

## ABSTRACT

### PRESENTATION

#### ADDRESSING ISSUES OF FAMILY VIOLENCE IN A REMOTE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY USING AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH

Family violence in remote aboriginal communities has been a hot topic in the media over the past year, and intermittently prior to that. It has become clear that attempts at intervention have not only been under-resourced but also largely unsuccessful. This presentation will tell the story of the beginnings of a project in a small remote community in the Midwest of Western Australia which commenced late in 2006. The project began with discussions with people who live at the community and listening to their concerns. Arising from this, a weekend Festival was held at the Community in March 2007. This has proved to be a useful stepping stone to on-going subsequent work with the Community on issues of violence utilising a variety of approaches.

This presentation will describe the project in detail and be illustrated by photographs taken at the Festival.

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Brief CV details:

I have worked as a Community Corrections Officer for over 4 years and as a Senior Clinical Intervention Officer in Sex Offender Treatment Programs for approximately 12 years. I commenced working as a Regional Programs Development Officer in June 2006 which involves travelling to remote aboriginal communities and towns to address issues of family violence and sexual abuse.

I have a Bachelor of Social Work and a Master's degree in Art Therapy.

I have delivered numerous training workshops to colleagues and staff from other agencies and delivered a workshop to the PACCOA conference in 2006.