

**Submission  
No 5**

## **INQUIRY INTO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRENDS AND ISSUES IN NSW**

**Organisation:** St Vincent de Paul Society NSW

**Date received:** 30/08/2011

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The St Vincent de Paul Society NSW ('the Society') offers comment on items 1, 2 and 3 of the Inquiry's Terms of Reference (TOR). Regarding TOR 1a, more peer reviewed research on the effectiveness of GPS bracelets is required. In relation to TOR 1 and 1b, the Society observes the majority of ADVO breaches are not enforced, penalties are not given, and court and police practices are inconsistent. To redress these issues, the Society endorses certain 'key actions' identified in the NSW Domestic and Family Violence Action Plan (NSW Gov, DPC, June 2010); specifically: items 21, 23, 26, 27, 29, 33, 35, 67 and 68 (pp.37-59). Concerning TOR 2, the Society again endorses the existing Action Plan strategies. Regarding TOR 3, anecdotally the Society has encountered several women wrongfully subject to police action for the reasons stated. A greater emphasis on understanding of patterns of abuse and control characteristic of domestic and family violence would aid in discerning actual perpetrators.