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CRIMINOLOGY AUSTRALIA

VOL. 7 No. 3 AUTUMN 1996



CA A judge for all seasons 3

Turning the Page
**Reconsidering
the police** 10



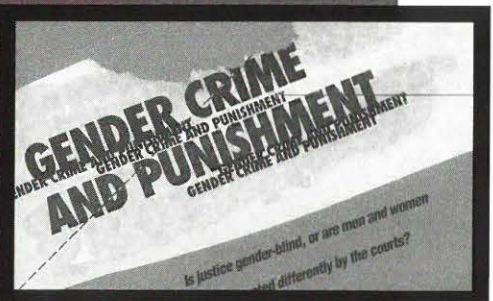
CA News 14

**DataBank — the
figures that count** 15



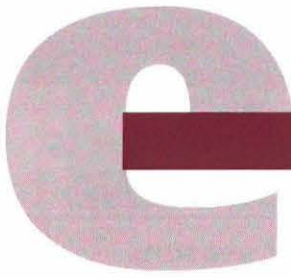
CA Violence the target 19

**And the Band
played on** 23



CA Books... 29

Conferences 32



EDITORIAL

CRIMINOLOGY AUSTRALIA
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Submissions:

The Editor welcomes submissions to CA. Requests for guidelines should be addressed to:

The Editor

Criminology Australia
GPO Box 2944
Canberra ACT 2601

Editorial Board:

Dr Adam Graycar
Garry Raffaele
Merril Thompson
Dr Satyanshu Mukherjee
Marianne James

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It's not a new complaint — in fact it's as old as academia itself. And it does not exhibit itself in criminology — it spreads across the map of research, of thought and analysis. It is an argument advanced by journalists, and others around the world.

It says that academic research is “egghead” stuff, that it does not represent reality.

It shows itself in the “lies, damned lies and statistics” approach. You can tell, say its proponents, many different stories with the same set of data. Even worse, you can tell the story you want to tell. Post-modernist thought at its most reverberant!

Academics may not wish to accept it or may choose to ignore it but there is general suspicion of the basis of research, that it is far removed from life in the “real world”.

Nowhere is this argument more clearly seen than in the understanding of the rate of crime. Criminologists, in the main, seem to be saying that we are no less safe now that we were 100 years ago. In some areas, the claim says, we are safer.

Yet parts of the media are screaming that the streets are close to awash with blood, that we are not safe in our beds, that crimes against the person are at galloping inflation levels.

Informing the public debate is a major aspect of the work of criminologists. But surely influencing policy is what any research is eventually about — and the public debate is an important part of that. In its current conference

program, the Australian Institute of Criminology has planned an event in 1997 which will look at the measurement of crime 100 years ago and today. From this we might have a clearer picture of how we lived then and how we live now.

And, at the other end of the scale, the alarmist commentators might like to consider the policy influences which have sprung from the Institute work on Deaths in Custody and its National Homicide Monitoring, to name but two aspects of AIC research.

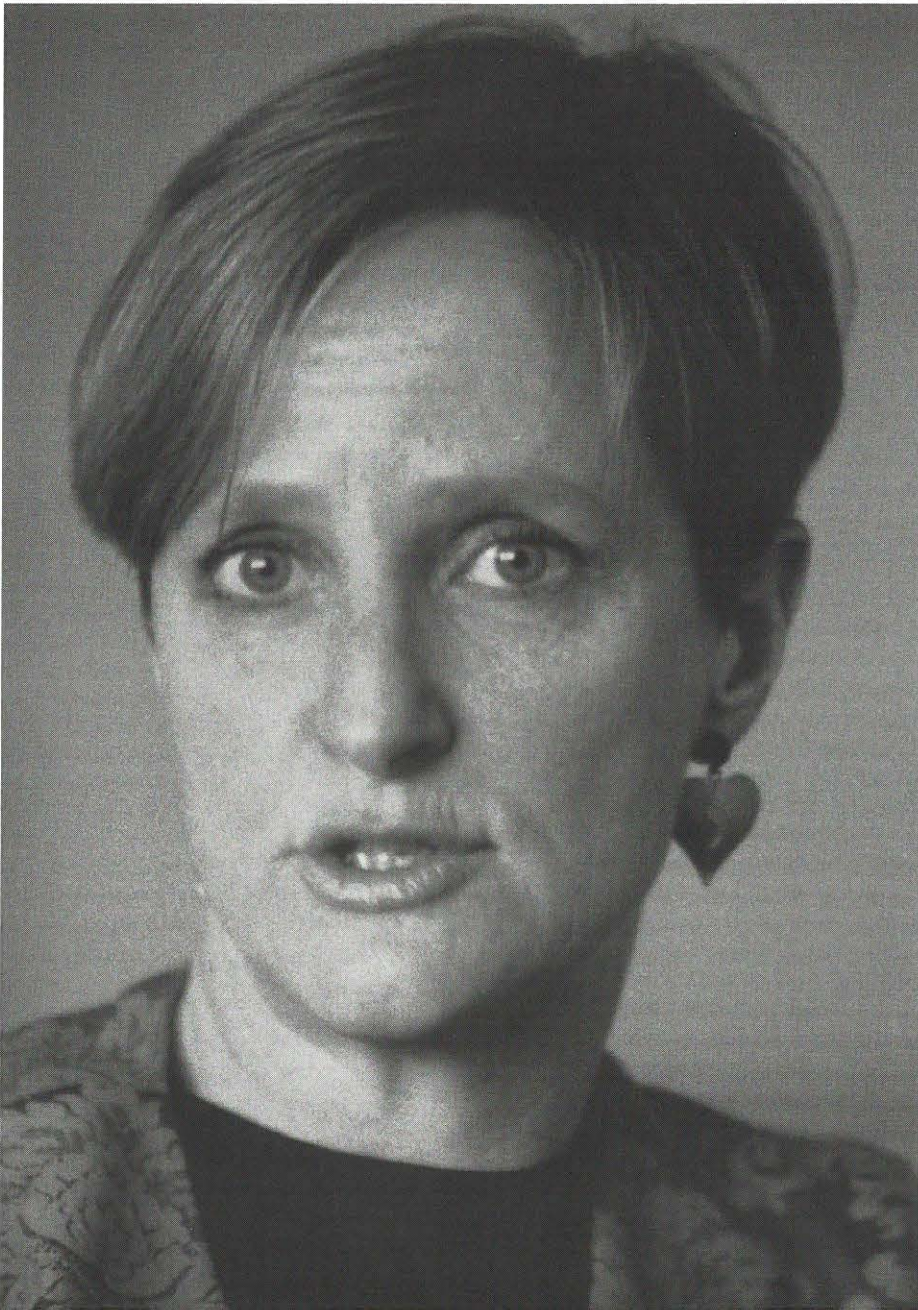
Other research areas are similarly pushing forward the frontiers.

And hopefully in 1996 (this being our first issue for that year), the two ends of the discussion might come closer together.

And that will mean a better life for all Australians.

GARRY RAFFAELE EDITOR

A Judge for all



seasons

Sally Brown is the chair of the Board of Management of the Australian Institute of Criminology — the first woman to hold that position. She is also a Judge of the Family Court and was previously Chief Magistrate in Victoria. She was one of the first two women admitted to the Magistrate's Court in Victoria. She came to the Institute at a crucial time in its history and both in that capacity and as a Family Court judge has a perspective on the law in Australia CA was anxious to uncover.

GARRY RAFFAELE

Sally Brown says she is of the law — and that is a view that, in one sense, underscores her professionalism, but in another, belies her breadth of interests. Chair of the Board of the Australian Institute of Criminology and a judge of the Family Court, she is among the high profile leaders of the profession in Australia.

In Canberra recently she spoke to *CA* of her role in the profession, of early days and of milestones that mark her life.

She came to the law, Brown says, for a range of reasons none of which are the ones people usually want to hear. She didn't want to teach — in the '60s that was what so-called bright young women did. So Brown looked through the yearbook at Melbourne University and "saw that I could do more.

"I had no background in law, no family connections, so no previous positions that would have led me to it, and I have to say no idea at all about the reality of either legal practice or the court system.

"So that's how I started in law.

She did her articles and practised for a short time as a solicitor and became interested at that time in areas mainly related to contract and corporate law. "I took nearly three years out and lectured fulltime."

She went to the bar in 1978 after "a bit of practice as a solicitor and the lecturing.

"I stayed lecturing part time; that, I think, was very important for me for it introduced me to a range of part-time students for whom I had huge respect.

"They were remarkable people a lot of them and had a capacity to analyse and talk. They were terribly keen in that most of them were in full-time paid work, as well as having family responsibilities.

"That was, I think, very important to me in terms of how I started to see the law. At that stage I decided I would like to try court work."

So it was time to go to the Bar although Brown felt that she would finish up in some commercial area, "glorified debt collecting".

"Like lots of young barristers I was offered work in crime and in family law and I took it. I'd never done anything in those areas before and I loved it."

Although her practice kept some civil work and in particular some work in those areas she had taught, it was substantially divided between criminal law and family. These two areas, she says, have a lot in common because they are both fact

jurisdictions, they are both evidence jurisdictions, or evidence matters, and they are both about people in a very immediate sense — people's problems, people's means. "And I think that really set the pattern for most of the things I did after that."

GR: Is the people aspect very important to you?

"Yes, that's what I like about being a judge in the court I am in [the Family Court], that the trial work is so directly involved with the people whose lives you are affecting."

Magistrate's Court

"I like theoretical legal analysis, I read cases. But what I am very interested in is running the courtroom, dealing with the people, trying to work out how best to communicate with them, how to explain why you are doing what you have to do.

"In 1985, out of the blue, I was offered a job on the Magistrate's Court. At that time, there had been no women on that bench in Victoria.

"A few months earlier, the first people had been appointed to that bench from private practice as barristers and later solicitors.

"So, although for some time the magistrates had been legally qualified, they'd all gained their qualifications through part-time study after having become Clerks of Courts.

"This was a change — and Margaret Rizkalla, who is now a judge of the County Court, and I were the first two appointed in 1985. I think then there were something like 72 magistrates.

GR: Why do think that was, that you two were the ones to be appointed?

"I think it's probably a combination of a bit of good luck, being in the right place at the right time. Both of us had practised a lot in crime and family law — which are very good jurisdictions if you are going into a magistrate's court — practical, pragmatic jurisdictions.

"We had an Attorney (Jim Kennan) who was keen to appoint women to that court. He remained very committed to doing that; so, throughout the life of that government, an increasing number of women were appointed to the Magistrate's Court.

"I think both Margaret and I really agonised over whether we should do it or not. A lot of people, our professional colleagues, said that would be the end of our careers, throwing it all away, selling yourself short."

GR: What did they have in mind?

Brown said that this was new territory and that no-one was sure that you could be a magistrate for a period of time and then you might be appointed to another position. "In status terms, being a magistrate wasn't very important. That was the culture of the Bar.

"While magistrates deal with over 90 per cent of the criminal and similar work in the States, there's still an idea that it's not really awfully serious. Within that mainstream legal culture, it's considered a not very important job so one that an ambitious person wouldn't take on."

So they took up these appointments in May 1985. Some more women were appointed the next year and "we were terribly lucky that the Chief Magistrate was Darcy Dugan, the former Clerk of the Courts".

"He'd spent all his life in magistrate's courts, an irrepressible Irish lad with a huge sense of justice and a great leader. We were extraordinarily lucky because he simply didn't ever consider, it seemed to us, that women shouldn't be there.

"And to the extent that there was any dissent about that, he dealt with it in a very pragmatic fashion. I recall that, when the first of the appointed women took maternity leave, there was a little bit of muttering among some of the males. Darcy took out the figures very quietly (no one realised he was doing it) on stress leave for the past 10 years; he just produced them one day and said, 'Men have nervous breakdowns, women have babies. I know which I'd prefer'".

The dissent disappeared. However, Brown points out that there was not a great deal of dissent. "We were very lucky, a pretty happy court I think."

The magistracy grew in the next few years. "When I began it was around 72 or 74. By the time I left in 1993, it was 92. So it's a pretty big court — now it has something like 60 courthouses, a big enterprise. It taught me lots about handling people, dealing with high volumes of work, trying to listen, those sorts of things."

But her career moved on — first an appointment as Deputy Chief Magistrate then as Chief Magistrate. And she developed an understanding of the workings of the court system in an administrative sense.

"I learned a lot about working in teams because Victoria then was very good at the courts working together. There were a lot of projects where the Magistrate's Court, the Supreme Court and the County Court worked together with people from DPPs or the Legal Aid Commission and other people with an interest in courts.

"In some States", she says, "it is not an area of common partnership role both between the courts and between the judiciary and the staff."

Family Court

Eight years on and Brown is offered a position in the Family Court. One of the reasons she made the move was because it brought together a number of things she was very interested in. "I have always had a major interest in the juvenile justice, welfare, children's area and that is a very important part of my present control.

"I'd always retained an interest in family law and had stayed on a number of committees and working parties that dealt with family law while I was in the Magistrate's Court.

"I had been involved with a number of committees that worked with the Family Court on things like protocols for domestic violence cases, working in with the Department of Health and Community Services in relation to child welfare cases. Juggling the jurisdictions, if you like, so that they meshed rather than conflicted as much as possible."

She felt that, like the Magistrate's Court, the Family Court was an area where what you did directly affected in the most radical way the people who needed the court services.

"I've always thought that the important work the courts do is how it deals with — and this is across the board — the creation of relationships and the breakup of relationships and the conflict that arises out of them. You can analogise right across the board into corporate work, crime and other themes but it's right there on a platter, the Family Court."

It just seemed a real challenge to her. "And the court is headed by Chief Justice Alastair Nicholson who is an inspiration and who has been extraordinarily responsive to change."

Brown says he is very interested in the whole of the community that the court serves. "He wants an integrated court so that it's not just the judges but an integrated organisation with court counsellors, legally trained registrars, court administrators.

"And he's very interested in debate. You don't have to agree with him but it's a very lively court.

"He is also happy for me to continue with lots of my other interests including the Australian Institute of Criminology, for example, and the work that I've done through the Australian Institute of Judicial Administration."



Gender issues

GR: I was told that you are doing gender information for male judges.

“It would be unfair to say it was gender information for male judges. It wouldn’t be unfair to say it was gender information for judges.

Brown says that the AIJA began work on Aboriginal issues around 1992. “The AIJA President then put up a proposal that we should be involved in developing judicial education programs around issues of gender.”

She was quick to point out that this proposal predated the subsequent furor. In fact she says the development of the project really slowed down because “we had to deal with some misapprehensions that were created as a result of remarks by politicians in particular, priests and whatever”.

“I’ve been very interested in judicial education ever since I started in the magistracy. From very early on, I was involved in helping organise their education programs across a wide range of issues.

“So I chaired the AIJA’s gender awareness committee; we sought and obtained funding from the Office of the Status of Women to run a big conference on issues relating to gender which we called Eureka 1995.

“We had 150 members of the judiciary — we had to turn a lot away. The project began as a Victorian project but there was a lot of interest

expressed by other courts so we ended up not only with judges from the mainstream courts in Victoria but Federal Court, Industrial Relations Court, the Family Court, Commonwealth AAT, judges from supreme courts in WA and SA and NSW, the New Zealand High Court and district courts.

“A judge from Cape Town rang and asked for a place; they’re of course looking at judicial education substantially about racial issues and these things all tie in together.”

Although the focus of the conference was on gender, Brown says that what participants were talking about was ways to look at their work “from a perspective other than our own, to be better able to achieve what we all promise to do when we take an oath of office.”

GR: How did the participants respond to the conference?

“You’d need to ask individuals about the response but our perception was that generally there was a great deal of interest, there was a lot of spirited debate, there was a lot of plain old arguing, a lot of intellectual analysis over the legal system. Those of us who organised it see this very much as a systemic problem not a problem that a particular individual has.

“We are all touched by it, men and women and whatever culture we come from. We’ve all got our baggage that we carry with us and the knapsack is invisible to us most of the time. What

we were trying to work towards was a perception about what is in that invisible knapsack on your shoulder.

“What’s in mine is quite different from what’s in yours and it might in fact be relevant in how we do our job, how we assess credibility — whether we are imposing unwarranted stereotypes on people, whether we are judging in our own image all the time, is the status quo actually objective and neutral or is it personal — all those sorts of questions.

“The conference was planned on a mixture of plenary sessions, a few panel discussions and a number of small group workshops in which there were never more than 10 people. Everyone present agreed that in the small group workshops they would be safe harbours; nothing said in a small group could be attributed to anybody outside the group.

“I think, insofar as you can tell, that aspect worked very well because the notion that it’s a gendered world is not one that people have often thought about. The first question you ask at the birth of a child is: is it a boy or girl?; from that time on, experiences of that child are moulded in many, many respects by their gender.

“Now it’s not something that men need to learn about because women know about it — it’s not that at all. But the way the law has evolved, the law is far more likely to reflect a male perspective because it has been designed by men historically.

“Women couldn’t stand in the Victorian Parliament until the 1920s. We had our first woman Commonwealth Parliamentarian after the second world war. Women could only become lawyers early this century.

“It’s not surprising that the law has evolved and relied — not out of any malice but simply as a reality — on the experience of the people who were involved in its production and development and evolution.

“While I don’t pretend to be any better at knowing how a man feels than a man would be about how I feel, I can identify in the law certain assumptions which are based on a male model.

“I think the whole notion of judicial education across the board is very widely accepted now in Australia. But it’s really a ripple effect I think.

“We’re not suggesting that people have now been inoculated against discrimination and prejudice and we are all now immune and we will go forth and never apply another stereotype, always put ourselves in someone else’s shoes, always empathise with the people before us.

“But it’s a continuum, and, I think, from talking to people a lot of people will take away

with them an idea that, in order to do their job as well as they want, they may have to ask themselves a few questions that they didn’t ask themselves before.

“I have never met a judge or a magistrate who doesn’t want to be a good judge or magistrate — that’s why a lot of the press has been so unfair to target and demonise a few people, putting aside whether what those people did or said was sensible, wise, legally correct.

“It is most unproductive and very unfair to target all the hostility and concern of the community on to a very few individuals. What we are looking at is a community problem. The judges didn’t invent gender bias. The judges didn’t invent discrimination or whether it’s on the grounds of your sex, or your colour or your race, religion or your handicaps or your abilities or whatever.

“But, because we take oaths to do equal justice to all people, we have a special responsibility to refrain from perpetuating it. And we have a responsibility to do what we can, consistent with the law, to eradicate it.”

Institute chair

GR: The chair of the Australian Institute of Criminology — it’s a role that perhaps many people wouldn’t have taken on at the time you took it - 1991: it was clear that it was not a job that was to be a sinecure.

“No, it certainly wasn’t sold to me as a sinecure.

“Certainly I had no forewarning of some of the particular things that have happened but even then it was very clear that the onus of proving that we [the Institute] were necessary was always going to be hard.

“In a sense we can’t complain about that. We’re a statutory creation. We’re there to provide high quality policy research so that government decisions can be better informed in the areas that are relevant. Our charter is within the criminological world.

“I had a lot of involvement early on as a consumer of the Institute’s services. When I was just a magistrate I came to an Institute conference on sentencing which for me was a really seminal experience.

“I hadn’t been in the court long, I had just become very interested in sentencing because suddenly I was doing it; suddenly, instead of being a barrister acting for the accused telling the judge all the reasons that the sentence shouldn’t be too long or they shouldn’t be imprisoned or there should be consideration given to a different option, I had to decide what to do.

“Most people in prison are there because magistrates have sent them there. That’s often forgotten.

“People with a really long sentence come from other courts but the bulk of people with sentences under 12 months come from the magistrate’s courts, and the most challenging and interesting thing, particularly dealing with young people, was the responsibility to try and balance their futures and their development with the community’s interest in community safety and with the interests of the victims of crime.

“I came up with some much more senior magistrates to that conference and it was a revelation.

“I never listened to such interesting stuff and talked to so many people; it was about the time people were starting to look at America and changing sentencing philosophy; the notion of rehabilitation was being discarded to some extent.

“When Michael Tate [the then Minister for Justice] spoke to me about the chair, the thing that interested me I suppose was that it brought together a lot of the things that I was interested in — criminal law, community safety, juvenile justice. A lot of those issues had come out of the criminal courts — drug use and abuse, sexual abuse of children, violence in the community, crime in the pub, and what these things say about communities.

“I’d been a magistrate for just long enough to be realising how very much of the back end of the process of the courts are. They are reactive.

“We come in after the problem has arisen. While one of the things you try to do with sentencing is, as far as you can, to try and stop the problem arising again either by warehousing the accused so he or she can’t harm anybody else except the people with whom they are incarcerated for a while, or looking at rehabilitation and options in that area, this is after the harm has been done.

“You can minimise harm to the victim by hoping to treat them responsibly and decently. We were involved in criminal injury compensation schemes; through that, you certainly got an idea about the reality of the effect of violent crime and other crimes.

“But it was all after it happened and what really intrigued me was what governments and other institutions could do at the front end to try and build a safer community.”

She says that the courts are part of that but only a very small part in one sense. They give very strong signals to the community, and that is very important, but the actual work they do is retrospective.

“So I was very interested in the programs that the Institute was doing at that time. The Institute

was already doing a lot of work about domestic violence. The Aboriginal Deaths in Custody Commission was just finishing but I remember my very first meeting here when I talked with David McDonald [responsible for the AIC’s monitoring of deaths in custody] about the work his group was doing.

“I think a decision had been taken then that they wanted, for a change, to have a Chair who was independent — that is probably the wrong word because I am sure that all of my predecessors were independent in that sense; what I mean is from outside the government.”

Brown maintains the job demanded a huge learning curve — “I walked into my first meeting to meet 8 or ten people who I’d never met before. Some of them I knew of, most I didn’t. They came from a very diverse range of backgrounds doing very diverse things at their primary jobs.

“It’s only this year (apart from invaluable assistance we have from Sylvia Flaxman [minutes secretary to the AIC Board]) that we have had another woman’s voice around the table [South Australian representative on the Board is now Joy Wundersitz, Director of the Crime Statistics, Crime Prevention and Criminology Unit, Attorney-General’s Department of SA].

“To be the only woman with a speaking part in the room is something that very few men have ever experienced. Very few professional men, the sort of men who sit round a board table with me, have ever been in meetings where they are the only male voice.”

She says she has spoken to colleagues who have recently had that experience — men who have been sitting around a table, not in the course of a bit of community consultation, but with their peers. And they have been the only man in a room of half of dozen women.

“They’ve talked about how it does feel different, you hear your voice sounding different when you interject. That’s an interesting change, particularly when you think that this Institute has relied very heavily on female criminologists and that wasn’t being reflected in its Board.

“That’s because the Board members were drawn from other organisations and institutions which have for many years been male dominated. There was no malice in any of that but I used to think about it when I talked to the staff — how much of the real hard work of the Institute has been done by women.

“I’m not seeing the world in those terms but you looked at the staff and you looked at the people who were putting it in and yet at the top it was a very masculine organisation.

And the Institute in general?

"We joked about the first four years, every single board meeting started with the executive director saying the period since the last board meeting has been a period of great turmoil. It was a bit like a steeple chase.

"You would just get over the water jump and think that you were setting in for the home run and then you'd fall into the sandpit, you'd clamber out of that and there'd be a hedge that had suddenly been erected.

"It was a very difficult time for the Institute staff. It was much easier for me and I was always aware of that in the sense that, whilst I was as concerned as anybody else about the future of the Institute (and I think most Board members were), I had a job.

The Institute, she says, has changed since its inception. It has had different directors with all their different styles and "I've been able to work with all of them, I think, happily. I hope that they've been able to do that with me."

"We're now on a course that — who knows? — we might have a board meeting one day soon when we don't start saying this has been a period of turmoil and disruption.

"I learned a bit about the political process. Learned how protected I am from that. It sounds a bit Polly Anna-ish but it has been a job I've learned a lot about myself. I am very lucky to have it."

Other things

GR: What's next for Sally Brown?

"I've got my plate full just at the moment. I'm still working with the AIJA — as I say, gender issues and the equality issues aren't something you inoculate people against and then forget about.

"We're all learning about that and we are now seeking funding for cultural education for the judiciary and other people. In my court, we are working on that with all the staff, not just the judiciary. We're involved in an orientation course through the AIJA for recently appointed judges and magistrates, something that I think is very important.

"I've only been in this court for a couple of years so I am still very definitely learning my trade within it and I love that work, the actual trial work, the court work.

"It's hard because you are very often going to have one and sometimes two very unhappy people, particularly when you are dealing with issues relating to the welfare of children. But it's fascinating and it offers huge challenges for learning how better to deal with people, to explain what you are doing.

"I'm on the Australian Drug Foundation's Board. I do a bit of work with two of the Victorian universities and I talk as much as I can still at schools in the evenings and at careers days and those sorts of things. I still do a lot of general speaking to community organisations which really began when I was Chief Magistrate.

"So there's quite a lot of balls to juggle as well as personal life. Very important to maintain. I've got lots of interests. For some reason people are always surprised to find that I do things like cook, knit and read and I am very interested in poetry and medieval history and do a bit of travel, do a bit of walking and do a bit of bike riding.

"People always for some reason seem to think that I should have a hobby which is either something very exotic like sky diving or something really bizarre like cross-dressing or something.

"People are very disappointed when I say that food is therapy for me. I love cooking and there are very few stresses I can't cook myself out of. I enjoy it; I love providing food for people, cooking it and putting it on the table.

"People will say, 'Is this the same Sally Brown?'. Another notion about stereotyping.

"As a lovely little example I went to a meeting of the Federal Court in Sydney in the last few months and I was dressed in my suit. I said to the man on the security desk, 'My name is Sally Brown, I'm here for a meeting in the Federal Judges common room.'

"And he said, 'And aren't you a lucky little girl!'

"I almost said, 'Actually I'm a lucky little judge', except I know what happens when you do this. He would have been terribly upset and he then would have got a bit cross after I left and would have started talking about uppity women.


"Some people hear you are a judge and immediately think you aren't a proper, ordinary normal run of the mill person.

Others, she points out, cannot accept you because you don't fit their stereotype of a judge which is "I'm not quite sure, sort of wise and grey-haired. and certainly male. I had to do a lot of things to get that stereotype to change".

"So that's alive and well. It makes cobbling speeches together for after-dinner events easy.

To sum up?

"I am so privileged in terms of education and background and job.

"It's been a terrific life, a very lucky life. It has its ups and downs like everyone else's; I come from a long-lived family so, unless something intervenes, I could be causing trouble for a long time." 

Turning the Page

ADAM GRAYCAR

When I was a young student it was fashionable to disparage the police. They were perceived by my fellow students (and a fair number of our teachers) as stupid, rigid, ignorant and authoritarian. To another group in the community police were the protectors of law and order, a platform of stability in a society which was not as safe then, as it was a few years previously! The judgments were arrived at without having any sense of what police really do, and how they go about it. What do we know about policing today?



The Tanzer Review, which led to the restructuring of the Australian Institute of Criminology in 1995, identified policing as an issue that required priority attention. Accordingly, the Institute has one of its research teams addressing the criminal justice system, and policing is an item for that team. Collaborative work is already being discussed with other agencies, and will cover research, training, and in July of this year, the first Australasian Women in Policing Conference will be held. By then the Institute will have released work currently in progress entitled 'Achievements in Australian Policing'.

The topics suggested by the Review as falling under the policing banner included community policing; police race relations; privatisation; police custody; police accountability; police use of firearms. The list is neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

At its 24th meeting in May 1993, the Australasian Police Ministers Council (now the Ministerial Council on the Administration of Justice) endorsed the development of an Australasian Policing Strategy, the vision of which states:

“By the year 2000 we will have a safer and more secure community. The focus will be on

A partnership approach to policing

An increase in community confidence in police

A reduction in the incidence, effects and fear of crime

An increased level of community safety.”

One could debate at great length whether these are activities that fall totally and solely within the purview of police activities. Certainly, a partnership approach involves the community as a whole, and requires policy and practice input from a variety of professional areas. Community confidence has not been enhanced by the regular revelations of the NSW Royal Commission, though many would argue that it is laying the basis for a new look, new culture, police service. There is a long standing argument that police have little impact on the incidence of crime, though there is evidence that they do contribute to perceptions of community safety.

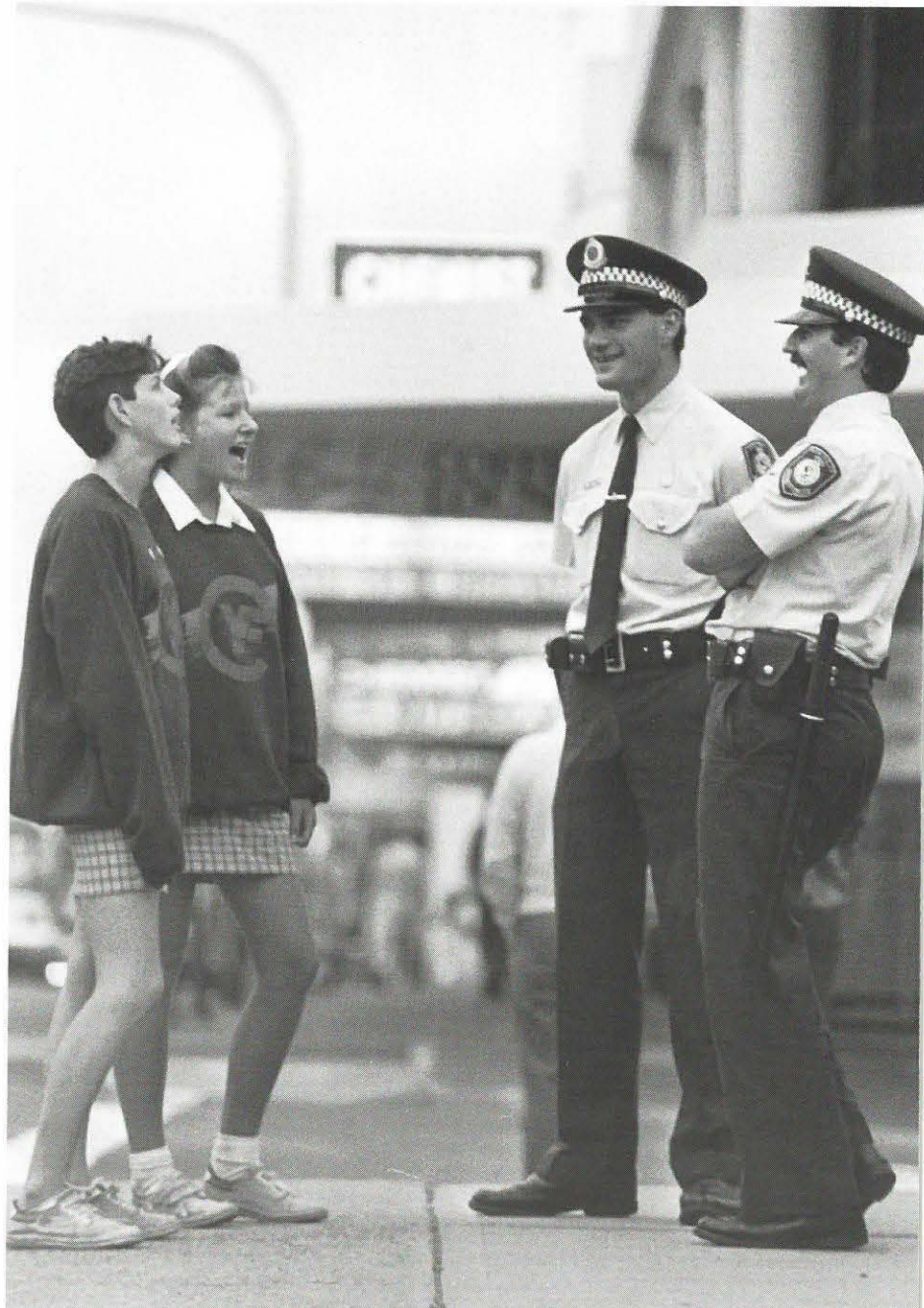
David Bayley's cross-national research study *Police for the Future* (Oxford University Press 1994 - see Books section of *CA* on page 29) opens as follows: “The police do not prevent crime. This is one of the best kept secrets of modern life. Experts know it, the police know it, but the public does not know it.” He points out that for the most part, police patrol — they respond to calls and requests, and contrary to what most people think, police do not enforce their own conception of law and order on an unwilling populace — almost all they do is undertaken at the request of some member of the public. Very little of the work that patrol officers do has to do with crime. Bayley estimates that in the UK and the USA about 15 to 20 per cent of all calls to the police are about crime, and 80 to 85 per cent are not. Most of the crime that police are called upon to handle is distinctly minor — important and significant to the people involved, but definitely not the stuff that headlines are made of!

Most commonly police “sort out” situations. They listen patiently to grievances, of every imaginable type, and stories about incidents. In an earlier study of American police, Bayley found that most commonly they leave the scene without doing anything at all (23.7 per cent of cases). Next, they give friendly advice on how to avoid a repetition of the incident (16.1 per cent of cases),

and only in 13.9 per cent of cases do they use the criminal law to restore calm and order by making an arrest.

Excluding arrests for traffic offences, Bayley estimates that American police make an average of 19 arrests per year — (however, there might be a methodological problem here as this is arrived at by dividing the total number of arrests by the total number of police). When traffic offences are taken into account, there is less than one arrest per officer every 15 days. In the big American cities each officer makes only 1.7 arrests per year for a violent crime, and 3.0 per year for property crimes. Officers in Canada make fewer, and less frequent arrests. It would be interesting to compare Australian data.

One image of police in our society...





...and another image of police.

Police certainly deal with violent crimes, but the numbers vary dramatically from country to country. In Canada each officer in 1990 dealt with 4.7 violent crimes per year, in the USA it was 2.8; in Britain, 1.7; in Australia 1.2; and in Japan 0.11. Police officers live with the expectation of danger, and go to work with the weapons of war, but as Bayley says “the paradox is that though police officers must prepare for war, they spend most of their time making peace in non-forceful ways”.

Policing is dangerous, and police in Australia are more likely to be killed on the job than police in the USA, Canada or Japan. Bayley estimates that one police officer is killed on the job, both feloniously and accidentally for every 2480 officers in Australia, 4385 in the USA, 18 000 in Canada, and 27 000 in Japan (Bayley 1994, p.71). The larger number in Australia would be due to deaths in road accidents. He cites data to show that in the USA and Canada, policing has actually

become safer, if one uses as a measure the number of felonious deaths.

While policing has become less dangerous since the 1980s, it must be noted that unlike other professionals, police do not work in surroundings they control. They work where the rest of us would not want to go: dark back alleys, domestic situations that have got out of hand, and venues that are physically and socially uninviting. They work in the seamy side of life, as Bayley describes it, with sleaze, lust, perversion, greed, rage and malice — not the sort of thing professionals would choose as their working context. This is the sort of work that young police officers do. Young men and women, mostly under 30 years of age continually deal with life situations that require either a very strong education in the social and behavioural sciences, or 40 odd years of life experience. The educational challenges facing police services are of enormous moment. Our

police need to be among the best educated people in our community, but many people who have high educational attainment do not see policing as their calling. This poses a prodigious challenge for those of us with an interest in education and training.

The bizarre paradox that Bayley identifies about the criminal justice system is that those with the greatest responsibility have the least education, the lowest pay and the least social status. Those who are better educated, higher paid, and enjoy unqualified professional standing have less autonomy, discretion and power (Bayley 1994, p. 73).

Public perceptions of police in Australia are, on the whole, quite positive. They vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, and the National Police Research Unit has just released a review of 17 public attitude surveys, and 4 police attitude surveys conducted over the last five years (NPRU Report Series No:126). These covered public satisfaction with police contacts, effectiveness and efficiency, professionalism, crime perceptions and concerns, police-community relationships, police roles, other performance measures, and suggested improvements.


Police work must be seen in the light of the social system in which it operates. The last five decades have seen Australia go from incredible prosperity to restructuring which has distributed gains unevenly and shattered long-held expectations, while at the same time a new multicultural nation was being built on an old base of uncontested institutions. During the post-World War II prosperity policing was coloured by a strong repressive element, and was based on the unassailability of government. By the mid-1980s, what was uncontested became contested, and with rises in crime (compared to the 1950s), and social movements which asserted various claims in society, police services were under pressure, and doubts about police performance were expressed — expressed, not in ideological terms, but rather in management terms, and in terms of whether effectiveness was an important performance indicator.

In recent years police have, like other public sector workers, faced monumental organisation restructuring and resource limitations and constraints. At the same time public scrutiny has been heightened, and accountability requirements are greater than ever before. While Australia is a less violent society than it was 100 years ago, pockets of violence are concentrated, multiple victimisation is a fact of criminal justice life, new forms of sophisticated crime test imagination and ingenuity, and require a smart approach, and new

Allegations of police corruption are perpetually in the media, and they must hurt the vast majority of police officers who do their job well, and care about doing it well.

technologies are all pervasive. Bayley points out that collaborative work between police and researchers is a consistent fact of life in the USA, and only slightly less common in the UK and Canada, while Australia lags far behind.

Allegations of police corruption are perpetually in the media, and they must hurt the vast majority of police officers who do their job well, and care about doing it well. The last two decades have seen numerous inquiries (from Beach in Victoria in 1976 to Wood in NSW in 1996) which have examined or commented on the issue of corruption within policing. All the evidence shows that there is great potential for corrupt practices to develop within police forces. While there are claims that it has been forever thus, this is something that cannot be tolerated, for the crisis of confidence, and the betrayal of trust hurt communities very badly. Political and police leadership certainly have commitment, at the highest levels, to expose and change the culture of corruption, and to turn on corrupt officers, but as recent evidence has shown, it remains a problem, notwithstanding several inquiries over the past 20 years. The problems do not go away with a coat of fresh paint, a newly articulated code of ethics and a code of conduct which a few choose to flaunt.

With the commitment shown by police leadership in recent years, the Australian Institute of Criminology is ready to work with Australia's police services to broaden our knowledge base, to explore, describe and explain policy relevant data, and work collaboratively with operational and research and training agencies to make our police services institutions of which we can all be proud. The first step, from our perspective is to know what police do, who they do it to and with, how they can utilise their human resources in an optimal manner, and how they can form that partnership mentioned above in the vision for the Australasian Policing Strategy. The AIC sees itself as an organisation in which collaboration is valued, and one in which better knowledge will lead to better police in criminal justice. 

NEWS

New Juvenile Crime Prevention Division, NSW Attorney-General's Department

The new Juvenile Crime Prevention Division, established in New South Wales in 1995, is the NSW Government's key agency for the provision of advice on juvenile crime prevention policy and programs, and acts as an advocacy body to argue for and build partnerships for the promotion of juvenile crime prevention strategies. It is also responsible for establishing a coordinated and integrated approach to juvenile crime prevention between government, community and private sector agencies. The Division has five staff members and the Director is Mr Peter Homel (contact tel. no: 61 2 228 8307).

Northern Territory Living with Alcohol Program

The Living with Alcohol program in the Northern Territory was introduced by the NT Government in November 1991 specifically to reduce the personal, social and economic costs of alcohol misuse and abuse in the Northern Territory. The program has already met with some success including a reduction in the consumption of alcohol and in alcohol-related road accidents, and an increase in sales of low-alcohol beverages.

Strategies include control, which relates to regulatory, legislative or policy aspects involved in the availability, promotion, serving and consumption of alcohol; care, which concentrates on treatment and intervention services for those who are experiencing problems associated with alcohol use; and culture, which refers to changing the alcohol-related knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of the community. The program

includes a grants and sponsorship scheme and community education delivered through both general and targeted education and information sessions.

Funding for the program is provided by a levy on liquor with an alcohol content greater than 3 per cent.

For further information about the Living with Alcohol program, contact Wendy Hunter at the NT Liquor Commission, Darwin on 61 89 811 955.

Simplification of the Corporations Law

The *First Corporate Law Simplification Act 1995* came into operation on 9 December 1995. This Act greatly simplifies the requirements for running small proprietary companies, for register keeping and for share buy backs.

The Second Bill, which deals with forming a company, company names, company meetings, share capital rules, financial reporting to shareholders, annual returns and deregistration, will be introduced to Parliament in 1996.

Stage 3 includes proposals on suggested changes to the law on company officers, related party transactions and fundraising.

First Aboriginal Appointment to the NSW Equal Opportunity Tribunal

Magistrate Ms Pat O'Shane has been appointed a part-time judicial member of the New South Wales Equal Opportunity Tribunal. This raises the female representation to three out of eight.

New Law Institute

A new, independent, national organisation has been established to meet the growing need for

research, education and debate concerning the relationships between health care, law and ethics. The Australian Institute of Health, Law and Ethics (AIHLE) was established on 16 September 1995. Through its work the Institute will contribute to decision-making and policy development in the public and private sectors.

The overall policy, strategy and management of the Institute are determined by the Board, which is representative of academics, the public sector, industry, the community and the health care and legal professions. The Chair is Professor Tom Campbell, Dean of the Faculty of Law, Australian National University. Membership of AIHLE is open to individuals and organisations. For further information, contact the AIHLE secretariat at the Faculty of Law, Australian National University in Canberra: Tel: 61 6 279 8284/249 4124 Fax: 61 6 249 0103

Justice Tips

The Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department has produced thirteen Justice Tip Cards which are available free of charge. The aim is to assist people to find legal help, give advice on legal aid, domestic violence, neighbourhood disputes and money matters, and to advise on what people should be asking their lawyer. The cards include the following topics:

- women and the law
- family break ups
- dealing with domestic violence
- consumer rights
- managing your money
- protecting the environment
- 10 questions to ask a lawyer

Contact Susanne Briggs or Tina Platania at Social Change Media on tel: 61 2 519 3299 to obtain a copy.

CA invites contributions to the News columns. Professional activity, personnel changes, research activity - CA will publish all the news that is fit to print. Write to us at

CA
Australian Institute of Criminology
GPO Box 2944
Canberra ACT 2601
or email the Editor at
garryr@act.crime.oz.au.

data bank

VICTIMISATION RISK NATIONAL CRIME AND SAFETY SURVEY 1993

The Australian Bureau of Statistics 1994 publication *Crime and Safety Australia April 1993* provided information on the level of victimisation for certain selected personal and household offences. The tables in this databank were obtained from further examination of ABS's unit record data. The tables present information on the risk of victimisation for four offences according to selected personal and household characteristics known to be associated with the possibility of being a victim of crime.

The DataBank is a regular feature of CA.

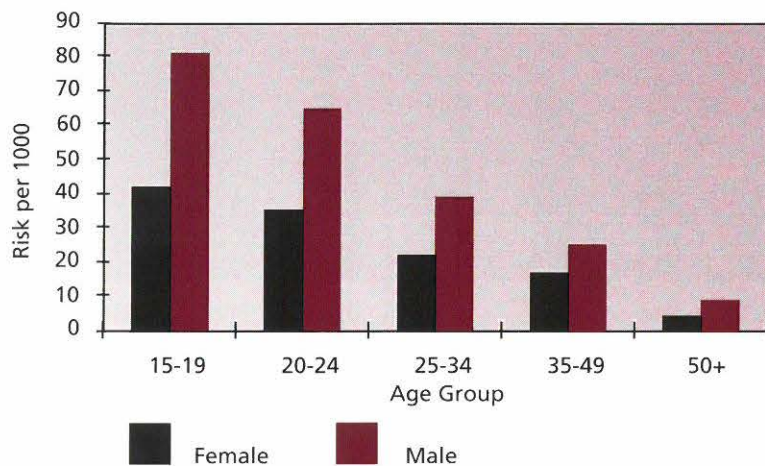
Drawn from the research program of the Australian Institute of Criminology, this section defines parts of the Australian social scene in a unique way.

Assault Gender and Age

Risk of becoming a victim of assault decreased with increasing age; the risk was greater for males than for females across all age groups. Young males, 15-19 age group, were twice as often victims of assault as their female counterparts. One of every 12 young males in the 15-19 age group, was a victim of assault.

Age Group	Risk per 1000		
	Female	Male	Total
15-19	42	81	62
20-24	35	65	50
25-34	22	39	30
35-49	17	25	21
50+	4	9	6
Total	18	33	25

Risk of being a Victim of Assault - Australia, April 1993
By Gender and Age

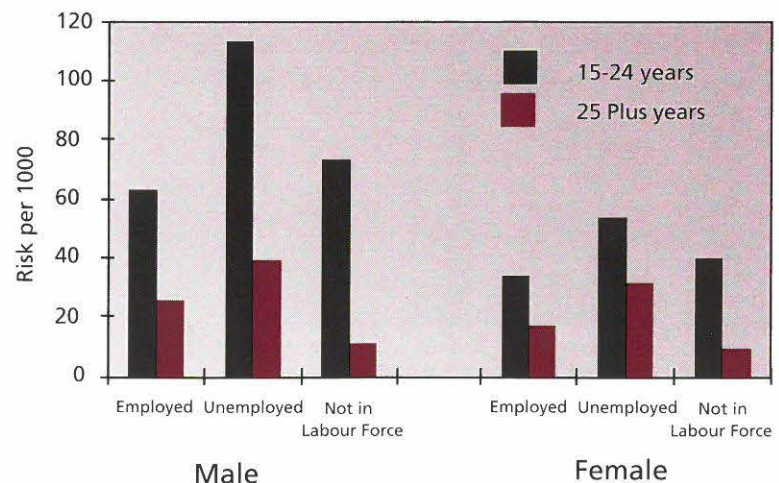


Labour Force Status

Unemployed people were twice as likely to be victims of assault as those employed and three times more likely to be assaulted than persons not in the labour force. Generally, young males (15-24) were twice as likely to be victims as young females irrespective of employment status.

	Risk per 1000	
	15-24 years	25 Plus years
Males		
Employed	63	25
Unemployed	114	39
Not in Labour Force	73	11
Females		
Employed	34	17
Unemployed	54	31
Not in Labour Force	40	9

Risk of being a Victim of Assault- Australia, April 1993
By Gender, Age and Labour Force Status



VICTIMISATION

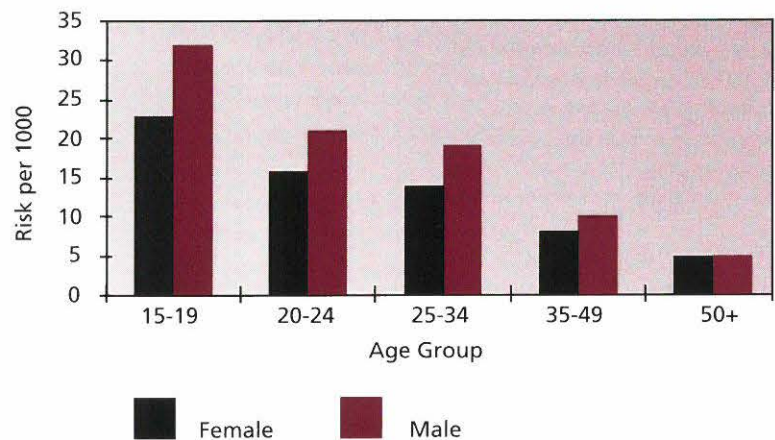
NATIONAL CRIME AND SAFETY SURVEY 1993

Robbery Gender and Age

The younger the person the more likely they were to be a victim of robbery. Males were at an increased risk of being victims of robbery than were females, a trend that held for all age groups. About 1 in 30 males in the 15-19 age group, was a victim of robbery in 1993.

Age Group	Risk per 1000		
	Female	Male	Total
15-19	23	32	28
20-24	16	21	19
25-34	14	19	16
35-49	8	10	9
50+	5	5	5
Total	11	14	12

**Risk of being a Victim of Robbery - Australia, April 1993
By Gender and Age**



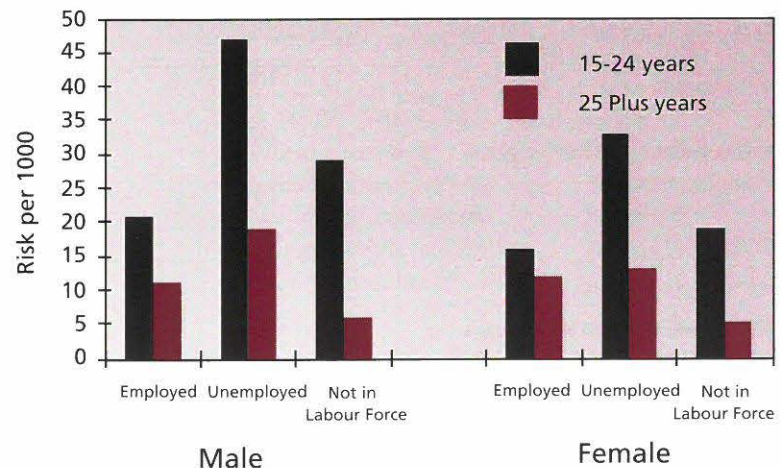
Labour Force Status

Unemployed people were twice as likely to be victims of robbery as those employed and three times more likely to be robbed than persons not in the labour force. The risk of victimisation for young females was about two thirds of their male counterparts.

Males	Risk per 1000	
	15-24 years	25 Plus years
Employed	21	11
Unemployed	47	19
Not in Labour Force	29	6

Females	Risk per 1000	
	15-24 years	25 Plus years
Employed	16	12
Unemployed	33	13
Not in Labour Force	19	5

**Risk of being a Victim of Robbery- Australia, April 1993
By Gender, Age and Labour Force Status**



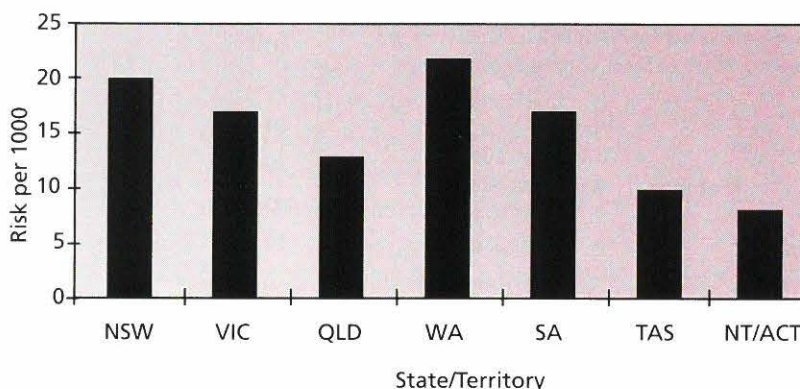
RISK

Motor Vehicle Theft

The figures suggest that risks of a household suffering theft of a motor vehicle in New South Wales and Western Australia were greater than in other states and territories. Tasmania and the territories had the lowest risk of motor vehicle theft.

	Risk per 1000
NSW	20
VIC	17
QLD	13
WA	22
SA	17
TAS	10
NT/ACT	8

**Risk of Motor Vehicle Theft - Australia, April 1993
By State-Territory**

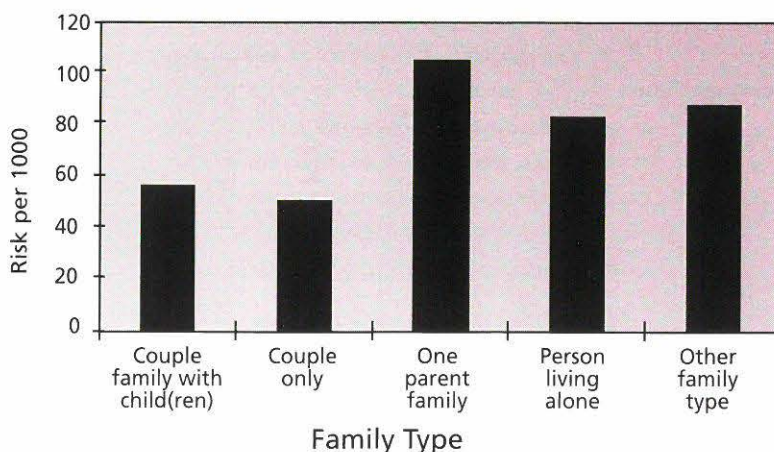


Burglary Family Type

Households composing couple families with or without children had a lower risk of burglary victimisation than other households. Households composed of one parent families were at a greater risk of being burglarised.

	Risk per 1000
Couple family with children	56
Couple only	50
One parent family	105
Person living alone	83
Other family type	88

**Risk of Home being Burgled* - Australia, April 1993
By Family Type**



* Break and Enter or attempted Break and Enter

VICTIMISATION RISK

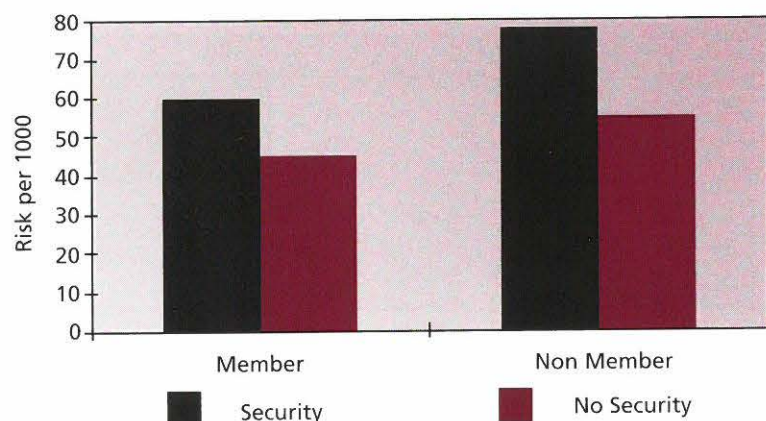
NATIONAL CRIME AND SAFETY SURVEY 1993

Security Devices at Home and Membership of Neighbourhood Watch or Rural Watch Programs

28 per cent of households were members of a Neighbourhood or Rural Watch program. 75 per cent of the households had installed some type of security device. Households with security devices were about one and a half times more likely to be burglarised as those where no security devices were installed. This pattern was the same irrespective of whether a household was a member of a Neighbourhood Watch or Rural Watch program, or not.

	Member	Risk per 1000 Non Member
Security	60	78
No Security	45	55

**Risk of Home being Burgled* - Australia, April 1993
By Member of Neighbourhood/Rural Watch and
Security Devices**



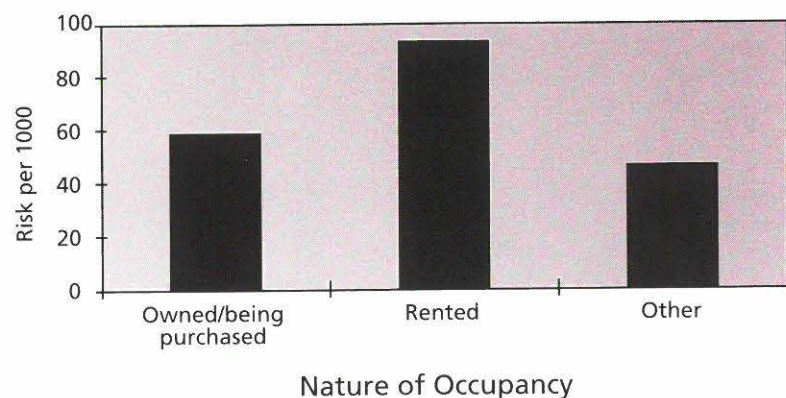
* Break and Enter or attempted Break and Enter

Nature of Occupancy

The risk of being a victim of burglary was greater for households in rented accommodation than for other households.

	Risk per 1000
Owned/being purchased	59
Rented	93
Other	47

**Risk of Home being Burgled* - Australia, April 1993
By Nature of Occupancy**



* Break and Enter or attempted Break and Enter

Violence

the target

MARIANNE JAMES

They stood in the halls and corridors of the Holme Building at Sydney University and said this had been a long time coming. It was late 1995 - Friday and Saturday, 27 and 28 October 1995 to be exact. And they were there for "Violence Against Gays and Lesbians", a conference organised by the Australian Institute of Criminology.

The idea for the conference had arisen as a result of the 1994 Violence Prevention Awards. The awards were presented by the former Federal Minister for Justice, the Hon. Duncan Kerr, MP, and one of the 1994 winners was a joint initiative between the NSW Police and the Darlinghurst Anti-Violence project which advanced projects centring on attitude change towards gays and lesbians in NSW schools. [For details of the 1995 winners of the Violence Prevention Awards, see p.23 of *CA*. Ed.]

A conference seemed to be in order, said the Minister. And, given that the Australian Institute of Criminology held responsibility for administration and coordination of the Violence Prevention Awards, the Institute took on the job.

A year later, the program was set, the hall was filled and Duncan Kerr looked out on a conference that had set its sights on changing attitudes not just in schools but broadly throughout the Australian community.

In the audience that opening day were representatives of community organisations, police,

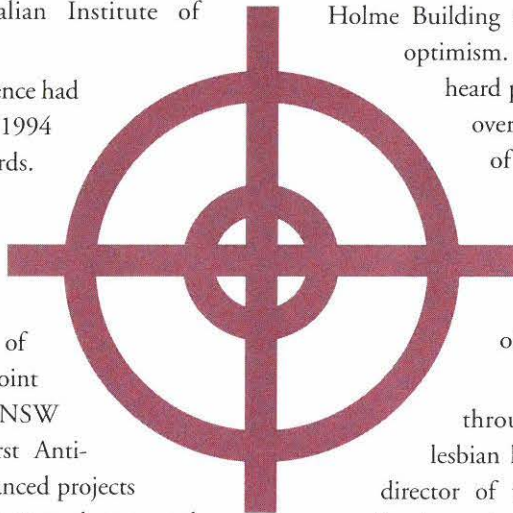
lawyers, teachers, academics and representatives from Commonwealth, State, Territory and Local Government agencies as well as members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities throughout Australia.

If there was an obvious feeling in the Holme Building that day, it was of cautious optimism. Many in the audience had heard promises of action before. Yet overcoming this was a real feeling of forward movement. Leaders of the gay and lesbian communities had been involved centrally in the organising committee of this two-day meeting.

So had the NSW police through many of its gay and lesbian liaison officers as well as the director of the force's gay and lesbian coordination unit, Sue Thompson. And on the organising committee was a representative of the Australian Institute of Criminology.

This committee had put together a promising program, one which was not without its critics but one which covered most of the major areas of concern. It had planned a two-pronged approach — on the first day of the conference, the causes and consequences of the violence were examined; on the second day, models of best practice for reducing this violence were explored. Policy recommendations would also be made.

The Hon Duncan Kerr, Federal Minister for Justice, opened the conference. He outlined legislative changes made at both Commonwealth and State Government levels.



The first step in gays and lesbians achieving equality of opportunity was taken by the Dunstan Labor Government in South Australia in 1975 when they decriminalised gay sex, the Minister said. The Australian Capital Territory followed with partial decriminalisation in 1976, then shortly after Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia and Queensland followed. Gay sex was now legal under State and Territory law, between consenting adults in private, on the whole of mainland Australia.

The only Australian State or Territory now out of "sync" was Tasmania. He suggested that Australia's success in decriminalisation was even greater compared with the lagging law reform agenda in America and the United Kingdom.

In the broader context, legislation had been enacted prohibiting discrimination and prescribing equality of opportunity. The *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* started the wave, followed by the *Sex Discrimination Act 1984*. The *Disability Act 1993* prohibited discrimination on the basis of HIV/AIDS status and the *Racial Hatred Act 1995* provided civil remedies for action.

The basic message of these legislative reforms was that gays and lesbians were legitimate members of the community and deserved the same rights and protection, he said. On a state level, NSW legislated against gay and HIV/AIDS vilification in 1993.

Josephine Tiddy, the South Australian Commissioner for Equal Opportunity, pointed out that, at the Federal level, there were limited powers to enact laws as well as very limited protection currently against discrimination on the grounds of a person's sexuality and very limited enshrinement of those rights.

At the State and Territory level, it was a very different story; they had the powers to introduce the broadest range of legislation, the only limitation that these laws could not be inconsistent with Federal law. This meant, however, that the laws of each State and Territory had developed in very different ways for various political and social reasons.

The Commissioner suggested that the way forward for Australia as a pluralistic liberal democracy would be to incorporate human rights laws in existing laws so that safeguards could be taken to ensure the human rights of minority groups.

The role of human rights laws was threefold—

- to encompass existing rights and create new rights;
- to provide a remedy for any person whose rights are violated; and
- to create structures, bodies or agencies charged to assist people whose rights had been violated.

This would in turn promote human rights, educate the community about the standards of behaviour deemed by the law to be acceptable as well as facilitate and accelerate the change process by using legal mechanisms which corrected clear inequalities, such as affirmative action programs.

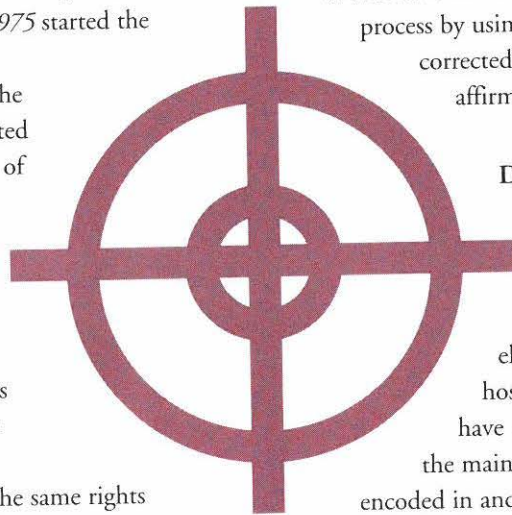
Sydney-based barrister David Buchanan said there

were aspects of the law and the legal system which actually contributed to the elevated levels of physical hostility towards people seen to have a sexuality difference from the mainstream. Homophobia was encoded in and sanctioned by our laws — it was systemic.

There were aspects of the law today, both criminal and civil, which overtly discriminated against homosexuals and in favour of heterosexuals. An example was the discriminatory age of consent — a higher age of consent for gay men than for heterosexual men and women.

Also in NSW, there was a raft of homosexual offences specially created at the time of "decriminalisation" of homosexual acts in 1984.

There were provisions which discriminated in the penalty where the offender and victim were both males, and a number of provisions which perpetuated the stereotype of the predatory homosexual and accordingly deprived gays of a defence of consent on the part of the alleged victim where such defence was available to heterosexuals.



The law therefore continually sent out messages that homosexuals were lesser citizens, to be treated less favourably than heterosexuals. This was an indication of the role the law played in reflecting and bolstering the homophobia of society at large.

“There are many young heterosexual males who would argue: of course the law discriminates against homosexuals — ‘they’re only poofs, mate!’”, Buchanan told the conference.

An extension of this was the use of the defences of provocation and self-defence to murder to excuse or partially excuse homophobic fatal assaults. This had caused considerable concern both in Australia and the US.

This phenomenon had gone under the title in America of homosexual panic defence — as in “he made a homosexual advance which so outraged me that I panicked and stabbed him 75 times”. Since a penalty could be mitigated on a finding of provocation or excessive self-defence in cases of violent crime, homosexual panic defence had also been raised in cases of non-fatal homophobic assaults.

Gail Mason from Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand, examined homophobic violence towards lesbians. Her research in this area recognises a need to explore the interaction between sex/gender and sexuality in hate crimes.

While research generally revealed that the perpetrators of violence directed towards gays were predominantly young males (strangers) who acted in groups and most often in public places, lesbian-based research showed that they were more likely to experience violence committed by older men, acting alone and who were acquainted with the woman. This violence usually took place in the home or work environment and could have involved an ongoing campaign of harassment.

Mason said that hostility and violence regulated the lives of lesbians and gay men in many ways. It limited freedom of movement, it regulated the degree of comfort in expression and it attempted to promote conformity to force lesbians and gays to hide themselves away.

The straight homophobic world did not really care whether homosexuals existed, nor did they care what gays and lesbians did in private. The straight world did not want to abolish homosexuality. Indeed, the very existence of lesbian and gay sexualities gave the straight mind something to rally against — a way of defining itself within a hetero/homo hierarchy.

The real struggle was on the question of visibility. The straight mind did care when lesbians and gays argued for legal and social rights; they did care when lesbians and gays wanted to hold hands with their partners in every part of the city, not just in the ghettos; they did care when lesbians and gays demanded the right to work in an environment where they did not have to lie about what they did on the weekend.

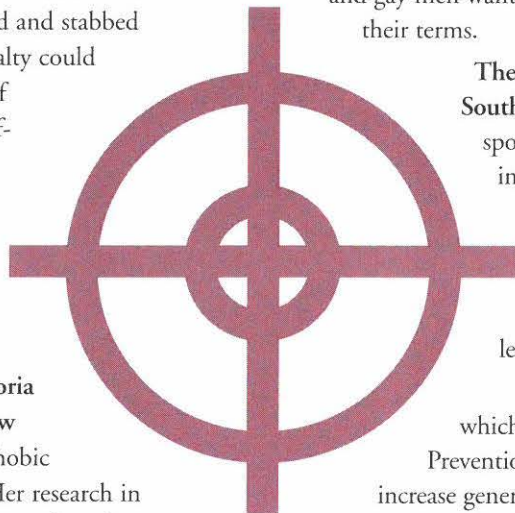
Mainstream society did care when lesbians and gay men want to be visible and blatant on their terms.

The Hon. Paul Whelan, New South Wales Minister for Police, spoke extensively of the initiative the police department had developed to reduce violence, crime and fear of crime in gay and lesbian communities.

A multi-faceted project, which won the 1994 Violence Prevention Award, was designed to increase general awareness of and sensitivity to the issue of homophobic violence and was run in conjunction with the NSW Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project, the Department of School Education and the Catholic Education Office. The cooperative approach in this project was a model for crime prevention.

There were more than 100 police gay and lesbian liaison officers in 80 police stations across NSW. These police worked closely with their local gay communities to encourage the reporting of hate crimes and to ensure that gay men and lesbians had equal access to policing services.

The Minister also announced that COPS — the Computerised Operational Policing System — a computer database which contained all NSW operational policing information - was to be refined to include a specific category for hate crimes. The NSW Police were now formally committed to the mandatory collection of hate crimes data.



Workshops

On the first day, workshops covered such topics as violence in schools, violence within lesbian relationships, violence in gay male relationships, murders of gay men, violence at beats (lesbian and gay meeting places), youth self-violence and suicide, sexual cultures and violence and media hype and violence.

On the second day, topics included school responses to violence, surviving lesbian abuse: a support group for lesbians experiencing domestic violence; violence against youth, policing violence, HIV-related violence, legal solutions to violence, homophobic violence in the wider society and service providers response to violence.

In his summing up of the activities of the conference, **Chris Puplick, the President of the New South Wales Anti-Discrimination Board**, noted that the nature of the perpetrator of violence towards gay men particularly was embedded in a small section of the community consisting of young males between the ages of 16 and 25.

This was the same group of people which perpetrated violence towards other sections of the community; this was the same group which constituted a large majority of our prison population; and this was the same group of people which committed violence against themselves and rated high in the suicide statistics.

So, what was it about young Australian males which predisposed them to such violent behaviour. Was it peer pressure? Was it a question of sexuality? Was it the lack of a support network? Was it the lack of public discussion? Was it a significant function of a broader social setting?


These were all questions which begged research. This small cohort of young men was worth focussing on if we were to examine strategies for the prevention of violent crime.

It was also announced that a national network on lesbian domestic violence has been established. This is being coordinated by Jude Irwin of the Australian Centre for Lesbian and Gay Research at Sydney University.

Finally, Chris Puplick outlined the following recommendations and suggestions for future policy directions:

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That a clearinghouse to coordinate findings needs to be established. A suitable repository could be the Australian Centre for Lesbian and Gay Research.
2. That a study of the violent behaviour of a small minority (young males, masculinity) needs to be undertaken. Specific reference would have to be given to both lesbian and gay experiences.
3. That the Federal Attorney-General/Justice Minister be asked to draft terms of reference for a national strategy to prevent homophobic violence.
4. That the commitment of Keating/Howard be sought on national support for Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Projects and on stronger national laws to combat homophobia.
5. That support be given to the New South Wales Minister for Police (Paul Whelan) re his call to gain consensus from all the State and Territory Police Ministers at their forthcoming conference on preventing homophobic violence.
6. That the Education Minister, Health Minister and Community Services Minister be called on to introduce compulsory national curricula studies with a corresponding national commitment to eliminate homophobia/heterosexism in schools.
7. That the attention of relevant Ministers be drawn to the fact that their responsibilities to provide for the safety of their citizens requires the adoption of integrated policies, based on adequate data and supported by the Anti-Discrimination Board and Equal Opportunities Commission as well as any other bodies which have effective legislation and adequate resources.
8. That homophobia be eliminated in the provision of public services.
9. That there should be adequate funding of community support groups and networks.
10. That gay and lesbian people be appointed to government advisory bodies.

A publication based on papers from this conference will be available from the Australian Institute of Criminology in the second half of 1996. 

And the B A N D PLAYED On

Two of the most tragic events in Australia's history were separate incidents in Melbourne during the 80s. They were the Queen Street and the Hoddle Street shootings - two bloody and dramatic events which gave this nation a new view of violence. The imported version was with Australia - we too had multi-victim violence which arose out of unfathomable circumstances.

So socially shattering were these events that the Prime Minister of the day, Bob Hawke, called a national inquiry to investigate the causes of violence within this country and to suggest action which might ameliorate it.

The National Committee on Violence sat for a year in 1989 and, in the following year, brought down a report — *Violence: Directions for Australia* — which is still seen internationally as the source book for such work.

One of the recommendations of the Committee — which was chaired by the Australian Institute of Criminology — was that the Institute set up a monitoring group to measure and to analyse levels of violence and actions to combat it. From that group came the Violence Prevention Award, set up in 1992 and funded by Commonwealth, State and Territory governments.

It was a courageous scheme — programs which dealt with violence were invited to compete for a cash prize. A committee representing the contributing partners would judge the awards and share out the pool as it saw fit.

In the first two years, groups dealing with violence in Aboriginal communities took out the

major awards. In each year, the Violence Prevention Award Committee awarded many smaller cash prizes from the pool.

But late last year, the committee met again to consider the applications for the 1995 awards and from the many applicants came a winner markedly different from its predecessors.

The 1995 winner announced by the former Federal Minister for Justice, The Hon. Duncan Kerr, MP, was the Hampstead (South Australia) Bushband Project.

Now the question! How does a primary school bushband win an award which springs from the events detailed above? This it seems is a unique bush band. Its aims are broad — some indeed are extremely non-musical.

The Bushband began, according to its organisers, as a response to violence within the Hampstead Primary School and also violence directed at the school from those outside it. That was in June 1994.

The plan was to set up a working musical group within the school; a backing group of adult musicians called the Bullants Band was formed from local unemployed Community Service Scheme (Department of Correctional Services) clients.

The scheme claimed the attention of school students, the Community Service program, and then spread out into the community by taking on causes to support, for example, one of the 1994 highlights was a week-long fund-raising tour to support the National Drought Appeal and the drought-affected Warrambo community on Lake Eyre Peninsula.

The Bushband itself is a group of 60-80 students, parents/caregivers/community volunteers who sing, accompanied by a band of adult musicians from the Community Service Scheme.

Apart from raising the self-esteem of the participants, the band develops positive relationships within the school and between the school and community. Organisers say the project also aims especially to involve disadvantaged students and families in its work.

It also provides Community Service clients with the opportunity to undertake worthwhile community service within the local school context. All have reported a positive change in their lives and many who have completed their community service hours have continued to be associated with the project.

In its application, the school said that, before the Bushband project, the school had been harassed and property destroyed by teenagers in the area. Since the establishment of the Bushband, this group had been made to feel welcome at the school, and some had become protective of school personnel and property.

An evaluation shows that, in the 12 months since the band was formed, there has been a significant drop in student violence, violence by other community members towards school personnel and fewer incidents of vandalism, graffiti, break-ins and police call-outs.

Indicators of violence in Schools

8/93 to 8/94 8/94 to 8/95

Police callouts to school during school hours for		
• violence by students	10	0
• violence by other community members towards school property/personnel	25	4
Police/security callouts to school, out of school hours for		
• breaks in	15	3
• graffiti	15	2
• other vandalism	25	2
Use of in-school detention for students responsible for		
• yard violence	300-350	200
• other vandalism	50	25
Use of suspension for		
• student violence	12	3

Source: Hampstead (South Australia) Bushband Project

A questionnaire to a random sample selected from members of the “extended” school community reported developments such as:


- improved school morale, greater unity, cohesion;
- more positive and optimistic tone;
- improved public perception of the school;
- good local publicity, state wide media coverage of the project’s achievements.


As overall winner, the project received \$20 000 and a certificate.


Other winners in the 1995 awards were:

Outstanding Achievement


Awarded: \$5000 and a certificate:


 **School Volunteer Program**, Rotary International and Council on the Ageing (WA), Western Australia: The School Volunteer Program is an initiative where senior members of the community are helping children in high schools through “grandparent” friendships. The program provides students who are under-achievers with alternative means to combat their frustrations and makes them more able to cope with the stresses at school through the establishment of one-to-one relationships. It also helps break down the barriers that have developed between generations. All schools involved have reported changes in attitude, a reduction in anger and frustration, and an improvement in the self-esteem of students with a volunteer friend.


 **Geraldton Streetwork Aboriginal Corporation Committee**, Western Australia: This agency reduces the incidence of juvenile crime by providing counselling and programs for the social development of 12 to 18-year-old offending youth or youth at risk. It provides emotional support and promotes desirable skills and values, and has had many successful training programs.


 **The Venue**, Springvale, Victoria: The Venue offers a range of leisure related activities for the area’s young people, including regular live music nights organised by the Muso Network, school holiday activities, training workshops, and operates as a band rehearsal studio. All activities are overseen by a young management group in conjunction with the Youth Programs Officer. Many of the young

people involved are now working or have developed greater personal skills as a direct result of The Venue’s activities. A reduction of crime has also been noted in the immediate area.

 **Intervention Order Support Project**, Women’s Legal Resource Group Inc (Vic), Victoria: This project encourages and facilitates strategies and initiatives within Victoria which will assist and support applicants, particularly women and children who are victims of domestic violence, to secure and maintain Intervention Orders.


 **Rural Domestic Violence Project**, Burnie City Council, Tasmania: This project recognises the skills and potential of young people living in disadvantaged circumstances. It sought to empower participants by producing performances which encouraged the community to reflect on issues within society (in this case domestic violence) and encouraging inter-agency cooperation. By the end of the project, participants had gained appropriate knowledge to embark on further employment, education and training.


 **Community Justice Groups — Remote Aboriginal and Islander Communities**, Northern Region Community Corrections, Queensland: The Community Justice Groups are operating in the northern Queensland communities of Palm Island, Kowanyama and Pormpuraaw. They are a mechanism which enables Aboriginal people to administer their own law and cultural values in relation to issues of law and order within their own communities. Through the individual and collective authority of the group, the Justice Groups are better able to regulate anti-social behaviour by the culturally and community appropriate use of traditional practices for sanction, discipline and conflict mediation.


 **Enough’s Enough**, Gender Equity Unit, Department of Education, Queensland: The project reviews the major issues that emerged from interviews conducted with groups of girls and boys in seven Queensland primary schools, as well as from classroom observations, discussions with teachers and parents, and data collected in the schools. It successfully makes a case for the urgency of addressing issues of gender and violence through the curriculum by making explicit the nature of gendered violence in school communities.

The Bushband performs for members of the Kalgoorlie Rotary Club in a park the club is developing at Kalgoorlie





 **Atnynypa Wiru Minyma Uwankaraku: Good Protection for all Women**, Alice Springs, Northern Territory: This is a domestic violence pilot project which aims to develop appropriate strategies and service models to assist Aboriginal women living in remote communities across the Northern Territory, South Australian and Western Australian borders.


 **Juvenile Alternative School Program Eastlakes Region**, Gateshead High School, New South Wales: This is an alternative school program for students who are chronically truant and at risk of becoming street kids. In nearly all cases their truancy has been compounded by a history of suspension from mainstream schools, mainly for verbal and physical violence. The program concentrates on developing basic literacy, numeracy and self-esteem. There has been a dramatic change in the attendance rate for students involved and many have returned to mainstream education programs at school or TAFE.

 **Safe Women — Liverpool Project**, Ashcroft, New South Wales: The Safe Women Project was formed in 1993 with a concern to reduce women's fear of harassment and attack in the streets and public places, and to increase women's safety when out and about in the Liverpool area. The Project's activities have included initiation of a community safety audit in the area identified as most problematic from a phone-in and presentation of the results to Council.


Commended Projects
Awarded: \$1000 and a certificate


 **Elder Abuse Prevention Program**, Western Australia: This program aims to deal with the major aspects of elder abuse. The major components of the program are: preventive strategies to reduce risk of abuse; strategies to identify seniors who are at risk of abuse; provision of an intervention and case management program; carer support; intervention program for abusers; professional education for service providers; raising community awareness.


 **Kidlink Early Intervention Program**, Western Australia: The aim of Kidlink is to help break the isolation of socially and locationally disadvantaged families. It provides a preventative program to individual families in their own home. It has been proven that the families involved gain in self-esteem and increase their confidence to link more into the community.


 **New Year's Eve Operation — Cowes**, Phillip Island, Victoria: Strategies were implemented to reduce violence and anti-social behaviour of young people attending Cowes, Phillip Island on New Year's Eve. The program is supported by police and the community. Local government introduced local laws prohibiting the consumption of alcohol and camping in public places. Entertainment was provided on the


foreshore and main street of town. The police and electronic and print media were used to provide information about the local laws.


 **City of Greater Dandenong Safer Communities Project**, Victoria: This project was set up to build partnerships between police, council and the community in order to make the city a safer place. It works with the community to identify safety issues and devise strategies to address these issues. Four broad areas have been addressed within the project: safety for women; urban design and its effect on safety; media and its effect on perceptions of safety; and public education.

 **Countering Aggressions and Violence through Education**, Victoria: This is a curriculum approach to preventing violence in primary and secondary schools. The teaching strategies are designed to engender negotiation and communication skills, enhance self-image and facilitate a sense of equality between students regardless of gender, race or class.


 **Westernport Family Violence Network Inc.**, Victoria: The Westernport Family Violence Network provides education and support to workers and a focus for educating the general community about the incidence of domestic violence and how violence against women and children can be prevented.


 **Combating Racist Violence and Vilification**, Victoria: This project is a series of workshops to heighten awareness of the connection between racist stereotyping in the media and racist attacks in the community. The workshops are tailored to cater to the specific needs of target groups of different geographic, demographic and ethnic backgrounds. The project addresses the siege mentality which often prevails among victim groups whenever there is a climate of hysteria or vilification against them.


 **V-Net Standards of Practice Project for Men's Behaviour Change Programs**, Victoria: This project involves the development of minimum standards of practice for running voluntary behaviour change groups for men wanting to change their violent behaviour towards partners and families.


 **Glenorchy City Crime Prevention Strategy**, Tasmania: This project aims to assist: older people; households who have suffered repeated victimisation; young people who may be involved in criminal activities; council staff involved in fixing vandalised facilities,


maintaining and designing public spaces; builders, developers and planners; and the general community. The crime strategy being implemented is a comprehensive coordinated approach at a local level which involves all key players.

 **Your Place Inc**, Tasmania: This project targets prisoners in all Tasmanian prisons and youth aged fifteen to twenty-five. It offers counselling and support to people who are adversely affected by drugs or at risk of becoming so. There is routine screening of every prisoner who enters the prison system for their drug use pattern, follow-up support on their release, and counselling while in prison.

 **Support Help and Empowerment Inc.**, Tasmania: This project has two target groups. One is women who are or have been subjected to domestic violence. SHE offers support information and resources, advocacy, referral and education. The second group is the general community of southern Tasmania. It targets a wide range of service providers, educational institutions, lawyers, doctors, police, nurses and community health personal, Social Security and CES staff and neighbourhood houses.

 **Elder Protection Program**, South Australia: This program is designed to promote older people's dignity and well-being. It links families and aged care expertise to protect older people and prevent harm or exploitation. It is an intake, assessment and intervention project which responds to reports of elder abuse within the community by providing prompt, cohesive and coordinated services in a sensitive manner.


 **WOWSafe: Women of the West Safe Families**, South Australia: This is an action group made up of survivors of domestic violence and one worker. Its main priorities are: running a "sister system" responsive to women in crisis; providing speakers to enhance the education of professionals; lobbying government agencies and politicians; contributing to community development and media strategies to reduce violence in the community; providing an accountability service to men's groups; and raising funds to support their endeavours.


 **Nicklin Program**, Queensland: This project targets students/family of school communities with "at risk", bullying, and violent and anti-social, behaviours. It provides a wide range of support services catering to all school-age


Singing practice
in a carriage
aboard the tea
and sugar train
travelling across
the Nullarbor



students experiencing difficulties within the school community and family. These services can be individually tailored to suit individual, family and school needs.

 (YACCA) Youth and Community Combined Action, Queensland: This project targets ten to sixteen-year-old youth at risk, with a priority on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth. It organises activities designed to raise youth morale, ethics and community spirit.

 Joint Churches Domestic Violence Prevention Project, Queensland: This project targets people affected by family violence and influential leaders in the church. It contains a train-the-trainer package and accepts that the church has not been immune to the gender and power imbalances manifest throughout our society. The project offers support for women experiencing violence in their homes and for the perpetrators.

 Let's Lift the Lid, New South Wales: The aim of this project is to bring about change in community attitudes to violence. It has three main objectives: to increase understanding of, and knowledge about, domestic violence amongst local health professionals and service providers; to improve victims' access to information and support services; and to increase public awareness of domestic violence issues.

Other winning projects were awarded a certificate.

Selection Board

Dr Adam Graycar (Chair)	Australian Institute of Criminology	Commonwealth
Assistant Commissioner Christine Nixon (NSW Police)		New South Wales
Ms Judith Dixon		Victoria
Ms Karen Struthers		Queensland
Mrs Pat Morris		Western Australia
Mr David Rathmann		South Australia
Commissioner John Johnson (Tasmanian Police)		Tasmania
Ms Tina Holland		Northern Territory
Mr Keith Simpson (interim representative)		Australian Capital Territory
Ms Diana Nelson (AIC) Secretariat		

Books...

CRIME TRENDS IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC: THE FOURTH UNITED NATIONS SURVEY

1995. ISBN 0 642 22259 9 0. COMPILED AND PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED NATIONS ASIA AND FAR EAST INSTITUTE AND THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY. (AVAILABLE FROM THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY, CANBERRA). 48 PP. A\$10.00. SOFT COVER.

This volume represents a cooperative effort between the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) and the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC). The report embodies the results of the analysis of the responses to the Fourth United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice in Asia and the Pacific region.

THE LATEST PAPER IN THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY'S TRENDS AND ISSUES SERIES IS:

NO. 51 HOMICIDES IN AUSTRALIA 1992-93

MARIANNE JAMES AND JENNIFER HALLINAN.
DECEMBER 1995. ISBN 0 642 24007 8.

TRENDS AND ISSUES IN CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

GENERAL EDITOR: DR ADAM GRAYCAR
ISSN 0817-8543
SUBSCRIPTION A\$40.00 P.A.
(MINIMUM 10 ISSUES PER ANNUM)

THE LATEST PAPERS IN THE AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINOLOGY'S DEATHS IN CUSTODY AUSTRALIA SERIES ARE:

NO. 10 CORONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS AND THE PREVENTION OF DEATHS IN CUSTODY: A VICTORIAN CASE STUDY

BORONIA HALSTEAD.
NOVEMBER 1995. ISBN 0 642 24005 1.

NO. 11 AUSTRALIAN DEATHS IN CUSTODY & CUSTODY-RELATED POLICE OPERATIONS, 1994-95

VICKI DALTON AND DAVID MCDONALD.
DECEMBER 1995. ISBN 0 642 24006 X.

DEATHS IN CUSTODY AUSTRALIA

GENERAL EDITOR: DAVID MCDONALD
ISSN 1038-667X

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

LANGUAGE IN EVIDENCE: ISSUES CONFRONTING ABORIGINAL AND MULTICULTURAL AUSTRALIA

ED. DIANA EADES

1995. ISBN 0 86840 119 6.
UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES PRESS LTD,
UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES,
KENSINGTON, NSW 2052.
302 PP. A\$29.95. SOFT COVER.

In this book eleven experts show how problems with language can severely restrict a defendant's right to be heard and understood in a court of law. Many chapters take a case study approach, using court and police transcripts to illustrate the ways in which language can affect the outcome of a legal case. There is a strong emphasis on the obstacles faced by people of Aboriginal and non-English speaking backgrounds. Two chapters show how the charge of "offensive language" is weighted against the poor and uneducated generally, and especially against Aboriginal people.

THE FRANKSTON MURDERS: THE TRUE STORY OF SERIAL KILLER PAUL DENYER

VIKKI PETRAITIS

1995. ISBN 0 646 22828 5.
NIVAR PRESS, PO BOX 2392,
CARRUM DOWNS, VIC. 3201.
252 PP. A\$14.95. SOFT COVER.

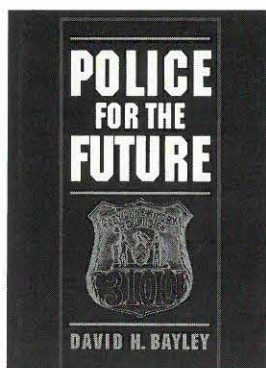
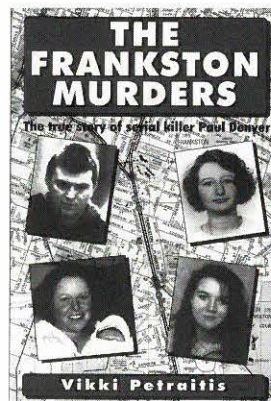
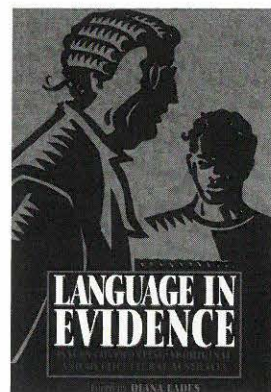
This book gives a detailed examination of the investigation and the personal trauma experienced by those involved in the Frankston murders. It is a vivid, chilling account of a serial killer at work in suburban Australia in 1993. In the foreword, Detective Inspector Peter Halloran expresses the hope that the detailed knowledge of a killer provided in this book will contribute to future homicide prevention.

POLICE FOR THE FUTURE

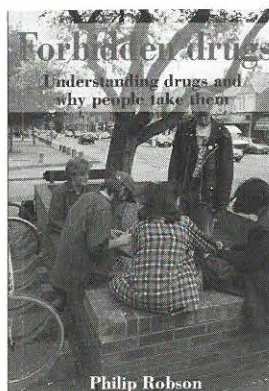
DAVID H. BAYLEY

(STUDIES IN CRIME AND PUBLIC POLICY; GENERAL EDITORS MICHAEL TONRY AND NORVAL MORRIS)
1994. ISBN 0-19-509116-7
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, GPO BOX 2784Y,
MELBOURNE VIC. 3001.
200 PP. A\$55.95. HARD COVER.

Police for the Future provides a systematic assessment of the performance of the police institution as a whole in preventing crime. The study is based on exhaustive research, interviews, and firsthand observation in five countries — Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Japan, and the United States. It analyses what police are accomplishing in modern democratic societies, and asks whether police organisations are using their resources effectively to prevent crime. Bayley concludes with a blueprint for the creation of police forces that can live up to their promise to reduce crime and enhance public safety.



Books...

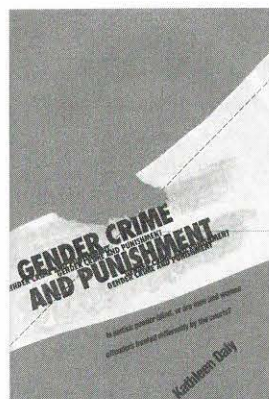


FORBIDDEN DRUGS: UNDERSTANDING DRUGS AND WHY PEOPLE TAKE THEM

PHILIP ROBSON

1994. ISBN 0-19-262429-6.
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, GPO BOX 2784Y,
MELBOURNE VIC. 3001.
250 PP. A\$24.95. SOFT COVER.

Dr Philip Robson, psychiatrist, has worked in drug dependency units in Melbourne and London and developed a service for drug users in Oxford. In this book, he provides detailed information on all the drugs currently used illegally throughout the world, including their effects and side-effects. He also covers the reasons why people decide to use these drugs, why they become addicted, and the treatments which are available for drug-related problems. Finally, there is a critical evaluation of governments' current policies on drugs (particularly the UK), with some proposals for limiting the damage caused to individuals and society, and for reducing the problems associated with drug use.

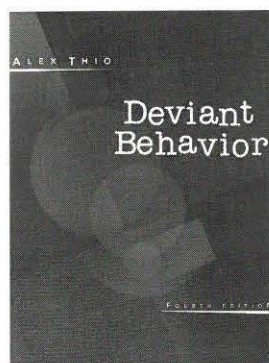


GENDER, CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

KATHLEEN DALY

1994. ISBN 0-300-05955-8.
YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS. (AVAILABLE FROM BLACKWELL
NORTH AMERICA, 100 UNIVERSITY COURT,
BLACKWOOD, NEW JERSEY 08012 USA).
350 PP. US\$37.50 (APPROX. A\$51.60). HARD COVER.

Are men and women who are prosecuted for similar crimes punished differently? If women are sentenced more leniently than men, does this tendency vary by class and race? Kathleen Daly explores these issues by analysing women's and men's cases that are routinely processed in the courts of New Haven, Connecticut. Daly analyses whether men and women are pulled into crime in different ways, whether their offences are comparably serious, and whether court officials use different conceptions of justice in sentencing men and women.



DEVIANT BEHAVIOR (4TH EDN)

ED. ALEX THIO

1995. ISBN 0-06-501848-6.
HARPERCOLLINS COLLEGE PUBLISHERS (AVAILABLE
THROUGH UNIVERSITY CO-OPERATIVE BOOKSHOPS AND
TRADE BOOKSELLERS).
580 PP. A\$52.95. HARD COVER.

Deviant Behavior is divided into two parts: Part one — Theoretical Approaches and Part two — Concrete Analyses. There are sections on feminist, shaming, phenomenological and Marxist theories as well as sections on such forms of deviance as marital rape, homophobia and power abuse.

CRIME WITHOUT FRONTIERS: THE WORLDWIDE EXPANSION OF ORGANISED CRIME AND THE PAX MAFIOSA

CLAIRE STERLING

1994. ISBN 0 316 91121 6.
LITTLE, BROWN AND COMPANY. (AVAILABLE FROM
BLACKWELLS, BROAD STREET, OXFORD OX1 3BQ,
ENGLAND).
284 PP. £17.50 (APPROX. A\$37.10). HARD COVER.

The threat of international organised crime is becoming a reality. In this book Claire Sterling argues that organised crime was transformed when the Soviet Empire crashed and old frontiers pulled away, such as the lowering of barriers within the European Community. Big crime syndicates pulled together, pooling services and personnel. Has liberated Russia become an active danger to its Western friends as the underworld's new country of choice? Is there now a borderless consortium of organised crime across the globe, a Pax Mafiosa? Claire Sterling raises many questions about whether the international community is equipped to prevent the growth of this terrifying phenomenon.

UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING VIOLENCE

NATIONAL ACADEMY PRESS, 2101 CONSTITUTION
AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20055.

4 VOLUME SET, US\$138.95 (APPROX. A\$191.40)
3 VOLUME SET (VOLS 2-4), US\$99.00 (APPROX.
A\$136.40)

VOL. 1: UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING VIOLENCE

1993. ISBN 0-309-04594-0. 480 PP. US\$49.95 (APPROX.
A\$70.00). HARD COVER.

This volume explains how different processes interact to determine violence levels, what preventive strategies are suggested by our current knowledge, and the most critical research needs.

VOL. 2: UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING VIOLENCE:
BIOBEHAVIORAL INFLUENCES

1994. ISBN 0-309-04649-1. 560 PP. US\$45.00 (APPROX.
A\$62.00). SOFT COVER.

ACCOUNTABILITY FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE: SELECTED ESSAYS

ED. PHILIP C. STENNING

1995. ISBN 0-8020-7601-7.
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS, 5201 DUFFERIN STREET,
NORTH YORK, ONTARIO, CANADA M3H 5T8.
C\$24.95. (APPROX. A\$25.40). SOFT COVER.

Seventeen original essays, most commissioned for this volume, have been collected to summarise and assess what has been happening during the last fifteen years in the area of accountability for criminal justice in English-speaking democracies with common law traditions. Contributors include: Philip Stenning, David Bayley, Andrew Goldsmith, Laurence Lustgarten, Mary Condon, Allan Mason and Roger McDonnell.

Volume 2 reviews genetic contributions to the probability of violent and related behaviours; brain structure and functioning; the roles of hormonal and neurological interactions; the neurochemistry of violence and aggression and its implications for the management of those behaviours.

VOL. 3: UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING VIOLENCE: SOCIAL INFLUENCES

1994. ISBN 0-309-05080-4. 592 PP. US\$45.00. (APPROX. A\$62.00). SOFT COVER.

Volume 3 examines how the risks of violent criminal offending and victimisation are influenced by communities, social situations, and individuals; the role of spouses and intimates; the differences in violence levels between males and females; and the roles of psychoactive substances.

VOL. 4: UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING VIOLENCE: CONSEQUENCES AND CONTROL

1994. ISBN 0-309-50579-0. 408 PP. US\$39.00. (APPROX. A\$54.00). SOFT COVER.

Volume 4 analyses public perceptions and reactions to violence; estimates the costs; analyses the commonalities and complementarities of criminal justice and public health responses; describes efforts to reduce violence through the prediction and classification of offenders; and studies the relationships between violence and the prison population.

GENDER, CRIME AND FEMINISM

ED. NGAIRE NAFFINE

(SERIES: THE INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY OF CRIMINOLOGY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PENOLOGY; SERIES EDITORS: GERALD MARS & DAVID NELKEN)

1995. ISBN 1-85521-543-8. DARTMOUTH PUBLISHING CO LTD, ALDRSHOT, UK. 500 PP. £85.00 (APPROX. A\$179.25). HARD COVER.

Gender, Crime and Feminism includes an introduction by Ngaire Naffine which analyses the changing face of feminist criminology. This selection of feminist writing comprises important examples of different types of feminist thought. The conventional boundaries of criminological scholarship are questioned and expanded. Authors include: Meda Chesney-Lind, Kathy Laster, Adrian Howe and Judith Allen. The book is divided into four categories: feminist empiricism, critical feminism, standpoint feminism and cultural criticism. The final section of the book is a different account of the literature by three feminist criminologists: Beverly Brown, Pat Carlen and Maureen Cain.

PRISONS, DRUGS AND WOMEN: VOICES FROM BELOW

BARBARA DENTON

(NATIONAL DRUG STRATEGY RESEARCH REPORT SERIES, REPORT NO. 5)
1995. ISSN 1324-8103.
DRUGS OF DEPENDENCE BRANCH, COMMONWEALTH

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH, GPO BOX 9848, CANBERRA ACT 2601.
GRATIS (LIMITED AVAILABILITY).

This book is a report on the drug use of women in Victorian prisons. The research was carried out over a period of two years and included interviewing prisoners about their drug use, treatment programs and personal backgrounds. The author, Barbara Denton, La Trobe University sociologist, believes that a new drug intervention policy needs to be developed for women in the Victorian prison system before Fairlea Prison is privatised.

OTHER REPORTS IN THE NATIONAL DRUG STRATEGY RESEARCH REPORT SERIES ARE:

NO. 1: OUT OF HARM'S WAY: EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TREATMENT AT ODYSSEY HOUSE.

NO. 2: DEVELOPMENT OF ANABOLIC STEROIDS (AND OTHER ANABOLIC SUBSTANCES): USES, INDICATORS IN AUSTRALIA.

NO. 3: THE IMPACT OF TOBACCO, ALCOHOL AND DRUGS ON ADMISSIONS TO INTENSIVE CARE AND CORONARY CARE UNITS.

NO. 4: EVALUATION OF PRIVATE METHADONE CLINICS.

CRIMINAL VICTIMIZATION IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

EDS UGLJESA ZVEKIC AND ANNA ALVAZZI DEL FRATE

1995. UNICRI PUBLICATION NO. 55. UNITED NATIONS INTERREGIONAL CRIME AND JUSTICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, VIA GIULIA 52, 00186, ROME, ITALY.

434 PP. US\$40.00 (APPROX. A\$55.10). SOFT COVER.

UNICRI obtained the data for this volume via victim surveys in large, urban areas of some developing countries. It is divided into two major sections: the first analyses the overall findings of the areas surveyed, and the second looks in-depth at each country surveyed. The comparative section provides a detailed cross-sectional view of crime, broken down by regional and country-to-country comparisons. The contributors are all distinguished in their respective countries.

EVALUATION OF THE POST-RELEASE STATUS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

REPORT OF THE ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY, USA

1995. 14 PP.

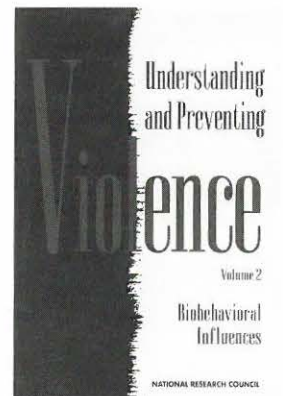
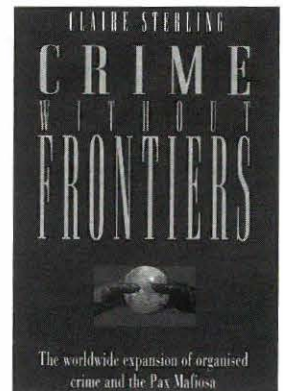
This report examines the recidivism rates of offenders participating in two Illinois Department of Corrections substance abuse treatment programs. To obtain a copy of the report, please contact:

Sal Perri

Research Analyst/Criminal Justice Research Consultant
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority

Fax: 1 312/793 8422

email: 73244.2726@compuserve.com



Conferences

Australian Institute of Criminology Conference Program

Conferences scheduled for 1996 are:

PROSECUTING JUSTICE

18-19 April, Novotel Hotel, Collins Street, Melbourne

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

AUSTRALIAN LAW AND THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY

3 June, Canberra

FIRST AUSTRALASIAN WOMEN POLICE CONFERENCE

29, 30, 31 July,

SUPERANNUATION FRAUD

21 June August, University of Melbourne

PREVENTING PROPERTY CRIME — NEW STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

2 September (one day), Sydney

Sponsored jointly by the Australian Institute of Criminology and the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research

FAMILY VIOLENCE

October, Adelaide

Conferences scheduled for 1997 include: SECOND NATIONAL OUTLOOK SYMPOSIUM ON CRIME IN AUSTRALIA

February, Canberra

PAEDOPHILIA

April, Perth

DESIGNING OUT CRIME

June, Sydney or Melbourne

CRIME IN THE PAST 100 YEARS - THEN AND NOW

August, Sydney

RIGHTS, ETHICS AND JUSTICE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

11-12 April 1996, Mercure Hotel, North Quay, Brisbane

For further information, contact:

Amanda-Rose Arnett
Administrative Officer
Centre for Crime Policy and Public Safety
Griffith University
Queensland

Tel: 61 7 3875 6808

Fax: 61 7 3875 5608

email: A.Arnett@hum.gu.edu.au

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

12-14 April 1996, Holme Building, University of Sydney

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

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

4TH ANNUAL CRIME PREVENTION CONFERENCE

PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICING AND CRIME PREVENTION

11-12 June 1996, Brisbane City Travelodge

For further information, contact:

Amanda-Rose Arnett
Administrative Officer
Centre for Crime Policy and Public Safety
Griffith University
Queensland

Tel: 61 7 3875 6808

Fax: 61 7 3875 5608

email: A.Arnett@hum.gu.edu.au

WINTER SCHOOL IN THE SUN

ALCOHOL AND DRUG FOUNDATION, QUEENSLAND DRUGS - POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND PEOPLE

1-4 July 1996, Brisbane City Travelodge

For further information, contact:
Winter School in the Sun Secretariat
Alcohol and Drug Foundation
Queensland

PO Box 332

Spring Hill Queensland 4004

Tel: 61 7 3832 3798

Fax: 61 7 3832 2527

AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF LEGAL PHILOSOPHY

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEGAL PHILOSOPHY

7-8 July 1996, Queensland University, Brisbane

For further information, contact:

Nicholas Aroney

Tel: 61 7 3365 3053

email: N.Aroney@mailbox.uq.oz.au

LAW AND LITERATURE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON LAW AND LITERATURE

19-21 July 1996, Darwin

For further information, contact:

Jan Baker Jones

Tel: 61 89 466 097

email: lawlit@business.ntu.edu.au

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

"QUALITY FORENSIC SCIENCE FOR ALL"

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

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTRE, MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

26-27 September 1996, Sydney

For further information, contact:

Graeme Wiffen

Tel: 61 2 850 7065

Fax: 61 2 850 7686

email: Graeme.Wiffen@mq.edu.au

ANZ EDUCATION LAW ASSOCIATION

EDUCATION LAW CONFERENCE

2-4 October 1996, Brisbane

For further information, contact:

Doug Stewart

Tel: 61 7 3864 3426
Fax: 61 7 3864 3981

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: 61 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

XIX CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

23-27 March 1997, Adelaide

For further information, contact:

SAPMEA Conventions

80 Brougham Place

North Adelaide SA 5006

Tel: 61 8 239 1515

Fax: 61 8 239 1566

AIDS IMPACT BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF HIV INFECTION

3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

22-25 June 1997, Melbourne

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

OVERSEAS

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES (USA)

DISPOSITIONAL ALTERNATIVES FOR THE JUVENILE OFFENDER

19-22 May 1996, St Anthony Hotel, San Antonio, TX

A review of dispositional options and resources with a view toward effective programs and appropriate match of programs to the person.

SPECIAL ISSUES IN JUVENILE PROBATION

19-22 May 1996, St. Anthony Hotel, San Antonio, TX

The future of probation supervision; dispositions - what works; probation officer liability; privatisation; and the role of computers.

59TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

14-17 July 1996, Hyatt Regency, Beaver Creek, Vail, CO

Substance abuse, family law, role of the judge and several other current topics.

ADVANCED FAMILY LAW

20-25 October 1996, University of Nevada, Reno, NV

Legal trends, custody issues, child support, family courts, dissolution, case management, court security.

JUDICIAL RESPONSE TO ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

20-25 October 1996, University of Nevada, Reno, NV

The role of the court in alcohol and other drug (AOD) issues, a multi-disciplinary and integrated approach to AOD, pharmacological underpinnings, assessment and treatment strategies for juveniles and families.

For further information on any of the above conferences, please contact:

David Gamble

National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges

PO Box 8970

Reno NV 89507 USA

Tel: 1 702 784 6012

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

For further information, contact:

Marian Poland

Office of Extended Learning

Sam Houston State University

PO Box 2477

Huntsville TX 77341 2477 USA

Tel: 1 409 294 3869

Fax: 1 409 294 3729

email: EXL-MEP@shsu.edu

CANADIAN LAW AND SOCIETY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

1-3 June 1996, Brock University

For further information, contact:

Jonathan Swainger

CLSA Programme Chair

University of Northern British Columbia

Fort St John Campus

Box 1000

Fort St John

BC V1J6K1 Canada

Fax: 1 604 785 9665

email: swainger@unbc.edu

JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

THIRD BIENNIAL CONFERENCE INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON CRIME, JUSTICE AND PUBLIC ORDER

16-21 June 1996, Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland

For further information, contact:

Roberta Blotner

Tel: 1 212 237 8654

1996 INTERNATIONAL CRIME CONFERENCE

CRIME AND JUSTICE IN THE NINETIES

28-30 June 1996, South Africa

For further information, contact:

CRIMSA Conference Organisers

PO Box 28-936

Sunnyside 0132

Republic of South Africa or

Dr Rika Snyman

Tel: 27 12 429 6467

Fax: 27 12 429 3221

Conferences



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