

July 10, 2009

Media Statement

Commissioner supports Fitzroy Valley Aboriginal women's fight to maintain alcohol restrictions

The WA Equal Opportunity Commissioner, Yvonne Henderson, today gave her support to the Fitzroy Valley Aboriginal women in their fight to maintain alcohol restrictions in their community.

The Commissioner, who is attending the week long Women's Bush Meeting at Wamali Springs said "the women's strength and determination is inspirational."

"The women have been clear that they want the restrictions to continue.

They want a better future for their children and they recognize the damage caused to their community by alcohol".

The Commissioner said the women spoke of the decreased violence in Fitzroy Crossing, better school attendance, and hope for reduction in Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder in their children.

"These women have the right to live without violence and to ensure the safety and good health of their children - these are fundamental human rights." Ms Henderson said.

**FOR ADDITIONAL COMMENT: Commissioner Yvonne Henderson
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