



National Indigenous Television

MEDIA ALERT

NITV GETS CURRENT ON KEY INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS IN MOMENTUM'S “BOYS BEHIND BARS”

EXCLUSIVE TO NITV

TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER @ 8.30PM EST OR 5.30PM WST

In an exclusive television first interview, The President of W.A's Children's Court **Judge Denis Reynolds** reveals his views on why so many children are living behind bars in the second upcoming episode of **Momentum on Tuesday 10 November @ 8.30pm EST or 5.30pm WST only on NITV.**

In the second instalment of one of the country's newest Current Affairs programs, **Momentum**, Julie Nimmo interviews Judge Reynolds along with Aboriginal families, the W.A Attorney General, the police, the Aboriginal Legal Service, representatives from rehabilitation programs, the Nyoongar Night Patrol workers, and a wide selection of Aboriginal youth, including some who are actually in detention. She poses the question of why so many Indigenous children are incarcerated and what has led to this tragic reality for so many youth? Is this a problem with Aboriginal families, or is it the fault of heavy handed police practices, mandatory sentencing, harsh courts or overzealous 'tough on crime' politicians?

In Western Australia, the number of children in state custody has steadily risen over the last 15 years. Today, W.A has the highest rate of Aboriginal children incarcerated, in proportion to the Aboriginal population, in the country.

In W.A Aboriginal people comprise of 3.5% of the total population, and yet during August 2009, Aboriginal children made up 72% of the juvenile detention centre population. The statistics for Aboriginal adult men and women incarcerated are also alarmingly high, and are at 40% and 47% respectively. However these figures still pale in comparison to the devastating statistic for Aboriginal children locked up in this state.

In this alarming next instalment of **Momentum, Boys Behind Bars**, CEO of the **Aboriginal Legal Services W.A. Dennis Eglington** calls for the **Attorney General The Hon Christian Porter** to resign if these statistics don't decrease.

The Attorney General's response may surprise audiences.

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Go behind the scenes of W.A.'s nightlife in Northbridge to see children arrested, visit an actual youth detention centre on a disturbing tour from the inside and meet the people who hold the power to make change with **Julie Nimmo and Momentum team**, only on **NITV, Tuesday 11 November @ 8.30pm EST or 5.30pm WST.**

NITV's Momentum is a fresh look at Current Affairs from an Indigenous perspective for all Australians. It's television for those who believe in the power of the people to make positive change, even in the midst of crisis.

NITV is broadcast free to air in various metropolitan and regional areas nationally, as well as via Channel 180 on Foxtel, Austar and Optus. Please refer to the website for full tune in details - www.nitv.org.au

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