



### **HOLED CHILD**

The seventh and final topic of the series "Agenda for Children Revisited" addresses the text for "Whole Child Approach". The concept was to promote a comprehensive approach to bring individual government agencies to work closely together. The outcome should be an improvement in the wellbeing of children. The issues are explored.

LINK: <http://www.acya.org.nz/?t=105>

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### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

*Young Offenders (Serious Crimes ) Bill*

The Law and Order Select Committee has examined the Bill and recommends it not be passed. ACYA is pleased with this decision as the Bill was in clear contravention of the UN Convention on the Rights of the child.

*Corrections (Mothers with babies) Bill*

The Law and Order Select Committee recommends that the bill be passed with the amendments shown. ACYA is pleased with this decision.

*Children, Young persons and their Families Amendment Bill (No 6) 183-1*

Although there are a number of amendments the important one from ACYA point of view is the one that will include 17 year olds within the framework of the Act. This has been an issue for several years and will meet a specific recommendation of the 1997 and 2003 UN Convention Committee.

### **ADOPTION UPDATE**

Robert Ludbrook has provided us with Newsletter No3 for 2007 giving an up date on matters relating to adoption reform.

LINK: <http://www.acya.org.nz/?t=45>

### **BARNARDOS NEW ZEALAND**

Vision: In Aotearoa New Zealand, childhood is valued and each child's hope and potential are nurtured. The annual Report is now available.

### *Advocacy*

A leading position in the successful repeal of S 59 Crimes Act, submissions on Young Offenders Bill and Corrections (Mothers and Babies ) Bill, and evident support for the newly established Every Child Counts coalition.

### *Child & Family Services*

Barnardos is responsible for a number of child related support services: Children's Contact Services, Demand management, Family Support Service, Footsteps to Feeling Safe, Foster Care, numerous family support programmes.

### *Early Childhood Education & Care Services*

OSCAR, several Early Learning Centres, KidStart are the more import aspects of this work.

With assets of \$17 million and revenue of \$41million this is a substantive organisation caring for our children's wellbeing. Another excellent year.

LINK: <http://www.barnardos.org.nz/home/index.asp>

### **CHILDREN AND MEDICAL CONSENT**

Another interesting article by Robert Ludbrook on the complexities for children and their right to give informed consent.

LINK: <http://www.acya.org.nz/?t=45>

### **HOLIDAY WISHES**

It's been a successful year for those involved in Child Rights issues. There is still much to be done to minimise the damage to children's lives. In 2008 the Government report to the UN Committee. It will be a demanding time.

**To all our associates we hope you have a lovely holiday season.**

Best wishes

ACYA

12 December 2007

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email us at [feedback@acya.org.nz](mailto:feedback@acya.org.nz)