

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 10 February 2010

Chair: Annette Ellis MP Deputy Chair: Hon Judi Moylan MP

Australian Institute of Criminology to appear before the youth violence inquiry

The Family and Youth Committee will be hearing from the Australian Institute of Criminology (AIC) on Wednesday, 10 February at Parliament House in Canberra for its inquiry into the impact of violence on young Australians.

The AIC is Australia's national research centre on crime and justice which seeks to reduce crime and promote justice through evidence-based research to inform policy and practice.

In its submission to the inquiry, the AIC reports that there is now significant evidence which shows that young people are disproportionately affected by crime, including violent crime. Young men and women aged 15 to 24 years experience assault at higher rates than any other age group in the Australian community. The number of assaults that occur annually has also increased on average by five per cent each year from 1995 to 2008.

A key message from the AIC is that research also consistently demonstrates that young people who have experienced or witnessed violence are at increased risk of becoming violent offenders themselves.

PUBLIC HEARING PROGRAM

Wednesday, 10 February 2010 Committee Room 1R1 - Parliament House, Canberra

10:15am – 11:00am

Australian Institute of Criminology

This hearing will be audio only webcast on: http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/

Further details are provided on the Committee website: www.aph.gov.au/fchy

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair, Ms Annette Ellis on (02) 6293 1344 (electorate office).

For all other inquiries please contact the Inquiry Secretary by phone on (02) 6277 4566 or by email <u>fchy.reps@aph.gov.au</u> or visit the Committee's website: <u>www.aph.gov.au/fchy</u>