

JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM —SELF-RESPECT AND SELF-ESTEEM PROGRAMS

498. Mr P. Papalia to the Minister for Corrective Services

- (1) What specific programs (as opposed to the normal daily structure of discipline, schooling and work) are employed within the juvenile custodial system to develop character, self-respect, respect for others and self-esteem and;
 - (a) what analysis is conducted of these programs?
- (2) What programs tailored specifically to indigenous offenders are provided to juvenile offenders in the juvenile detention system and;
 - (a) what analysis of these programs is undertaken?

Mr C.C. PORTER replied:

- (1) Juvenile Custodial Services provides a range of programs which focus on developing self respect and self esteem. These include Conflict Resolution, Protective Behaviours, Sexual Education, Healthy Relationships, Drug and Alcohol information sessions along with drug and alcohol intervention/prevention, recreational programmes such as Army Cadets, Horticulture, Yoga, Hip Hop Dance, Music, Art and Crafts plus a range of sporting activities.

Youth Personal Development Programs are also available along with programs to develop vocational skills and employability and to develop life skills to adapt to successful community living. All young people are assessed by the psychologist on admission and an individually tailored intervention is implemented with each of them to address offending and the psychological underpinnings of such.

 - (a) Program evaluation and analysis includes:
 - The use of a therapeutic feedback form at the end of the programme which assesses participant engagement and response to the group.
 - Regular review of the program with regard to effectiveness and to ensure content is in accordance with the latest academic research.
 - Obtaining program ratification by indigenous experts due to the large proportion of indigenous youth who are engaged in the programs.
- (2) All programs are specifically designed to be suitable for and engage indigenous people. The department has recently developed an Aboriginal Impact Framework, which requires that all programs be ratified and of a standard defined by the Aboriginal Policy division.

All program development includes consultation and, where possible co-facilitation with an indigenous professional. Programs are interactive, engaging and they take into account the specific qualities of indigenous young people, whilst at the same time not disadvantaging the non-indigenous participants.

 - (a) See response for (1)(a).