULY 1995. ISBN 1 85728 102 0. UCL PRESS (DISTRIBUTED BY ALLEN & UNWIN). 238 PP. A\$39.95 SOFT COVER.

*Eurodrugs* is a study of illicit drug use, markets and trafficking, and provides an overview of recent and current

developments in western and eastern Europe. It offers an international and comparative perspective on trends in epidemiology, crime and policy in relation to drug use, and presents detailed case studies of drug markets.

### INCAPACITATION

FRANKLIN E. ZIMRING AND GORDON HAWKINS.

FEBRUARY 1995. ISBN 0 19 509233-3. OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS. 296 PP. A\$45.00. HARD COVER.

The one, sure way that imprisonment prevents crime is by restraining offenders from committing crimes while they are locked up. Called "incapacitation" by experts in criminology, this effect has become the dominant justification for imprisonment in the United States. How useful is the modern prison in restraining crime, and at what cost? How much do we really know about incapacitation and its effectiveness?

*Incapacitation* is the first comprehensive assessment of this controversial aspect of the criminal justice system.

*Incapacitation* is published as part of Oxford University Press's Studies in Crime and Public Policy series, edited by Michael Tonry of the University of Minnesota Law School and Norval Morris of the University of Chicago Law School.

### LAW & ORDER: THE YOUTH VERDICT

AUSTRALIAN YOUTH INSTITUTE INCORPORATED

MAY 1995. OCCASIONAL PAPER NO. 5. A\$25.00 (INSTITUTIONS); A\$10.00 (INDIVIDUALS); A\$5.00 (MEMBERS ONLY).

The detailed and comprehensive findings of AYI's first conference for 1995, *Law & Order: The Youth Verdict*, are now available. The conference covered a social and economic perspective on law and order and youth; youth and violence; and the institutions of law and order. Concrete and realistic recommendations were formulated as to what needs to be done about law and order in Australia. Guest speakers included Mr Peter Homel, Director of the Juvenile Crime Unit (NSW) and Mr Robert Ludbrock from the National Youth and Children's Law Centre.

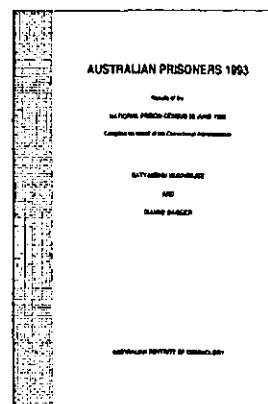
### WIFE ASSAULT AND THE CANADIAN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM: ISSUES AND POLICIES

M. VALVERDE, L. MACLEOD AND K. JOHNSON

1995. ISBN 0 919584 81 0. CENTRE OF CRIMINOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, ONT M5S 1A1, CANADA. 388 PP. C\$25.00.

*Wife Assault and the Canadian Criminal Justice System* synthesises and promotes debate on the legal and social situation of battered women.

This specific problem is used to shed new light on key recurring problems within the justice system. The book contains a diversity of articles ranging from family group conferencing to interviews with front-line police. It also includes a comprehensive bibliography of Canadian literature.





# a community

In the crime prevention debate, one area often sitting in the shadows is the local government area. Some years ago the Australian Institute of Criminology organised a conference which gathered local government groups from around Australia to discuss that subject. It was clear from that meeting that the third tier of government had a significant role to play in the understanding of crime.

At a recent AIC meeting in Hobart, the Mayor of Glenorchy, Alderman Terry Martin, talked of his Council's moves in crime prevention, of how the theory became practice and of significant results flowing from the Council's actions. This CA feature is based on that presentation.

You might expect the mayor of a town like Tasmania's Glenorchy — which is within metropolitan Hobart — to talk positively of his Council's achievements. And so he did.

Three years ago, says Alderman Terry Martin, crime prevention in Tasmania was not seen as a role of local government. There was occasional political discourse about law and order issues and complaints about the number of police on the beat. But the town leader, speaking at a seminar in Hobart organised by the Australian Institute of Criminology, says that true issues of crime



prevention were regarded as the responsibility of State and federal governments. [The meeting in Hobart was also addressed by the Commonwealth Minister for Justice, Duncan Kerr.]

There was community policing which maintained an expanding and valuable role in the prevention of crime but did not in itself constitute crime prevention.

"Overall there was still a sense of powerlessness in the community about crime and its impact on society", the alderman said.

"The question remained how, as a community, could we hope to deal with the much broader causes of crime. How indeed could we hope to stem the tide of changes occurring in Australia and indeed the whole Western World?

"The days of full employment are well and truly over, and a society whose rewards are distributed through employment is at risk from a significant minority who for a generation or more have never experienced stable employment."

The young unemployed were particularly vulnerable by being the victims of despair and having nothing to do, he said. The institution of the family was under stress with evidence of increased abuse of children and with young people being encouraged, persuaded or cajoled into leaving home at an earlier age.

They seemed immense issues to respond to in any meaningful way on a local level but the Glenorchy community had clearly given his Council the mandate to do just that.

- greater emphasis on educational policies which reflect the need for a refocussed value system in our society including life skill courses;
- greater victim/offender support services including the introduction of victim/offender mediation;
- development of better networks statewide between business and youth and between the community and the police.

One of the most important outcomes of the conference was the positive involvement of young people in the organisation and facilitation of conference activities.

"The positive contact which occurred between younger people and older people was an outcome that was seen as central to future crime prevention."

This was followed up by the Glenorchy City Council with a number of initiatives including:

- the appointment of a Youth Development

# ty fights back

"I am often astonished by how our attitude to smoking has changed over the past few years. Now even the most compulsive smoker will offer to go outside private homes to enjoy his 'fag' ", he said.

In much the same way there had been a shift in community attitudes to crime prevention and the three levels of government had regretfully been slow to respond to this. Communities had begun to be dissatisfied with the quick fix or band-aid approaches to crime prevention. Putting more police on the beat was no longer the panacea that it once was, either electorally or socially. The community was asking government to take a broader view and to address the hard issues, not just those that can give results in a four-year electoral term.

"This shift in attitude was brought home to me very clearly when Glenorchy was the first Council in the State to run a Safe City conference in October 1993", said the Mayor.

The summit involved 130 people from different backgrounds including local government, community groups, State and federal governments. Although fuelled by growing concern in the community over a reported crime wave, the recommendations from the conference reflected a much greater understanding of the issues involved. The recommendations included

- The development of a drop-in centre in Glenorchy to be developed by the youth of the area with government and community support;

Officer to work with young people in the community, identify their needs and work towards developing appropriate recreational facilities;

- the establishment of a Youth Task Force as a special committee of Council to work with young people and to actively involve them in the decision-making process of Council.

It was considered vital to make strong links with young people and in particular those young people who are most alienated from the community and most likely to be engaging in criminal activity. Those invited to be on the Task Force were not those normally chosen by teachers or elected representatives. They were not necessarily the most intelligent or the most articulate.

"But what they did have was an understanding of their community and of their peers. To use their phraseology they knew 'what was going down'.

"I can't tell you what enormous pleasure I have felt in seeing those young people develop over the past couple of years, due, I believe, in no small part to their involvement with Council. If only we could afford to give as much time and empowerment to all of our young people!"

In November 1993 (to complement the Youth Task Force), a Task Force on Crime Prevention was established. It is made up of committed people from many walks of life who had come together to look at ways the community could take real ownership of the issues of crime prevention. It had representatives from:



## Police and the community — a new way

- the Youth Task Force
- local schools
- local residents
- Neighbourhood Watch
- police
- youth workers

Alderman Martin said the role of the Task Force was innovative, providing a local area planning structure to deal with crime at a local level. It provided an ongoing mechanism for getting all of the key players together and enabled local people as well as service providers to participate in crime prevention projects.

Following the establishment of the task force, Glenorchy City Council became in 1994 the first council in Australia to run and fully fund the *Train the Trainer Self Protection Workshop*. Sessions were held with representatives from a wide range of community groups including Neighbourhood Watch, Local Library staff, TAFE Counsellors, The SpeakOut Association (working with people with disabilities), Lions Club and Progress Associations.

In late 1994, the Youth Task Force completed a survey of young people in the community which identified a need for a Youth Resource Centre in the central business district area of Glenorchy.

The development of a new bus interchange in the CBD also emphasised the need for an alternative area for young people to meet and engage in legitimate activities. The kids had been using the bus interchange as an informal meeting centre. But that was about to change, he said. Funds had been allocated by the Council to establish a youth resource centre in the CBD of Glenorchy and that was due to be up and running in November.

In early 1995, Glenorchy Council became the first Council in Tasmania to employ a crime prevention consultant to develop an integrated local strategy for crime prevention. There was a need for a clear focus for the next 12 months and a need for coordination across a range of areas:

within the community between the different groups and organisations involved in crime prevention work;  
within Council to enable a coordinated response from the different program areas (for example engineering, community services, property management, building).

The original intention was to develop a few specific projects. However, for the breadth of the issues to be dealt with, it was decided that the Council needed to develop and implement a range of strategies and implement them.

It was recognised that a number of underlying issues and the long-term nature of some of the strategies required must be monitored and evaluated for there to be an effective community response.

"The Aims of the Glenorchy City Council Crime Prevention Strategy are broad in order to encompass the variety of areas of activity necessary to effectively combat crime at a local level", the Mayor says.

The six broad aims of the Glenorchy City Council Crime Prevention Strategy are:

1. To identify key crime prevention issues for the people of Glenorchy.
2. To respond to the crime prevention issues identified by the local community.
3. To ensure that all future developments in the city meet crime prevention standards.
4. To ensure that existing public facilities and amenities make a positive contribution to crime prevention in the city.
5. To increase the safety of all members of the Glenorchy community.
6. To foster a greater sense of public ownership and belonging in relation to parks, reserves and public amenities.

He points to the many and varied achievements of the program so far which, include:

- Safety Audits of a number of locations within the city with the involvement of local residents, police, Council, service providers and community groups;
- community questionnaires to consult with local people about their ideas and thoughts about the development of parks and other facilities in their neighbourhood. (These are to be used to encourage local people to report incidents of vandalism and other crimes to enable swifter, more targeted police responses. A community needs survey includes crime prevention questions on feelings of safety and major issues of concern);
- the development of the overall strategy by the Task Force and implementing the suggested solutions;

- the Access Committee Youth Task Force and other community groups have been actively involved in the redesign of the local bus interchange and toilet facilities;
- investigation of the need for an inter-program working group within Council to oversee the responses to safety audits and the collection of other information;
- a planning policy being developed in relation to crime prevention;
- the appointment of a street youth worker to work with young people on the street and those involved in vandalism of public spaces;
- the establishment of a Breakfast Club for young homeless people;
- young people's dances and school holiday programs are being organised on a regular basis;
- a successful seminar has been held by Council on the issue of urban design and crime prevention;
- a sponsored sensor light scheme has been developed in conjunction with the Tasmanian Government Insurance Office to assist people who are fearful for their safety at home;
- a booklet has been developed to promote design, construction and maintenance which enhances safety;
- research is being conducted about what type of educational programs are being conducted currently in the areas of citizenship, sense of community and crime prevention issues, to develop a joint local government and educational pilot project;
- establishment of a vandalism register to collect all incidents of vandalism of public facilities over time so that these can be added to the police statistics.

"While we know that most results will be longer term there have been some identifiable short-term results:

- recent statistics show a decrease in crime across all types of crime apart from motor vehicle theft;
- more people have rung into Council to let us know of incidents of vandalism and we have been able to pass this information onto police to target patrols;
- local individual people and groups have expressed their ideas about how their community can be made to feel safer through the audits, community survey and questionnaire processes;
- most importantly a broad cross-section of the community is taking on some responsibility in relation to crime prevention rather than relying only on police or Council."

Nationally, Glenorchy's involvement in crime prevention had been recognised with Alderman Martin's appointment as the Local Government and only Tasmanian Representative on the Safer Australia Board.

"We believe", says Alderman Martin, "the Glenorchy Crime Strategy is a comprehensive

approach to dealing with crime at the local level.

"It tackles a range of different issues at the same time (for example urban design, youth recreation, planning, personal safety, needs assessment, community involvement). Many other projects involve tackling a single issue. We believe that no one strategy on its own will deal effectively with crime.


"It works on short-term and longer term strategies. It harnesses the skills of the range of organisations involved in crime prevention at a local level and provides an effective local level coordination role. The Task Force is a joint project group which allows all local initiatives to be shared. It has identified key themes to work on, rather than all crime issues. It has built in effective evaluation strategies. The strategy has enabled community involvement in needs identification, planning and design issues.

"Glenorchy City Council undertook these strategies because it had a commitment to the safety of its people", says the Mayor. "This type of activity was part of making a community a place that people wanted to live in, work in, and visit.

"We value the diversity within our community and want to make this diversity a part of our plan rather than pushing the undesirable element out of the city. This is why we have made young people a central part of our strategy.

"We need a whole of government approach to support these initiatives at a State and federal level. The coordination function had to be resourced on an ongoing basis otherwise one-off projects came and went. Crime prevention is ongoing and must be built into our everyday operations.

"Sooner or later each and every one of us will feel the impact of a crime. This gives us some ownership of the problem.

"Crime is not just an issue for police or governments to solve alone but by communities working together, bringing our ideas together, solutions can be found and we can make a difference." 

**Graffiti — crime prevention strategy fosters greater sense of public ownership**



## Violence Against Women Indicators Project (VAWIP)

As a part of the Commonwealth's Access to Justice initiative outlined in this year's Justice Statement, the Australian Institute of Criminology has received major funding to implement a new research program on violence against women.

The official title of the program is the "Violence Against Women Indicators Project" (VAWIP). Its key objective is to compile and consolidate existing research on the criminal justice response to violence against women, so that the Government will have reliable national data on the issue.

The project will cover:

- assessment and description of the availability of reliable criminal justice data on violence against women (domestic violence and sexual assault in particular);
- promotion of compatibility and usefulness of criminal justice data collections;
- annual compilation and analysis of data, nationally and by jurisdiction; and
- development of indicators for a national, coordinated approach to data collection on violence against women.

Supplementary research projects will be conducted by VAWIP in its later stages, targeted to further our understanding of access to justice in relation to violence against women.

Although not defined at this stage, research could include field studies designed to assess whether women in priority target groups believe the criminal justice system meets their needs.

More needs to be known about the requirements of groups which currently do not access the criminal justice system. Such studies will provide different perspectives on data to be found in criminal justice case records.

It is essential that existing work is not duplicated.

One of the first tasks for the project will be to review the availability of criminal justice data on domestic violence and sexual assault.

The project's goal will be to provide a framework for the ongoing compilation and analysis of data, including the development of indicators for a national approach to the collection of data on violence against women.

A series of workshops on the topic will assist the coordination process, and the AIC is planning regular compilation and publication of data, nationally and by jurisdiction.

**Contact person:** Jane Mugford, AIC Research Coordinator - tel: 61 6 274 0250

## Whistlestop tour for director

The Australian Institute of Criminology broached new ground in recent months when its Director, Dr Adam Graycar, went on a whistlestop tour of several States.

Visiting Tasmania, Queensland and South Australia, Dr Graycar cooperated with local crime prevention and criminal justice officials to present half-day conferences on subjects relevant to the different areas.

The Tasmanian seminar, held in Hobart on 15 September, focussed on Crime Prevention. Speakers were the Hon. Duncan Kerr (Commonwealth Minister for Justice), Dr Graycar, Richard Bingham (Secretary, Tasmanian Department of Justice), Commissioner John Johnson (Tasmania Police) and Alderman Terry Martin (Mayor, City of Glenorchy).

In Queensland on 12 October, the subject was Victims of Crime: A Queensland Perspective. The Queensland Attorney-General, the Hon. Matt Foley, introduced the seminar and, on the speaker's list, were the AIC Director, Garry Hannigan (Director, Criminal Law Group, Policy and Legislation Division, Department of Justice), Professor Ross Homel (Head, School of Justice Administration, Griffith University), Ian Davies (Victims of Crime Association of Queensland) and Sergeant Janelle Hamilton (Queensland Police Service).

In South Australia, on 13 October, the title was Police, Young People and the Community in South Australia. The State Attorney-General, the Hon. Trevor Griffin, opened the seminar. Speakers were Joy Wundersitz (Director, Office of Crime Statistics, South Australia and also an AIC Board Member), Dr Graycar, Lynn Atkinson (Criminologist, AIC), Michael O'Connell (Police Research Officer, South Australia Police and Lecturer, Justice Studies, Adelaide Institute of TAFE), Kym Davey (Executive Officer, Youth Affairs Council of South Australia), David Rathman (Chief Executive Officer, Department of State Aboriginal Affairs) and Lorna Hallahan (Community representative on the South Australian Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee).

Dr Graycar said the meetings were, on the one hand, a relaunching of the Institute, but on the other, the seminars dealt with issues that were central to crime prevention and criminal justice in all areas of Australia.

He was pleased that senior politicians, Commonwealth and State, were glad to cooperate with the Institute in these meetings.

For instance, the AIC welcomed the involvement of Duncan Kerr, the Commonwealth Minister for Justice, in opening the Tasmanian seminar which was also attended by Commissioner John Johnson of the Tasmania Police.

"The work of the two State Attorneys-General, Matt Foley and Trevor Griffin, Dr Graycar said, was of great encouragement to the Institute."

Dr Graycar said that these three successful seminars showed that the Institute was in gear and moving towards its rightful place at the forefront of criminological research and information.

# Conferences

## Australian Institute of Criminology 1996 Conference Program

### PROSECUTING JUSTICE

18-19 APRIL 1996,  
NOVOTEL HOTEL,  
COLLINS STREET,  
MELBOURNE

This first major conference will focus on the process of prosecution in the criminal justice system, and on the changing context within which the prosecution process operates.

The full 1996 program is enclosed.

Further copies can be obtained

from Glenys Rousell/

Sylvia MacKellar

Australian Institute of Criminology

GPO Box 2944

Canberra ACT 2601

Tel: 61 6 274 0224/0228

Fax: 61 6 274 0201

## PEER AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS IN EMERGENCY SERVICES

4-5 February 1996, Carlton-  
Radisson Hotel, Melbourne

The aims of this conference are to: provide the latest information on peer and family support programs in Australia and overseas; examine the pitfalls and problems in setting up those systems; and to facilitate communication and networking between participants. The keynote speaker is Dr Roger Solomon, a Clinical Psychologist from the USA who has specialised in working with police, especially with post-shooting trauma and the development of peer support programs. Other keynote speakers include: Mr Garry Thomson (Senior Police Psychologist, Victoria Police); Mrs Patricia Murdoch (Clinical Director of the PAL Peer Program, Victoria State Emergency Services); Dr Robyn Robinson (Clinical Director, Victorian Ambulance Crisis Counselling Unit).

For further information, contact:

Robyn Robinson

586 Drummond Street

North Carlton Vic 3054

Tel: 61 3 9347 6927

Fax: 61 3 9347 7127

## THE NATIONAL INJURY SURVEILLANCE UNIT

### 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INJURY PREVENTION AND CONTROL

18-21 February 1996,  
Melbourne

This conference will focus on matching injury solutions to settings. It will provide a forum for the exploitation of the different strategies injury prevention workers might use when addressing problems in their own socio-cultural settings.

For further information, contact:

3rd International Conference on Injury  
Prevention and Control

National Injury Surveillance Unit

Mark Oliphant Building

Laffer Drive

Bedford Park SA 5042

Tel: 61 8 374 0970

Fax: 61 8 201 7602

## NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMISSION

### OCCUPATIONAL INJURY SYMPOSIUM

24-27 February 1996, Sydney

Topics for consideration include:

- behavioural influences and effects
- economic aspects
- epidemiology and surveillance
- risk assessment and management
- safety science
- safety solutions and applications

For further information, contact:

Occupational Injury Secretariat

Professional Education Program

National Occupational Health and Safety  
Commission

GPO Box 58

Sydney NSW 2001

Tel: 61 2 565 9319

Fax: 61 2 565 9300

## SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE REDUCTION OF DRUG RELATED HARM

3-7 March 1996, Hobart

The conference will examine responses to the harmful health and social consequences of drug use, with a focus on realistic and pragmatic policy and practice. Presenters and delegates from developing countries, particularly in Asia, will be encouraged to attend.

For further information, contact:

Conference Administrator

PO Box 529

South Melbourne Vic. 3205

Tel: 61 3 9690 6000

Fax: 61 3 9690 3271

## 1ST AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION BY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, PSYCHOTHERAPISTS & CLERGY

12-14 April 1996, Holme

Building, University of Sydney

This conference will explore the issue of sexual exploitation by focusing on education and prevention, legislation, professional accountability, redress, working with those who have been exploited, particular issues relevant to specific groups, assessment of offenders, and the institutional structures which enable this abuse to take place.



For further information, contact:  
Committee Against Health Professional  
and Clergy Abuse (CAHPACA)  
PO Box 674  
Rozelle NSW 2039  
Tel/Fax: 61 2 557 8290

#### **MANAGEMENT OF SEX OFFENDERS: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE**

22-24 April 1996, Novotel  
Langley Hotel, Perth

This conference provides the opportunity  
to learn about important recent  
developments in management and  
treatment of sex offenders and to make  
international comparisons. Speakers  
include Dr Bill Marshal (Queens  
University, Kingston Ontario, Canada);  
Dr Bill Pithers (Clinical Director,  
Vermont Centre for the Prevention and  
Treatment of Sexual Abuse, USA); Ms  
Dawn Fisher (Clinical, Consultant and  
Researchers, Birmingham, UK).

For further information, contact:  
Ms Lucille Halls  
ECU Access  
Edith Cowan University  
Goldsworthy Road  
Claremont WA 6010  
Tel: 61 9 442 1315  
Fax: 61 9 383 1786  
email: L.Halls@cowan.edu.au

#### **13TH AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE FORENSIC SCIENCES**

8-13 September 1996, Sydney

For further information, contact  
Graham Cook  
Conference Secretary  
Private Bag 4  
Lidcombe NSW 2141  
Tel: 61 2 646 0222  
Fax: 61 2 646 0333

#### **6TH AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND**

##### **INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW CONFERENCE**

9-13 October 1996, Regent  
Hotel, Melbourne

For further information, contact:  
Convenor, Colin Lovitt QC  
Tel: 63 3 608 7777 or  
Trevor Nyman  
Tel: 61 2 331 6777

#### **7TH NATIONAL FAMILY LAW CONFERENCE**

13-18 October 1996, Canberra

For further information, contact:  
Ms Julie O'Donnell  
Administrator  
Family Law Section  
Law Council of Australia  
GPO Box 1989  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Tel: 61 6 247 3788  
Fax: 61 6 248 0639

#### **AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF FAMILY STUDIES**

##### **5TH AUSTRALIAN FAMILY RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

27-29 November 1996,  
Brisbane

For further information, contact:  
Ms Grace Soriano  
Australian Institute of Family Studies  
300 Queen Street  
Melbourne Vic. 3000  
Tel: 61 3 9214 7888

#### **AIDS IMPACT BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF HIV INFECTION**

##### **3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

22-25 June 1997, Melbourne

The conference program will be  
determined by an International Scientific  
Committee of leading researchers and  
clinicians. Topics will include: Public  
Policy and Action; Social and Ethical  
Dimensions of Drug and Vaccine Trials;  
The AIDS Workforce; Indigenous  
Communities and responding to AIDS.

For further information, contact:  
Conference Secretariat  
AIDS Impact  
Meeting Planners  
108 Church Street  
Hawthorn Vic. 3122  
Tel: 61 3 9819 3700  
Fax: 61 3 9819 5978  
email: meeting@iaccess.com.au

## **O V E R S E A S**

#### **11TH CONFERENCE OF THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY**

##### **"CRIME, CRIMINOLOGY AND CHANGE"**

29 January-1 February 1996,  
Wellington, New Zealand

The theme of the conference  
encompasses a focus on new ways of  
thinking about crime, new crimes, new  
technologies in criminal justice and  
punishment, changes in policing, the  
growing involvement of the private  
sector, alternative conceptions of justice  
and cultural or Indigenous justice. The  
conference will respect and integrate the  
protocol of the *tangata whenua*.

For further information, contact:  
Dr Allison Morris  
Institute of Criminology  
Victoria University of Wellington  
PO Box 600  
Wellington New Zealand  
Fax: 64 4 495 5147

#### **ACADEMY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SCIENCES 1996 ANNUAL MEETING**

##### **"THE FUTURE OF CRIME AND JUSTICE"**

12-16 March 1996, Riviera  
Hotel, Las Vegas

For further information, contact:  
Lee Ross, Program Chair  
University of Wisconsin  
School of Social Welfare/Box 786  
1133 Enderis Hall  
Milwaukee, WI 53201  
Tel: 1 414 229-6134  
Fax: 1 414 229-5311  
email: Lrss@alpha1.csd.uwm.edu

#### **8TH ANNUAL NATIONAL DROPOUT PREVENTION CONFERENCE**

24-26 March 1996, Tampa,  
Florida, USA

A strand of this conference is to be  
dedicated to juvenile justice and  
discipline issues. The conference targets  
policy-makers, practitioners, researchers  
and advocates, and others involved in  
juvenile justice programs and research.

For further information, contact:  
Karen Mann  
University of South Florida  
email: karen@irp.coedu.usf.edu

# Conferences

# Conferences

## THE PURSUIT OF SAFE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

HOW EDUCATORS, PRACTITIONERS AND COMMUNITIES ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO DEVELOP ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE

16-19 April 1996,  
Hotel Galvez, Galveston,  
Texas

The purpose of this conference is to explore ways educators, practitioners, community workers, and concerned citizens are working together to create safer schools and neighbourhoods. Participants will explore programs, profiles, and solutions to violence from the view of both researchers and practitioner.

For further information, contact:  
Marian Poland

Office of Extended Learning  
Sam Houston State University  
PO Box 2477

Huntsville TX 77341-2477

Tel: 1 409 294 3869

Fax: 1 409 294 3729

email: EXL-MEP@shsu.edu

## 1996 INTERNATIONAL CRIME CONFERENCE

CRIME AND JUSTICE IN THE NINETIES

28-30 June 1996, South Africa

Conference organised by the Criminological Society of Southern Africa (CRIMSA) and the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (IDASA).

For further information, contact:  
CRIMSA Conference Organisers

PO Box 28-936  
Sunnyside 0132  
Republic of South Africa

or contact

Dr Rika Snyman

Tel: 27 12 429 6467

Fax: 27 12 429 3221

## JOINT MEETINGS: LAW AND SOCIETY ASSOCIATION AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE ON SOCIOLOGY OF LAW (ISA)

GLOBALIZATION AND THE QUEST FOR JUSTICE

10-13 July 1996, Glasgow,  
Scotland

The program for the fourth joint meeting of the Law and Society Association and the Research committee

on the Sociology of Law will include discussion of all aspects of research on topics that link law and society in the broadest sense of these terms. The conference seeks to forge dialogue among scholars and disciplines from around the globe to explore the relationship between globalization, the functions and limits of law, and the future of justice.

For further information, contact:

Law and Society Association  
Attn: Program Committee  
Hampshire House - Box 33615  
University of Massachusetts  
Amherst MA 01003-3615 USA

Tel: 1 413 545 4617

Fax: 1 413 545 1640

Conference Web Page address:  
<http://www.unix.oit.umass.edu/~lsapgl/glasgow/html>

## INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (ISPCAN)

11TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS - CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: CREATING STABILITY IN AN UNSTABLE WORLD

18-21 August 1996, Ireland

For further information, contact:

The Secretariat  
ISPCAN 11th International Conference  
Clifton House  
Fitzwilliam Street Lower  
Dublin 2  
Ireland

Tel: 353 1 661 3788

Fax: 353 1 661 2073

## AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

20-23 November 1996,  
Chicago Marriott Downtown  
Hotel, Chicago, Illinois

Those wishing to give papers should contact the Program Chair:

Dr Raymond Paternoster  
Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology,  
2220 LeFrak Hall,  
University of Maryland,  
College Park, MD 20742-8235 USA

For registration information, contact:

Sarah Hall  
American Society of Criminology  
Fax: 1 614 292 6767

## 9TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON VICTIMOLOGY

CARING FOR VICTIMS: ROLES OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE PROFESSIONS

1997 Amsterdam

Themes will include: Victimisation surveys — new methods and applications; Victim support — upholding standards; The victim, criminal procedure and mediation; The business sector and victim services.

The symposium is the ninth in a series of tri-annual symposia organised by national associations under the auspices of the World Society of Victimology. This symposium is being organised by the Directorate for Crime Prevention (DCP) of the Ministry of Justice in The Netherlands, in association with the Dutch Association for Victim Assistance (LOS) and the Free University of Amsterdam.

For further information, contact:  
9th International Symposium on Victimology

c/o Ministry of Justice, DCP  
PO Box 20301  
2500 EH The Hague  
The Netherlands



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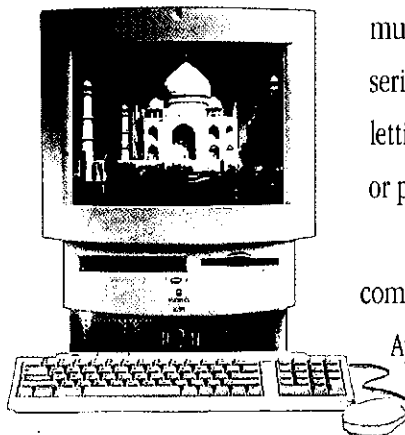
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