



Legislative Council
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2

**INQUIRY INTO BULLYING OF
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

Ms Robyn Parker MLC, Chair of NSW Parliament's General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2, has announced the commencement of an inquiry into best practice approaches to reduce bullying of children and young people.

According to Ms Parker, the Inquiry was prompted by an anecdotal increase in bullying, especially bullying in schools, and the emergence of new threats such as cyber bullying.

'Bullying can have a lifelong impact on people. Humiliation, abuse and trauma in the school-yard can result in poor classroom performance, poor self-esteem and social isolation. As students and families who have experienced bullying know, students can be bullied for just about anything,' Ms Parker said.

'Unfortunately, bullying can start at a very young age, with cases reported even among preschool aged children. Bullying can also occur in work environments and therefore this Inquiry includes apprentices and trainees under 18 years of age.'

'We will investigate the extent and impact of bullying, as well as prevention and early intervention measures to address it. We will also examine successful approaches to address bullying in Australia and overseas, and the evidence-base for these approaches.'

'It is important to point out that this Inquiry is not intended to investigate specific instances of bullying of children and young people,' Ms Parker said.

The Committee invites written submissions with a closing date of **Friday 13 March 2009** and will hold public hearings after this date.

Submissions can be provided to:

- Email – gpscno2@parliament.nsw.gov.au
- Website – www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc2
- Mail – The Director, General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2, Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

*For comment please contact Ms Robyn Parker MLC, Committee Chair, on
(02) 9230 3332 or 0427 015 049*