

# Aware

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

## In this issue

Welcome to the fourteenth edition of *ACSSA Aware*, the quarterly newsletter of the Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault, containing news, articles, reviews and notices for those working in the sexual assault field in Australia.

This edition contains two feature articles. "Sexual pressure and young people's negotiation of consent", by Anastasia Powell, which discusses young women and men's perceptions and experiences of negotiating sexual encounters in contemporary Australia. It is based on research with young people, part of an ongoing study. "Judging rape: Public attitudes and sentencing", by ACSSA's Haley Clark, discusses average sentences for sexual assaults, and connects public attitudes towards sexual assault, and the influence of myths and stereotypes, to sentencing decision-making.

Our usual "News in Brief" section contains overviews of recently released reports and events both here and overseas. We also provide a review of a seminar on specialist courts in Australia.

For our "Service Profile", we look at the Preventing Prisoner Rape Project in Adelaide, South Australia, one of the services in Adelaide that address the sexual assault of prisoners in SA. The profile consists of an interview with David Denborough, one of the Project's instigators.

We also review some recently released books, *Real rape, real pain*, on intimate partner rape by Patricia Easteal and Louise McOrmond-Plummer (which some of you may have already read news about in *ACSSA Aware*) and *The macho paradox*, by Jackson Katz, a book about how men should make a commitment to ending all violence against women. As well as these, we also provide a review of a recently released film *Book of revelation*.

Finally, there are our regular columns on conferences and training as well as literature highlights from recent additions to the ACSSA library collection at the Australian Institute of Family Studies.

As always, ACSSA remains keen to receive feedback on how we can better meet the needs of those committed to working against sexual assault, so please continue to provide us with your comments on current or future publications. If this is the first issue of *Aware* you've read, earlier editions can be requested via email or by returning the form on the back page of this issue. Also, all our publications are freely available online at [www.aifs.gov.au/acssa](http://www.aifs.gov.au/acssa).

We hope you find this newsletter informative, helpful, and inspiring.

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