

JAIL FREE A.C.T

SAVE \$130 MILLION

BUILD COMMUNITIES - NOT CAGES!

The 'Stanhope slammer' will

- ▼ Cost \$130 million, nearly \$1 million to house each prisoner,
- ▼ Cost \$20 million a year to run
- ▼ Divert much needed funds from schools, hospitals and housing,
- ▼ Increase crime, racism and fear of terrorism in the community.

A.C.T currently has half the imprisonment rate of the rest of Australia, as A.C.T judges reluctantly use NSW jails. *"It would also be naive to suggest that the establishment of a correctional facility would not lead to increased rates of imprisonment of ACT offenders."* (A.C.T Corrective Services web-site, April 2006)

Stanhope's Slammer will double the numbers of prisoners - doubling the damage to public safety. Currently there are 120 serving prisoners, 6 women, 60 remandees. But cells to be built for 374 prisoners!

Prisons do not increase public safety. They are colleges of crime that tear people away from their families, communities, homes and jobs and leave them less able than ever to meet their social responsibilities. Almost half return to jail within two years.

No one will be excluded from Stanhope's Slammer. Special provisions will be made for women, Aboriginal people and aged prisoners. Recognising the increase in impoverished elderly people and the link between poverty and crime, the planners anticipate *"increasing numbers of aged people incarcerated"* and have sought *"design inspiration from aged care facilities and hospitals"* www.ourcanberra.com/Alexander_Macconochie_Centre.html

COMMUNITY PROBLEMS NEED COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS.

MENTORING, CIRCLE SENTENCING AND SUPPORT HELP PEOPLE ADJUST TO A LIFE WITHOUT CRIME.

What should be done?

- ▼ Plans for the Stanhope Slammer to be immediately scrapped. The land can be used for public housing or a community centre.
- ▼ An agreement to be reached with NSW corrective services that A.C.T prisoners only be held in jails closest to A.C.T.
- ▼ A reliable, free and clean bus service to run every weekend to transport families and friends to the jails.
- ▼ Fuel and accommodation vouchers to families to support their visiting costs.

Spend the \$130 million on:

- ▼ The education system. Save the 39 schools marked to close. Let's educate our kids not imprison them.
- ▼ The housing system. The recent budget has slashed over \$7 million from Housing ACT.
- ▼ Aboriginal, homeless, substance addicted and mentally ill A.C.T residents.
- ▼ A 'drug court' to divert those who offend due to addiction away from prison and into rehab.
- ▼ A 'mental health court' to ensure that those who offend due to mental illness get proper support in dealing with their affliction.
- ▼ Community based programs for domestic violence and sex offenders.
- ▼ Crime conferencing and circle sentencing programs
- ▼ Mentoring programs for offenders and those at risk
- ▼ Greater use of community service orders
- ▼ Bail houses for remandees and halfway houses for those in NSW jails to be release to.
- ▼ Post release support for ACT prisoners.

EDUCATE DON'T INCARCERATE

NO PRISON FOR THE ACT!

JAIL FREE A.C.T.

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