



FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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13 June 2008

Mr Derek Abbott
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts
Department of the Senate
PO Box 3100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

RE: INQUIRY INTO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE BROADCASTING CODES OF PRACTICE

Dear Mr Abbott

Please find attached a copy of the corrected transcript along with the documents requested by Senator Wortley during the public hearing on 23 May.

The first is a copy of section seven from the Inquiry into the Effects of Television and Multimedia on Children and Families in Victoria, referenced on page six of our submission.¹ This describes the impact of televised violence and verbal aggression on young people.

The second document is a copy of an analysis of the use of coarse language on television by children.² Pages five and six offer a succinct summary of the research regarding the effects of exposure to verbal aggression and profanity on children's behaviour and development.

Additional resources you may wish to consult for more information on the topic include:

- Condry, J (1989) *The Psychology of Television*. Lawrence Erlbaum: Hillsdale.
- Griffiths, MD and Shuckford, GLJ (1989) "Desensitization to television violence: A new model". *New Ideas in Psychology*, 7 (1) 85-89.
- Jay, T (1992) *Cursing in America*. Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Jay, T (2000) *Why we curse*. Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Martin, MM, Anderson, CM and Cos, GC (1997) "Verbal aggression: A study of the relationship between communication traits and feelings about a verbally aggressive television show". *Communication Research Reports*. 14 (2) 195-202.
- Paik, H and Comstock, G (1994) "The effects of television violence on antisocial behaviour: A meta analysis". *Communication Research*. 21 (4) 516-546.

¹ Murray, JC (1999). *The Impact of Televised Violence*. The Inquiry into the Effects of Television and Multimedia on Children and Families in Victoria. Aggressive/violent behaviour (Section 7) Retrieved from:
<http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/fcdc/TV%20&%20MM%20Disc%20Paper%20Files/chap7.htm> on 21.04.08

² Kaye, BK and Sapolsky, BS (2004) "Watch Your Mouth! An Analysis of Profanity Uttered by Children on Prime Time Television". *Mass Communication and Society*, 7 (4) 429-452.

- Tan, AS (1985) *Communication Theory and Research*. Wiley: New York.

More and more, verbal aggression is being shown to have a tremendous impact on children. As perceptions of "violence" are being expanded to include verbal forms, more research is required to accurately assess how and to what extent this is impacting children and young people.

Thank you again for the opportunity to contribute to this inquiry. Please do not hesitate to call either myself on 0404 802 637 or Ms Wilson on 1300 885 982 should you require any further information.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dianne Giblin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dianne Giblin
President