

DECEIVE
31/10/05

The committee Manager
Committee on Children and Young People
Parliament House
MacQuarie Street
Sydney 2000

Dear Ms Minnican,

A few years ago whilst travelling down to the south coast we had to call in to Nowra on a Friday night to get money from an ATM

The streets were full of kids in their teens and earlier just hanging around with not much to do. On our way out of the town we passed a club which was lit up like a beacon and full of adults drinking and playing.

The point is that adults are able to use their money to set up facilities for themselves.

On a recent Sunday I took my two children for a game of golf at the Canterbury Council Golf Course. We were refused entry and it was quite obvious that the culture is not family friendly but rather favours groups of men, a visit will confirm this, I didn't see any children or families playing.

We do tend to organise children into sessions and organised sport but I think this only serves to keep the kids out of the way of adults and I think it will be far better if we fully integrate the kids into our leisure activities.

As a start we should encourage councils and clubs to adopt inclusive family friendly policies and ^{not} exclude children and families.

I think your committee is a great idea and I hope you do some good.



Yours Sincerely
Ian Mason