

Question on Notice

No. 527

Asked on Monday, 24 April 2006

MR CHOI MP asked the Minister for Communities, Disability Services and Seniors (**MR PITT**) -

Will he advise what is being done to raise community awareness about Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month in May?

ANSWER:

This year's Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month targets people who behave violently in their relationships. This initiative aims to reduce the incidence of domestic and family violence by challenging and changing attitudes that perpetuate violence in relationships.

Activities began in Townsville on Sunday, 30 April, with the state launch of Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month.

Over \$55,000 has been allocated by the Department of Communities to assist community organisations to plan and conduct activities during the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month 2006.

These activities range from community barbecues and displays to healing camps and a family car rally – to put the prevention of domestic and family violence firmly on the public agenda.

A “Start Thinking” poster competition was also held during the Month for secondary and tertiary art students encouraging young people to start thinking about the effects of domestic and family violence.

The key messages this year's television advertisements are:

- Domestic and family violence. See the signs. Be the solution; and
- Every man must take a stand – against domestic and family violence.

As domestic and family violence is also an issue for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities a radio awareness campaign will be run to urge men to open their eyes and take a stand against domestic and family violence.

The key messages of the campaign and the call to action will be promoted through a suite of strategies, including help cards for men, posters, mini-footballs, coasters, wrist bands, stickers and balloons. These have been distributed to Domestic and Family Violence Services throughout Queensland.

In addition, the department will be distributing mini-footballs and wrist bands at a Brisbane Lions match in Brisbane on Sunday, 28 May featuring the key messages of the campaign.