

Criminology Research Council

27th Annual Report 1999

Canberra

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CRIMINOLOGY RESEARCH COUNCIL



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The Hon. Amanda Vanstone, MP
Minister for Justice and Customs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

In accordance with section 33 of the *Criminology Research Act 1971*, I have the honour to submit to you the Twenty-seventh Annual Report of the Criminology Research Council for the period ending 30 June 1999.

Yours sincerely

Laurie Glanfield
Chairman
Criminology Research Council
September 1999

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Introduction

The Criminology Research Council (CRC) was established by the *Criminology Research Act 1971* and held its first meeting on 20 December 1972. The Council meets three times a year. The Criminology Research Act was enacted pursuant to arrangements between the Commonwealth and the States for the promotion of criminological research. These arrangements provided for the establishment of an Australian Institute of Criminology, a Criminology Research Council and a Criminology Research Fund. The Criminology Research Council controls and administers the Criminology Research Fund, from which grants are made to researchers undertaking criminological research projects. Criminological research is defined as research undertaken in connection with the causes, correction and prevention of criminal behaviour; and any related matter.

The Criminology Research Act provides that, in administering the Fund, the Criminology Research Council is to examine and determine the relative importance and urgency of projects of criminological research for which the expenditure of moneys from the Fund may be authorised. The Act also provides that the functions of the Australian Institute of Criminology include those of advising the Council in relation to needs for, and programs of, criminological research, and

providing secretarial and administrative services for the Council.

During the 1998–99 financial year, the Criminology Research Council funded 8 new research grants to a total value of \$222 104. In the 27 years that the Council has been in operation it has made grants from the Fund for 271 separate research projects totalling approximately \$4.3 million. Research projects funded by the Council have been conducted in all Australian jurisdictions and have focused on a broad spectrum of issues related to crime and criminal justice.

Details of projects funded during the year, as well as summaries of reports of completed projects received during the year, are provided in this Report. Details of projects currently in progress are listed on pages 75–6.

Reports of completed projects undertaken with Council funds are distributed to Council members, who ensure that relevant persons and department sections are made aware of the availability of the reports. Two copies of each report are lodged in the J. V. Barry Library of the Australian Institute of Criminology. Through the library, the reports are listed on Kinetica, Australia's national shared cataloguing system and the largest bibliographic network in the country; and also on CINCH, the Australian criminology database, which is publicly available online and on CD-ROM. Hundreds of libraries Australia-

wide participate in Kinetica, and Council reports receive wide coverage concerning their availability. All reports are available from the J. V. Barry Library through inter-library loan.

The Council's section of the Institute's web site has been expanded during the past year to provide information on reports submitted to the Council. The work is continuing and, once completed, the web site will contain an historical record of all Council-funded projects and the reports submitted in fulfilment of those projects.

Under grant funding arrangements the grantee is responsible for the distribution of the final report. Many researchers choose to publish in the form of books and journal articles, making the results of their research readily available to the broader community. They also distribute copies to appropriate departments and agencies.

The Council has a commitment to quality assurance, and as part of this approach seeks to create improved opportunities for publication of reports from research which it funds. The Council therefore retains the right to publish all or part of selected research products.

The Council approved a research consultancy on the topic of Sentencing Trends for Violent Offenders in Australia, as well as agreeing to fund a Research Analyst position intended to conduct research on topics specified by the Council.

Criminology Research Fund

Contributions to the Criminology Research Fund by the participating governments for the 1998-99 financial year totalled \$368 000. The Commonwealth Government contributed \$234 000 and each State and the Northern

Territory made contributions on a pro-rata population basis, individual contributions being as follows:

New South Wales	\$46 130
Victoria	\$33 847
Queensland	\$25 091
Western Australia	\$13 248
South Australia	\$10 848
Tasmania	\$ 3 453
Northern Territory	\$ 1 505

Details of expenditure and income are shown in the Financial Statements at the end of this report.

Membership

The Criminology Research Act provides that the Council is to consist of 8 members, comprising a representative of the Commonwealth and of each State and the Northern Territory. The Commonwealth representative is appointed by the Attorney-General and the State and Northern Territory representatives are appointed by the Attorney-General upon the nomination of the appropriate State or Territory minister.

The Council itself does not employ any staff members but provides a fee for the Australian Institute of Criminology to provide secretarial and administrative services for the Council.

As at 30 June 1999 the members of the Council were as follows:

New South Wales

Mr Laurie Glanfield

Chairman

Director-General,

Attorney-General's Department

Commonwealth

Mr Norman Reaburn
Deputy Secretary
Attorney-General's Department

Victoria

Mr Peter Harmsworth
Secretary
Department of Justice

Queensland

Dr Kenneth Levy
Deputy Director-General
Department of Justice

Western Australia

Dr Robert Fitzgerald
Executive Director
Policy & Legislation Division
Ministry of Justice

South Australia

Ms Joy Wundersitz
Director
Office of Crime Statistics
Attorney-General's Department

Tasmania

Mr Denbigh Richards
Deputy Director
Department of Justice

Northern Territory

Mr David Moore
Commissioner
Northern Territory Correctional Services

Meetings

Three meetings of the Council are held during the year. During 1998–99 the meetings (on 30 July 1998, 26 November 1998 and 19 March 1999) were held at the Australian Institute of Criminology, Canberra.

At its meeting on 19 March 1999, Mr Laurie Glanfield was unanimously re-elected Chairman of the Council.

At its meeting on 19 March 1999, the Council appointed its representatives from New South Wales, Northern Territory, South Australia and Western Australia as Members of the Board of Management of the Australian Institute of Criminology.

Council Policy

Section 40 of the Criminology Research Act provides that the functions of the Council are to administer the Criminology Research Fund and, for that purpose, to examine and determine the relative importance and urgency of projects for which the expenditure of moneys from the Fund may be authorised.

The Notes for Applicants issued by the Council with application forms for grants state that the criteria adopted by the Council in consideration of applications include the following:

- (a) the importance and urgency of the projects;
- (b) the extent to which the proposed research will have practical application or contribute to the prevention or correction of criminal behaviour;
- (c) the likelihood of the proposed research making a substantial and original contribution to criminological knowledge;
- (d) the likelihood of the proposed research contributing to the more effective and

efficient administration of justice in Australia;

- (e) the reasonableness of the proposed expenditure;
- (f) the practicability and feasibility of the proposed research strategy;
- (g) the policy implications of the proposal; and
- (h) the competence of the applicant or principal investigator to undertake the proposed research.

In considering applications for grants, the Council receives advice from a variety of sources. In addition to the views of individual Council members, the Council receives advice in the form of confidential referees' reports and comment prepared by staff of the Australian Institute of Criminology or other independent assessors.

When reports of completed projects are received, the Council examines the results of the research so that the value and implementation potential of the reports can be assessed. In addition, all reports are lodged with the J.V. Barry Library of the Australian Institute of Criminology.

Appreciation

The Council wishes to express its appreciation to Mr John Van Groningen, the Victorian representative on the Council from 1993 to 1999 and to Ms Elizabeth Raffaele who acted as the Administrator for the Council for a number of years. The Council also wishes to express its gratitude for the support given by Professor David Biles in his role as Adviser to the Council and staff members of the Institute: Ms Kathy Mildren, Administrator, and Mr Raju Mahen, Accounting Officer.

Freedom of Information Act

The statement made in the Australian Institute of Criminology's Annual Report also applies to the Council.

The Council received no requests for information under the provisions of the Act during the year ending 30 June 1999.

Research Projects

New Projects Funded

The Council considered 54 grant applications during the year, 8 of which were approved.

Particulars of research grants awarded by the Council during the year are as follows:

1. Sentencing the multiple offender—Dr Austin Lovegrove, University of Melbourne (7/98–9). At its meeting on 30 July 1998 the Council made a grant of \$10 597 for this project.

The research will produce prototypical detailed sentencing statistics, for cases comprising unrelated multiple counts, showing the relationship between the sentences of imprisonment appropriate to the comprising counts and the effective sentence appropriate to the case. This research will also investigate whether in Victoria the sentencing of multiple offenders confirms to the principle of proportionality.

2. An examination of the illegal art market in Australia—Associate Professor Ken Polk, University of Melbourne (8/98–9). At its meeting on 30 July 1998 the Council made a grant of \$15 082 for this project.

This project will attempt to assess the volume and costs of art crime; develop models of the shape of the illegal art market; document how illegal art is transformed and the particular methods employed; document the place of Aboriginal art within the legal and

illegal art markets of Australia; assess the volume of such problems as fraud within this market; and provide a general test of the market model both as an approach for research on criminal behaviour, and on resultant crime reduction and prevention strategies.

3. An evaluation of anger management programs with violent offenders in two Australian States—Professor Kevin Howells and Dr Andrew Day, University of South Australia (37/98–9). At its meeting on 26 November 1998 the Council made a grant of \$29 918.30 for this project.

This research involves an evaluation of the effectiveness of anger-management programs for violent offenders. The objectives of the study are twofold: to determine whether anger management is more effective than no treatment in producing change; and to investigate whether improvement in treatment can be predicted from pre-treatment offender characteristics. The results of the study will have implications for rehabilitation planning and policy and resource allocation.

4. An investigation of the role of resiliency promoting factors in preventing adverse life outcomes during adolescence—Dr Bruce Johnson, Dr Susan Howard and Mr Murray Oswald, University of South Australia (39/98–9). At its meeting on 26 November 1998 the Council made a grant of \$18 711 for this project.

This project will attempt to identify the kinds of protective factors afforded by the family, school and local community that promote adolescent resiliency; develop insights into how protective factors actually help adolescents deal with adverse life events; compare life strategies typically employed by resilient and non-resilient adolescents; identify whether the use of particular strategies is linked to such factors as age, ethnicity or gender; and complete the background research that will enable the development of school and community based interventions to strengthen resiliency.

5. An investigation into the experiences of child complainants of sexual abuse within the criminal justice system—Dr Christine Eastwood, Queensland University of Technology (23/98–9). At its meeting on 19 March 1999 the Council made a grant of \$60 008 for this project.

The research aims to examine, from the perspective of the child, the experiences of child complainants of sexual abuse within the criminal justice system. The proposed research will provide a variety of stakeholders within the Australian criminal justice system with a substantial and original body of knowledge from which procedural, structural, attitudinal and policy implications can be drawn.

6. A Survey of Aboriginal community attitudes to domestic violence—Dr Geoffrey Genever, Apunipima Cape York Health Council, Queensland (42/98–9). At its meeting on 19 March 1999 the Council made a grant of \$39 160 for this project.

The object of this research is to carry out a survey to ascertain community attitudes towards the phenomenon of family fighting. The survey will determine how different sexes, age groups and communities view

family fighting; what violence is considered legitimate; and why and to what extent alcohol is seen as an exonerating factor. The ultimate aim of the survey is to reduce arbitrary liquor-related violence.

7. An investigation of dual order young people in the Victorian juvenile justice system—Dr Christine Alder and Ms Nichole Hunter, University of Melbourne (49/98–9). At its meeting on 19 March 1999 the Council made a grant of \$23 210 for this project.

This research will compare the offence histories, juvenile justice experiences and life circumstances of protective and non-protective juvenile justice clients. The findings of the research will inform the development of juvenile justice policies and practices to address the needs of this particularly vulnerable population.

8. The characteristics of child molesters and child molesting in Queensland—Mr Stephen Smallbone, Dr Richard Wortley and Professor Ross Homel, Griffith University (51/98–9). At its meeting on 19 March 1999 the Council made a grant of \$25 418 for this project.

The project will undertake a major descriptive study of men convicted in Queensland of sexual offences against children. The study aims to describe the psychosocial and psychosexual history of convicted child molesters; examine the extent to which convicted child molesters report multiple “paraphilias” and engage in non-sexual criminal activities; examine differences between official and unofficial rates of sexual offending; describe the modus operandi of convicted child molesters; and determine the extent of formal and informal networking among convicted child molesters.

Reports Received of Completed Research 1998–99

The Council received 7 reports of completed research projects during the year. Summaries of these reports are given below.

1. Evaluation of the Introduction of Tasmanian Firearm Control Legislation— Professor Katherine Warner and Mr Roland Browne, Faculty of Law, University of Tasmania (28/91) (1999).

The *Guns Act 1991* introduced licensing for all firearms in Tasmania. It aimed to reduce deaths from suicide, to reduce accidents caused by guns and to reduce the level of violence in the community. This study attempted to evaluate the effect of implementing these aims by looking at the impact of the Act on suicide, homicide, accidental gun deaths and injuries, and the use of firearms in crime.

2. The Relationship between Childhood Aggression and Early Adolescent Aggressive and Delinquent Behaviours— Dr W. Bor, Dr J. Najman, Dr M. O’Callaghan and Dr G. Williams, University of Queensland (4/95–6) (1998). (374.360994 BOR)

The report of this project is entitled “From Childhood Aggression to Delinquency: Causal Pathways”. In the context of substantial changes in family types and even family quality over recent times, this study is concerned with the extent to which family type and quality impacts on child behaviour problems. The sample, 8556 pregnant women, was enrolled in a longitudinal prospective study. Details of changes in family type and family quality (addressed using the Spanier dyadic adjustment scale) were used to predict three second-order syndromes developed from the Child Behaviour Check List, which

was administered to the mothers when the child was 5 years of age.

Mothers who experience no partner changes (married and single) report their children to have the lowest rates of child behaviour problems for the three syndromes used in this study. In addition, mothers who more often describe their relationship with their partner as poor also report their children to have the highest rate of behaviour problems across all three syndromes. Adjustment for possible confounders does not alter these findings. Both changes of partner and dyadic conflict appear to lead to child behaviour problems, with the latter factor appearing to have a greater impact than the former. Mothers who experience no partner changes and no conflict appear to have children with the lowest rate of behaviour problems.

3. Risk Assessment Models in Sentencing and Corrections—Mr Frank Morgan, Crime Research Centre, University of Western Australia (22/95–6) (1998).

The report of this project is entitled “Risk Assessment in Sentencing and Corrections”. The research explores the concept of *risk* as it relates to the treatment of offenders at various points in the criminal justice system. The inquiry begins with an exploration of the notion of risk in modern societies. It is clear that risk can be regarded as a core organising concept in the late twentieth century world. “Risk society” is concerned with the future, with control and with safety, and the significance of risk derives from these preoccupations, not from any objective increase in the hazards and dangers to its citizens. In criminological settings risk has come much closer to centre stage. Indeed, some writers, such as Feeley and Simon, see “actuarial justice” as proceeding inexorably and transforming older forms of justice and their

concepts. Others such as Garland argue that the field of crime control manifests an uneven and often incoherent mix of policies and practices where the influence of actuarial justice competes not only with older paradigms of proportionality and rehabilitation, but with a morally-charged “expressive punitiveness” which has considerable political influence.

Risk is then examined in its more specific contexts of sentencing and parole decision-making. It is immediately evident that there are differences in approach to risk at the various points in the criminal justice process. For example, notions of “risk” and “dangerousness” have had, and continue to have, a limited but growing role in the legislation governing sentencing, whereas Australian courts of appeal have generally reaffirmed the centrality of principles of “proportionality” or “just deserts” in sentencing practice, particularly as they relate to adult offenders. The research illustrates this through a detailed analysis of recent Western Australian legislation. It is evident that risk may be defined in different ways within the same Act and that at other times it is dealt with ambiguously or inconsistently. In the context of individual sentencing decisions these different meanings of risk can conflict with each other and with other principles such as proportionality.

The study then draws on the results of empirical research on risk assessment in Western Australia. It relates these results to the “risk” literature which has come to dominate discussions of correctional supervision and treatment programs in North America and have increasingly influenced correctional administrators in Australia and the United Kingdom. The analysis examines risk in the context of offender supervision. A key question addressed in this analysis concerns the

utility of risk assessment in providing guidance about the treatment of supervised offenders and also in the provision of pre-sentence reports. It is clear that there are some tensions between considerations of risk and other principles of “treatment”.

One of the major outcomes of the study is its concrete demonstration of the need for risk to be specified carefully in specific contexts. Risk is too easily discussed in a singular way, as if its application is self-explanatory. Yet, a useful risk assessment requires a precise specification of the nature of the risk in question, the time frame of the assessment, and some specification of those considered to be at risk.

4. Venue Observations Study—Professor Ross Homel and Dr Marge Hauritz, Griffith University, Qld (25/95–6) (1998). (364.2509943 f HAU)

The report of this project is entitled “An Evaluation of the Local Government Safety Action Projects in Cairns, Townsville and Mackay”. The aims of the report are to sketch the theoretical basis of a series of safety action projects in three diverse North Queensland cities (Cairns, Townsville and Mackay), and to report some results. These projects, which aimed to improve the safety of licensed environments in the central city entertainment areas, are replications of the safety action model developed in Surfers Paradise.

Key features of the approach include creating a steering committee and community forum; forming task groups to address safety of public spaces, management of venues, and security and policing; encouraging venue managers to introduce a Code of Practice; and regulating managers through informal community processes as well as formal enforcement. The model is based on prior experience with community interventions; the

theory of situational crime prevention; and regulatory theory.

The results are based on police data and on unobtrusive direct observations by patron-observers of aggression, drinking, and serving practices in licensed venues in the three cities in September 1994 and October 1996. The interventions took place in each city during 1995 and early 1996. From the observational data, there was a decline of 56.5 per cent in all aggressive and violent incidents, and a decline of at least 75 per cent in physical assaults, although conclusions concerning direct causality cannot be drawn. These declines, which did not differ significantly between cities, coincided with reductions in the levels of perceived “permissiveness” in venues, increases in sociability, cheerfulness and friendliness, a range of significant improvements in host responsibility practices and a marked decline in levels of male drunkenness. Patronage (and crowding) increased and prices stayed the same, suggesting no decline in levels of profitability.

Police data for Cairns and Townsville, but not Mackay, showed reductions in many types of street offences corresponding to the periods when the project officer was active or the Code of Practice was implemented, but there are difficulties in interpreting the police data (especially in Townsville). There are also good reasons for not expecting a close correlation between police data on street offences and observations of behaviours within venues, since many incidents within venues are not reported or recorded. Overall, the police data for Cairns and Townsville, but not Mackay, are consistent with the reductions in aggression observed within venues.

Assuming some causal impact of the interventions, identification of “critical” components is problematic, one conclusion

being that there are many paths to the same destination. However, whatever intervention techniques are employed, a reduction in male drunkenness seems important to reduce physical violence.

5. Evaluation of the Qld Security Providers Act 1993—Dr Timothy Prenzler, Dr Hennessey Hayes and Dr Richard Wortley, Griffith University, Qld (4/96–7) (1998). (344.0528909943 f.PRE)

A survey of a large sample of security managers revealed scepticism about the success of the Queensland Security Providers Act in reducing misconduct in the security industry. Respondents felt the licensing system was too restricted and enforcement was too weak to professionalise the industry to the desired standard; although there was some support for improved entry-level competency standards as a result of minimum training requirements. There was strong support for a range of reform measures. Respondents wanted comprehensive licensing of all industry sectors linked to a national system; improved training and assessment; frequent criminal history checks on licensees; more vigorous compliance monitoring; and compulsory insurance and monitoring of firms for award payments. National coordination of the States and Territories and the security industry is needed to achieve these goals.

6. Compare and Assess the Benefits of Treatment Programs for Male Child Sexual Offenders in Correctional Services Against the Costs of Implementing Such Programs—Professor Freda Briggs, Dr Martin Shanahan, Ms Robyn Nayda and Mr Ron Donato, University of South Australia (23/96–7) (1999).

The report of this project is entitled “A Cost-benefit Analysis of Child Sex-offender Treatment Programs for Male Offenders in

Correctional Services". This study provides an overview of child sex abuse issues and provides a description of cognitive therapy treatment programs in several countries and around Australia. It then discusses the methodological and practical issues involved with the economic analysis of offender treatment programs and child sexual abuse, as well as presenting findings based on South Australian data. A comprehensive list of the effects of child sexual abuse is presented and there is a discussion of the methodological difficulties in attributing values to these. Despite these difficulties, overall estimates of the cost of programs and the benefits derived from lowering recidivism are reported, together with a sensitivity analysis of the results. The magnitude of the problem of child sexual abuse generally and offences by recidivists in particular, suggest the range of potential economic costs from child sexual abuse are substantial and the economic benefits to be achieved from appropriate and effective treatment programs high. Given the application of recent economic techniques to measure the intangible costs of child sex abuse and the methodological and informational problems encountered, the study can be considered a major first step towards a comprehensive economic analysis of in-prison child sex offender treatment programs that also provides a framework for future research efforts.

7. Does the Spatial Clustering of Homes in Which Child Abuse Occurs Reflect the Operation of Micro-social Environments?—Professor Tony Vinson, Uniya Jesuit Social Justice Centre, NSW (24/97–8) (1999).

The report of this project is entitled "The Spatial Clustering of Child Maltreatment: Are Micro-social Environments Involved?". Following an earlier study of neighbourhoods and child abuse, subsequent

mapping of confirmed cases of abuse in the study area revealed that they were spatially clustered. Rather than work on the traditional collectors' district (CD) as the unit of study, the data from the earlier project, which had been analysed by CDs, was re-analysed according to whether or not respondents lived within the identified cluster areas. This re-analysis yielded significantly different results from the earlier investigation. Cluster area residents were significantly more likely to entertain negative perceptions of their neighbourhood, than residents not in the clusters. They were more likely to feel they did not belong, to want to move out given the opportunity, to not value association with others in their neighbourhood and to view the locality as a poor place to raise children.

In an additional small study, human service practitioners in the area accurately identified the cluster areas and the micro-social environments existing within them. This may indicate that, in working to prevent child abuse, directing scarce resources at larger aggregations of families may be less efficient than working within a small number of identified street blocks.

Consultancy: Factors that Influence Remand in Custody

The final report for stage one of this research was completed in February 1999. The study explores the factors affecting rates of remand in custody in Australia—both the environment in which decisions to remand accused persons in custody are made, and the outcomes of these decisions. While the findings should be of interest to all Australian jurisdictions, this study has focused specifically upon three jurisdictions, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. The Criminology Research

Council, in conjunction with the Australian Institute of Criminology, will publish the report in the Institute's Research and Public Policy series in the near future.

Research in Progress

Reintegrative Shaming of Violence, Drink Driving and Property Crime: A Randomised Controlled Trial—Professor J. Braithwaite and Professor L. Sherman, Australian National University, Canberra CRC47/93–4.

Aboriginal Youth Suicide: Towards a Model of Explanation and Alleviation—Professor Colin Tatz, Macquarie University CRC25/96–7.

The Effectiveness of Legal Protection in Prevention of Domestic Violence in the Lives of Young Australian Women—Professor Annette Dobson, University of Newcastle CRC30/96–7.

The Effectiveness of Criminal Sanctions: A Natural Experiment—Dr David Tait, University of Melbourne CRC33/96–7.

Shame Management and Social Reintegration for Bullies and Victims: The Prism Project—Dr Valerie Braithwaite, Australian National University CRC6/97–8.

A Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis of the Relationship Between Community Cohesiveness and Rural Crime—Dr Patrick Jobes, Dr Joe Donnermeyer and Ms Elaine Crosby, University of New England CRC7/97–8.

Hearing Loss and Communication Disability within the Criminal Justice System—Dr Al Yonovitz and Mr Grant Preston, Menzies School of Health Research, Royal Darwin Hospital NT CRC15/97–8.

Directors' Misconduct Decriminalised: Are the Civil Sanctions in the Corporations Law Effective?—Professor Ian Ramsay and Ms Helen Bird, University of Melbourne CRC16/97–8.

Young Women in the Juvenile Justice System—Dr Christine Alder, University of Melbourne CRC17/97–8.

Criminal Forfeiture and Confiscation—Professor Richard Fox and Professor Arie Freiberg, Monash University CRC38/97–8.

Sentencing the Multiple Offender—Dr Austin Lovegrove, University of Melbourne CRC7/98–9.

An Examination of the Illegal Art Market in Australia—Associate Professor Ken Polk, University of Melbourne CRC8/98–9.

An Investigation into the Experiences of Child Complainants of Sexual Abuse Within the Criminal Justice System—Dr Christine Eastwood, Queensland University of Technology CRC23/98–9.

An Evaluation of Anger Management Programs With Violent Offenders in Two Australian States—Professor Kevin Howells and Dr Andrew Day, University of South Australia CRC37/98–9.

An Investigation of the Role of Resiliency Promoting Factors in Preventing Adverse Life Outcomes During Adolescence—Dr Bruce Johnson, Dr Susan Howard and Mr Murray Oswald, University of South Australia CRC39/98–9.

A Survey of Aboriginal Community Attitudes to Domestic Violence—Dr Geoffrey Genever, Apunipima Cape York Health Council, Queensland CRC42/98–9.

**An Investigation of Dual Order Young
People in the Victorian Juvenile Justice
System**—Dr Christine Alder and Ms
Nichole Hunter, University of Melbourne
CRC49/98-9.

**The Characteristics of Child Molesters and
Child Molesting in Queensland**—Mr
Stephen Smallbone, Dr Richard Wortley
and Professor Ross Homel, Griffith
University CRC51/98-9.

CRC Financial Statements



F98/520

15 September 1999

Dr Adam Graycar
Director
Criminology Research Council
74 Leichardt Street
GRIFFITH ACT 2603

Dear Dr Graycar

**Criminology Research Council
1998-99 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT**

Please find enclosed the following documents:

- original set of the financial statements for the Criminology Research Council; and
- Independent Audit Report on those financial statements.

The Independent Audit Report and a copy of the financial statements have been forwarded to the Attorney-General.

Yours sincerely

Allan M. Thompson
Executive Director



INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Council of the Criminology Research Council

Scope

I have audited the financial statements of the Criminology Research Council for the year ended 30 June 1999. The financial statements comprise:

- Statement by the Council Members
- Operating Statement
- Statement of Assets and Liabilities
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Schedule of Commitments;
- Schedule of Contingencies; and
- Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements.

The members of the Council are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to you.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards, to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Audit procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and statutory requirements so as to present a view of the entity which is consistent with my understanding of its financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In my opinion,

- (i) the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Schedule 2 of the Finance Minister's Orders; and
- (ii) the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements and Schedule 2 of the Finance Minister's Orders, of the financial position of the Criminology Research Council as at 30 June 1999 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

Australian National Audit Office

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allan M Thompson', written in a cursive style.

Allan M Thompson
Executive Director

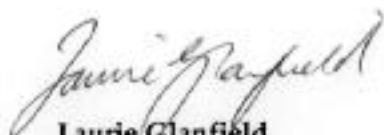
Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra
15 September 1999

CRIMINOLOGY RESEARCH COUNCIL

STATEMENT BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

In our opinion, the attached financial statements present fairly the information required by the Minister for Finance and Administration's Guidelines for Financial Statements of Commonwealth Authorities.



Laurie Glanfield
Chairman

10 September 1999



Adam Graycar
Director

10 September 1999

**CRIMINOLOGY RESEARCH COUNCIL
OPERATING STATEMENT
for the year ending 30 June 1999**

	Note	1999 \$	1998 \$
NET COST OF SERVICES			
Operating expenses			
Research projects		246,400	203,244
Employees	3a	75,649	61,604
Suppliers	3b	60,178	123,852
Total operating expenses		<u>382,227</u>	<u>388,700</u>
Operating revenues from independent sources			
Interest		25,001	24,542
Other		0	0
Total operating revenues from independent sources		<u>25,001</u>	<u>24,542</u>
Net cost of services		<u>(357,226)</u>	<u>(364,158)</u>
REVENUES FROM GOVERNMENT			
Revenues from government			
Parliamentary appropriations received	4a	234,000	236,000
State and Territory Governments	4b	134,000	143,785
Total revenues from government		<u>368,000</u>	<u>379,785</u>
Surplus (deficit) of revenues from government over net costs of services		10,774	15,627
Accumulated surpluses at beginning of reporting period		290,842	275,215
Accumulated surpluses at end of reporting period		<u>301,616</u>	<u>290,842</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

CRIMINOLOGY RESEARCH COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
for the year ending 30 June 1999

	Note	1999 \$	1998 \$
PROVISIONS AND PAYABLES			
Suppliers	5a	6,300	6,900
Research Projects	5b	382,674	370,294
Total Provisions and Payables		<u>388,974</u>	<u>377,194</u>
Total liabilities		<u>388,974</u>	<u>377,194</u>
EQUITY			
Capital	6	36,018	36,018
Accumulated surpluses	6	301,616	290,842
Total equity		<u>337,634</u>	<u>326,860</u>
Total liabilities and equity		<u>726,608</u>	<u>704,054</u>
FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Cash	7a	415,154	393,317
Receivables	7b	1,454	737
Investments	7c	310,000	310,000
Total financial assets		<u>726,608</u>	<u>704,054</u>
Total assets		<u>726,608</u>	<u>704,054</u>
Current liabilities		288,724	314,444
Non-Current liabilities		100,250	62,750
Current assets		726,608	704,054
Non-Current assets		—	—

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**CRIMINOLOGY RESEARCH COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
for the year ending 30 June 1999**

	Note	1999 \$	1998 \$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Appropriations		234,000	236,000
State & Territory Government Contributions		134,000	143,785
Interest		24,285	24,551
Other		0	0
Total cash received		<u>392,285</u>	<u>404,336</u>
Cash Used			
Suppliers		(136,427)	(185,569)
Research Projects		(234,021)	(200,025)
Total cash used		<u>(370,448)</u>	<u>(385,594)</u>
Net cash from operating activities	8	<u>21,837</u>	<u>18,742</u>
Net increase in cash held		21,837	18,742
Add cash at 1 July		393,317	374,575
Cash at 30 June		<u>415,154</u>	<u>393,317</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

**CRIMINOLOGY RESEARCH COUNCIL
SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS
for the year ending 30 June 1999**

	Note	1999 \$	1998 \$
BY TYPE			
OTHER COMMITMENTS			
Other Commitments		0	30,281
Total other commitments		<u>0</u>	<u>30,281</u>
Total commitments payable		0	30,281
Commitments receivable		0	0
Net commitments		<u>0</u>	<u>30,281</u>
BY MATURITY			
One year or less		0	10,281
From one to two years		0	20,000
Net commitments		<u>0</u>	<u>30,281</u>

SCHEDULE OF CONTINGENCIES

	Note	1999 \$	1998 \$
Contingent losses	10	0	0

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**CRIMINOLOGY RESEARCH COUNCIL
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 1999**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements are a general purpose financial report.

They have been prepared in accordance with:

- Guidelines titled *Financial Statements of Commonwealth Authorities* issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration in July 1997 (the 'Guidelines'), which require that the financial statements are prepared:
 - in compliance with Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Guidance Releases issued by the Australian Accounting Research Foundation; and
 - having regard to Statements of Accounting Concepts, and
- the Consensus Views of the Urgent Issues Group.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with historical cost convention. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or on the financial position.

1.2 Function of Council

The functions of the Council are to control and administer the Criminology Research Fund established in accordance with part IV of the *Criminology Research Act 1971*, from which research grants are made to researchers undertaking criminology research projects.

1.3 Administrative Grant

The Council entered into an agreement with the Australian Institute of Criminology on 20 December 1994 to pay the Institute \$100,000 in the 1994–95 financial year for administrative support services. The same amount was paid to the Institute in 1998–99

1.4 Taxation

Section 50 of the *Criminology Research Act 1971* states that the transactions of the Council and the Fund are not subject to taxation under any law of the Commonwealth, of a State or of a Territory.

1.5 Cash

For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash has been defined as cash at bank and on hand.

1.6 Comparative figures

Where necessary comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in these financial statements.

1.7 Subsequent events

No events have occurred after reporting date which have not been brought to account in the 1998–98 financial statements.

1.8 Financial instruments

Accounting policies in relation to financial instruments are disclosed in Note 13

2. Economic Dependency

The Council is dependent upon funding from the Commonwealth Government, the State Governments and the Northern Territory Government.

3. Goods and Service Expenses

3a. Employee Expenses

The Council is serviced by the staff of the Australian Institute of Criminology. Salaries in the accounts represents a proportion of the salaries of persons working on the Criminology Research Fund but paid by the Institute. This amount is deemed to be part of the administrative grant paid by the Council to the Institute.

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Salaries relating to administrative grant	<u>75,649</u>	<u>61,604</u>

3b. Suppliers Expenses

The Council incurred administrative expenses during the year, which have been brought to account in the body of the statements under this expense category. Part of the administrative expenses represent a portion of the administrative grant paid by the Council to the Institute.

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Administrative expenses relating to administrative grant	24,351	38,396
Project expenses	<u>35,827</u>	<u>85,456</u>
Total Suppliers Expenses	<u>60,178</u>	<u>123,852</u>

4. Revenues from Government

4a. Parliamentary appropriations

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Attorney-General's Department Division 126 Appropriation Act No. 1	<u><u>234,000</u></u>	<u><u>236,000</u></u>

4b. State and Territory Governments Contributions

The States and the Northern Territory contributed at an agreed level on a pro rata population basis as follows.

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
New South Wales	46,130	51,340
Victoria	33,847	33,757
Queensland	25,091	27,513
Western Australia	13,248	13,324
South Australia	10,848	12,375
Tasmania	3,453	3,971
Northern Territory	1,383	1,505
	<u><u>134,000</u></u>	<u><u>143,785</u></u>

5. Provisions & Payables

5a. Suppliers

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Trade creditors	<u><u>6,300</u></u>	<u><u>6,900</u></u>

5b. Research Projects Liabilities

This items represents amounts for research projects approved by the Council and accepted by, but not distributed to, grantees as at 30 June 1999.

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Current Liabilities Research projects	282,424	307,544
Non-Current Liabilities Research projects	100,250	62,750
Total	<u><u>382,674</u></u>	<u><u>370,294</u></u>

6. Equity

Item	Capital	Accumulated results	TOTAL EQUITY
Balance 1 July 1998	36,018	290,842	326,860
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>0</u>	<u>10,774</u>	<u>10,774</u>
Balance 30 June 1999	<u><u>36,018</u></u>	<u><u>290,842</u></u>	<u><u>337,634</u></u>

7. Financial Assets7a. Cash

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and on hand	<u><u>415,154</u></u>	<u><u>393,317</u></u>

7b. Receivables

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Other Debtors	<u><u>1,454</u></u>	<u><u>737</u></u>

7c. Investments

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Term Deposits	<u><u>310,000</u></u>	<u><u>310,000</u></u>

8. Cash Flow Reconciliation

Reconciliation of net cash flows from operating activities to net cost of services

	1999	1998
Net cost of services	(357,226)	(364,158)
Revenues from governments	<u>368,000</u>	<u>379,785</u>
Operating surplus/(deficit)	<u>10,774</u>	<u>15,627</u>
Increase in research projects	12,380	3,218
Decrease in trade creditors	(600)	(113)
(Increase)/ Decrease in receivables	<u>(717)</u>	<u>10</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u><u>21,837</u></u>	<u><u>18,742</u></u>

9. Related party disclosures

The members of the Criminology Research Council during the year were:

	<i>Appointment</i>	<i>Terminated</i>
Mr Laurie Glanfield (Chairman) Director-General, Attorney-General's Department, New South Wales	30.07.91	
Mr Norman Reaburn (Commonwealth) Deputy Secretary, Attorney-General's Department	04.12.94	
Mr John Van Groningen Commissioner, Office of the Correctional Services Commissioner, Department of Justice, Victoria	30.06.93	27.5.99
Mr Peter Harmsworth Secretary, Department of Justice, Victoria	27.5.99	
Dr. Ken Levy Deputy Director-General, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Queensland	12.12.90	
Dr. Robert Fitzgerald Executive Director, Policy & Legislation Division, Ministry of Justice, Western Australia	26.06.96	
Mr David Moore Commissioner, Northern Territory Correctional Services, Northern Territory	04.02.98	
Mr Denbigh Richards Deputy Secretary, Department of Justice and Industrial Relations, Tasmania	06.05.98	
Ms Joy Wundersitz Director, Office of Crime Statistics, Attorney- General's Department, South Australia	19.07.95	

No loans were made to any members of the Council during the reporting period.

10. Contingent Liabilities

There was no contingent liability against the Criminology Research Council as at 30 June 1999.

11. Executive Remuneration

There are no executive appointments on the Criminology Research Council.

12. Auditor's Remuneration

	1999	1998
	\$	\$
Remuneration to the Auditor-General for auditing the financial statements for the reporting period	6,300	6,900

No other services were provided by the Auditor-General during the reporting period.

13. Financial Instruments

13a. Terms, conditions and accounting policies

Financial Instrument	Notes	Accounting Policies and Methods (including recognition criteria and measurement basis)	Nature of underlying instrument (including significant terms and conditions affecting the amount, timing and certainty of cash flows)
Financial assets			
		Financial assets are recognised when control over future economic benefits is established and the amount of the benefit can be reliably measured.	
Term Deposit	7c	The deposit is recognised at cost. Interest is accrued as it is earned.	The deposit is with the Insitute's bank, maturing in 1998–99 and earns an effective rate of interest at the prevailing daily rate.
Receivables for goods and services	7b	These receivables are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any provision for bad and doubtful debts. Provisions are made when collection of the debt is judged to be less rather than more likely.	Credit terms are net 7 days (1998–99: 7 days)
Financial Liabilities			
		Financial Liabilities are recognised when a present obligation to another party is entered into and the amount of the Liability can be reliably measured.	
Trade creditors	5a	Creditors and accruals are recognised at their nominal amounts, being the amounts at which the liabilities will be settled. Liabilities are recognised to the extend that the goods or services have being received (and irrespective of having being invoiced).	Settlement is usually made net 30 days.

13b. Interest Rate Risk

Financial Instrument	Note	Floating Interest Rate		Non-Interest Bearing		Total		Weighted average effective interest rate	
		1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	%	%
Financial Assets (Recognised)									
Cash	7a	415,154	393,317	—	—	415,154	393,317	2.5	2.5
Receivables	7b	—	—	1,454	737	1,454	737	n/a	n/a
Investments	7c	310,000	310,000	—	—	310,000	310,000	2.5	3.15
Total Financial Assets (Recognised)		725,154	703,317	1,454	737	726,608	704,054		
Financial Liabilities (Recognised)									
Research Projects	5b	—	—	382,674	370,294	382,674	370,294	n/a	n/a
Suppliers	5a	—	—	6,300	6,900	6,300	6,900	n/a	n/a
Total Financial Liabilities (Recognised)		—	—	388,974	377,194	388,974	377,194		

13c. Net Fair Values of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Financial Instrument	Note	1999		1998	
		Total carrying amount	Aggregate net fair value	Total carrying amount	Aggregate fair val
		\$	\$	\$	
Financial Assets (Recognised)					
Cash	7a	415,154	415,154	393,317	39
Receivables	7b	1,454	1,454	737	
Investments	7c	310,000	310,000	310,000	31
Total Financial Assets (Recognised)		726,608	726,608	704,054	70
Financial Liabilities (Recognised)					
Research Projects	5b	382,674	382,674	370,294	37
Suppliers	5a	6,300	6,300	6,900	
Total Financial Liabilities (Recognised)		388,974	388,974	377,194	37

Financial assets

The net fair values of cash, deposits, on call and non-interest-bearing monetary financial assets approximate their carrying amounts.

Financial liabilities

The net fair values for trade creditors are approximated by the carrying amounts.

13d. Credit Risk Exposures

The economic entity's maximum exposures to credit risk at reporting date in relation to each class of recognise financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

The economic entity has no significance exposures to any concentrations of credit risk.

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