

Question on Notice

No. 626

Asked on Friday, 21 April 2006

MS MALE 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:

In keeping with the government's focus on intervening early, 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.

Many activities are being held during the month beginning in Townsville on Sunday, 30 April 2006. This will herald the state launch of Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month.

Holding the launch in Townsville helped take the message of violence prevention to rural and regional Queensland.

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

The department launched an art competition for secondary and tertiary art students during the Month, encouraging youth to start thinking about the effects of domestic and family violence and distributed new Kids Help Cards to schools throughout Queensland.

Television advertisements running in May urge people who use abuse to stop and seek help.

The key messages of this campaign are:

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

Domestic and family violence is also an issue for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

To help combat the problem a radio awareness campaign urges men to open their eyes and take a stand against domestic and family violence.

The presentation of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Awards at Parliament House held on Thursday, 4 May recognised excellence in the prevention of domestic and family violence.

This year's campaign sees the largest campaign in Queensland's history to promote the prevention of domestic and family violence and the first to target perpetrators of violence.