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For the attention of:

The Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP, Chairman, Parliament of Australia House of Representatives,

Standing Committee on Family and Human Services,

Canberra. ACT. 2600.

Dear Ms. Bishop,

Australian families and communities are suffering the worst drug epidemic in our history and this is due to the governmental authorisation and accreditation of the indoctrination of Harm Minimisation as a pre-cursor to the legislation of radical drug reforms which have failed in other countries. But what happens to parents whose innate common sense tells them that the only way forward for their beloved son or daughter is to stop using drugs and to rebuild a life without drugs?

I do not wish to be vindictive in regard to individual persons. However, it has reached the stage where, according to recent statistics produced by the Dept of Health & Ageing, one in three Australian families are affected by illicit drugs. The nation has lost the will to uphold and achieve a drug free society. WA is the 'speed' capital of the nation.

All WA social, health and justice services are broken; drug addicts are rapidly discharged from mental health beds and, due to government policies are excluded from mental health rehabilitation beds. The WA police are in tatters; there is a record rate of juveniles in detention centres, the greatest majority of these young people will be recidivists.

Our jails, especially the women's jail is overfilled and the new trend is that women are the greatest users of meth/ice/speed, they are committing crimes and more babies are being born in prison. There is an acute shortage of foster placements for babies and children and there is a record rate of grandparents caring for their children's children due to drug deaths, mental illness, parents in jail and drug and alcohol addicted. While drug prohibition has been assailed by the Trojan Horse of Human Rights, in reality it is illicit drugs which remove every shred of personal and common good and mercilessly discriminate against the family and the drug addict. How can our governments and politicians continue to ignore this blight on our communities and turn their back on these shocking facts?

Similar to the 2001 WA Summit, yesterday's Drug Summit was collaborated by the Government's Terry Murphy and the Police. It was attended by selectively chosen pro-drug liberalisation biased government ministers and their parliamentarian left-wing colleagues, ngos, bureaucrats and police and so-called partisan community leaders. The result of the summit is not publicised, however, there has certainly been no call for accountability of the drug/health bureaucracy or its partner, the WA Police. There is no public campaign to educate the public about the graphic harms which are a consequence of illicit drugs. Clearly chaos reigns.

Despite this terrible situation, the parents of the drug addicted person, have been denied accurate information about how addiction destroys families and the way in

which parents can strive to survive the onslaught of a loved one's rejection of the family and indescribable social and physical harms to themselves. Government drug and alcohol services deny parents accurate information re the physiological and psychological harms of the drugs. Particularly, the major responsibility for WA's disastrous drug epidemic, must be directed at the WA Police Harm Minisation policies which negates the protection of law enforcement compliance for the duty of care to prevent the young and vulnerable person's initiation into drugs, irredeemable violent psychosis and eventual addiction.

Similar to all ngos which foster permissive drug policies, Mr. Trimingham's ability to garner extensive governmental funding and policy support for the biased and selective education of drug legalisation and harm minimisation has disastrously caused Australians to be critically misinformed on illicit drug policy. Please note the attached Family Drug Support (FDS) Fact Sheets. Tony Trimingham is the founder of FDS. He openly declares he seeks the legalisation of drugs in Australia. It is a tragedy for Australian parents that on the death of his son Damien, Mr Trimingham, already a social worker, was enlisted by Dr Wodak to emotively exploit his grief for his son Damien's drug overdose death for the promotion of shooting galleries and legal heroin at public meetings throughout the nation.

Mr Trimingham's rapid elevation as a member of the Prime Minister's Australian National Council on Drugs provides some understanding of how Australian Harm Minimisation and radical drug reforms have overtaken and discredited the ethical and correct universal teachings for Abstinence and Zero Tolerance of Illicit Drugs in Society.

Since 2001, WA has experienced the highest rate of ice/meth/speed use in the nation, Premier Alan Carpenter and the Director of Health, Dr Neale Fong recently blamed illicit drug use for the collapse of WA's mental health system. Mr. Terry Murphy, Acting Director of the WA Drug and Alcohol Office (DAO) and the Parent Drug Information Service (PDIS) has consistently escaped accountability for the failure to stop the WA heroin and the amphetamine epidemics. Over the last 15 years the WA alcohol and drug parent information line has misinformed parents, minimising the harms of illicit drugs and deflecting blame onto parental dysfunction and poor parenting.

Last September, the WA Drug and Alcohol Office exploited the WA drug scourge and the concerns of parents to invite Professor Margaret Hamilton and Trimingham as keynote presenters at the DAO/WA Government Beyond the Boundaries Symposium at Observation City, Perth. Although this was purported to help parents but it was an excuse to further proselytise drug legalisation propaganda to the WA addiction workers. Still, the rate of drug use in WA continues to climb without any sign of abating.

In 1997 Mr Trimingham was invited by Mr Murphy then the Director, WA Drug Abuse Strategy Office to come to WA to educate the parents and the Local Drug Action Groups on Harm Minimisation, Shooting Galleries and Heroin Prescription Clinics. Responding to protests from the The Australian Parent Movement of WA Inc. and The Family Council of WA, Mrs. Parker, stopped Trimingham's visit.

When a parent suffers the devastating tragedy of a son or daughter's addiction to illicit drugs, one fact is certain; that parent will seek high and low for assistance to be told

what is happening to them, their family and the person using drugs/alcohol and their greatest need is for this to stop. Since 1991 there has not been one Australian drug information service which can provide the authentic support for a parent or extended family member. The truth is that once the person is addicted, only the addict can change themselves.

However, with the correct advice, families can be educated that family values can be adhered to and boundaries can be developed which show the addict that the abuse of drugs will not be tolerated. These strategies cannot be developed when all Government funding criteria for drug services arbitrarily demands that at all levels, ngos must apply the sole component of Harm Minimisation. When it comes to alcohol and drug use and addiction all Australian Governments are critically mistaken when acting on deliberate, wrong thinking academic hypotheses provided by their policy development experts.

This is why proven US and Sweden's Drug and Alcohol Prevention Programs are so vital.

Yours faithfully, Ms Geraldine Mullins, Spokesperson for the Coalition Against Drugs (WA), The Family Council of WA and The Australian Parent Movement of WA Inc.. 949 WEllington Street, West Perth. WA. 6005. 9321 2333/Fax:9321 1798. <u>afawa@msn.com</u>