



## PRIME MINISTER

**STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE HON P J KEATING MP**

### **VIOLENCE PREVENTION AWARDS**

The Prime Minister today announced the results of the inaugural Australian Violence Prevention Award. The Award, for a total of \$100,000, is a joint Commonwealth, State and Territory initiative established by all Australian Heads of Government in late 1991, following the Strathfield massacre, as one of the initiatives to address the problem of violence in our society.

The Award is administered by the Violence Prevention Unit in the Australian Institute of Criminology, under the direction of a Selection Board consisting of distinguished representatives of the Australian Heads of Government. Professor Duncan Chappell, Director of the Institute and previously Chair of the National Committee on Violence, is the Prime Minister's representative and Chair of the Selection Board for the Award. Other members of the Selection Board are: the Hon Dr Marlene Goldsmith (New South Wales); Ms Judith Dixon (Victoria); Dr Chilla Bulbeck (Queensland); Ms Pat Morris (Western Australia); Mr David Rathmann (South Australia); Commissioner John Johnson (Tasmania); Ms Tina Stubbs (Northern Territory); and Mr Ken Begg (Australian Capital Territory). The Prime Minister commended the work done by the Selection Board and the Australian Institute of Criminology in organising the large number of nominations received for the new Award.

'The interest in the Award, and the standard of nominations for 1992 was excellent', Mr Keating said. The Selection Board received numerous inquiries and almost 200 nominations, and had considerable difficulty deciding between some of them. It decided for this year that, in recognition of the wide variety of valuable projects addressing violence in many different ways, the Award should be divided between 13 nominations'.

Three nominations were outstanding. They are:

- the Julalikari Night Patrol from the Aboriginal community of Julalikari in the Northern Territory, which was awarded \$40,000 for its innovative, community based approach to breaking the cycle between excessive alcohol consumption and violence;

- the West End Forum, which was awarded \$20,000 for its success in reducing violence in the nightclub centres of the West End of Melbourne through integrated community action and server intervention programs; and
- the Brisbane-based Kids Help Line, awarded \$20,000 for its unique telephone counselling service for children, which addresses many of the problems caused by violence by and against children both in the short term through counselling and in the longer term through its data base.

Awards of \$1,000 will also be made to 10 highly commended projects.

These are:

- the Western Australian Aboriginal Driver Training Program, in the category Adolescents at Risk, for its imaginative and successful approach to the prevention of young Aboriginal involvement in police car chases;
- The Eastlakes Community Network Committee, in the category of Community Action, for its development of an effective, coordinated program, on limited resources, dealing with a variety of problems involving young people:
  - the Sherbrooke Action Group for Community Safety, in the category of Community Action, for the way in which the community brought together and managed a wide range of initiatives, showing how fear of violence can be turned into positive action at local level;
- the Doveton-Hallam-Endeavour Hills Family Violence Program for Perpetrators and Survivors of Abuse, in the category for its sensitivity to the needs and problems of families at risk and its development of a system which assists all members of the family unit in the prevention of family violence;
- Project Turnaround, a joint Western Australian Community Policing and Youth Insearch Foundation project, in the category Justice Systems and Institutions, for its development of a innovative and cost-effective approach bringing together police, other authorities and young people at risk, in a constructive way;
- the Campbelltown Cottage Community Care Project, in the category Protective Behaviour Strategies, for its development of strategies and programs to protect young children at risk of violence, abuse and neglect;

- the South Australian Holistic Defence Program, in the category Protective Behaviour Strategies, for its use of a variety of strategies to develop skills to diffuse and cope with violence and potentially violence situations for the elderly, the disabled, young people and women;
- the Arabic/English project Family and Society, in the category Projects for Non-English Speaking Background Communities, for its cost-effective use of audio technology in a cross-cultural way, to raise the awareness of isolated minority groups about strategies for the prevention of domestic violence;
- the South Hedland Sobering Up Centre, in the category Public Violence, for its effective, community-based approach to preventing drunkenness from leading to violence in public or at home, and for clogging up the police and judicial systems; and
- the Australian Capital Territory concert project *Metal for the Brain*, in the category Violence and Entertainment, for the innovative way in which several young people in the ACT responded to a violent incident, contributing to the prevention of violence effecting young people by using drug and alcohol-free heavy metal music concerts to convey the message of the link between alcohol and violence.

Mr Keating said that the value of the Australian Violence Prevention Awards goes far beyond the token monetary prize they receive. That a project has been nominated for the Award is in itself a great honour for the projects concerned, all of which have been recognised as contributing to the reduction or prevention of violence in Australia.,

**HOBART/CANBERRA**  
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