

To Chairman: **Senator Corry Bernardi**,

Re: Submission to the Mens' Health Senate Inquiry.

I have worked with men and mens' groups since 1985 when I read a book encouraging men to maximise their potential etc.

I have attended various mens' health & welfare forums in the Fed Parliament building.

At one such forum a woman speaker had been invited to speak to us on the issue of mens' needs. She challenged us as to why we didn't have a Fed Minister representing men the way do. Therefore it's high time that the men of Australia had the same ministerial office as women do.

It is time the Parliament considered action for men in the following areas:

unequal mortality rates, nutrition, exercise, emotional well being, spiritual well being, harm prevention, work safety issues, accidents, homicides, drug, alcohol, gambling addiction, sexual addiction, shocking men's suicide rate, families, children, marriage, friendship, men friendly counseling services, men friendly health services, government support services, family law court, child support agency, the epidemic of false sex abuse claims, grandfathers access rights, legal discrimination against men, societal discrimination against men, the need to keep the word father in government legislation along with the word mother, father friendly government services, fatherhood education services, domestic violence bias in government advertising, overtime demands, work life balance issues, fly in fly out issues, unemployment issues, a Mens Shed movement, fatherhood support services, boys education, mentoring for boys, lack of rites of passage for men and boys, Aboriginal Mens health, mens incarceration rates, Inequity in government expenditures between men and women at all levels of government and the continuing discrimination men get at the hands of the so called Human Rights Commission. Men are the largest minority group 49.4% in Australia but probably the most neglected and the most silent.

All of the above impact on Mens health in a direct or indirect way.

It is time for action not another research, survey excercise where people use it for academic self promotion or political gain etc.

**Yours Faithfully
Richard Holloway**