

## ABOUT US:

### Trust Vision

Our vision is to see New Zealand become a place where our children:

- are safe from harm;
- have a sense of belonging, of feeling loved and valued;
- have access to the necessities they need to engage fully with life and realize their own unique potential.

### Trust Mission

We aim to be a "voice" for the "voiceless".

We do this through **educating, promoting and raising awareness** of the **wellbeing** of our **children** in New Zealand and the need for **strong families** and **communities** to support them.

## CONTACT US

'For the Sake of Our Children' Trust

### Office Address:

419 Church Street East  
Penrose 1061, Auckland

### Postal Address:

PO Box 12301  
Penrose 1642, Auckland

P: +64 (09) 579 3208

F: +64 (09) 579 3407

E: [rachel@forourchildren.org.nz](mailto:rachel@forourchildren.org.nz)



## Ethnic label attached to child abuse - *Susan Pepperell*

Over half of New Zealanders polled in a recent survey, believe the cause of child abuse is ethnically based.

Research New Zealand, last month conducted a survey on how New Zealanders view the causes of child abuse. The study asked respondents to rank the factors they believed most contributed to the problem.

Just over half of the 503 people polled said child abuse was a cultural issue, while parental experience and economic factors shared equal status at about a third each (people were able to nominate multiple factors).

Anthea Simcock, chief executive and founder of Child Matters, said there was no "silver bullet" that could solely explain child abuse.

"Child abuse is very complex and has a complex set of causes. Rather than understanding the complexity, people find it easier to sim-



plify the reasons it happens," she said.

Simcock did not agree with the survey results, but was not surprised by them.

Respondents who said they believed child abuse was more of a cultural issue were more likely to be aged 55 or over and receiving an annual income of \$80,000 or more.

On average, one child is killed every five weeks in New Zealand, with most being less than a year old.

Statistics also show that 9000 children born each year are categorised as being at risk of abuse.

Simcock's organisation is a Hamilton-based charitable trust dedicated to stopping violence against children. The organisation runs nationwide training programmes aimed at improving the skills and confidence of people who work with children.

**To read full article visit:**  
[www.forourchildren.org.nz](http://www.forourchildren.org.nz)

## Aspiring Leaders Forum July 2011

Excitement was in the air as we embarked on the 6th Annual Aspiring Leaders' Forum (ALF). The 106 delegates were an outstanding group and represented a broad range of communities around NZ.

After months of planning, the stage was set for young leaders to come together to discuss the values that underpin great leadership.

To commence, a Powhiri in Parliament, was conducted

followed by 'Question Time'. ALF was honoured to have Hon Paula Bennett (National) and David Shearer (Labour) welcome us on behalf of Hon Bill English and Phil Goff.

Their stories of their experiences of leadership gave the delegates a glimpse as to what they could expect over the next few days.

Each year a MP panel is included and this year it comprised of Tim Macindoe (National), Jacinda Ardern

(Labour) and Gareth Hughes (Green Party). The 106 delegates were privileged to hear candid and real accounts of what leadership looks like for these MPs.

Following this was a time where 28 MPs hosted a small group in their office. This was a great opportunity for our delegates to have some "off the record" time, and ask the curly questions.

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**A WORD FROM**



Chairman and Founder - John Sax

At the Trust we are now working to develop various strategies with partners

To deliver specific social outcomes based on great leadership from existing and aspiring leaders.

One of our key roles is to critically examine social policies having a negative impact on families and children and then communicate to our political leaders what we the Trust would like to see considered in this year's election policies.

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November is an important day. New Zealanders will identify and vote for our future leaders of this Nation. We must make sure such leaders are courageous and speak up about what is right for our children, family prosperity and marriage.

Right now the Rugby World Cup is all we can think about with our biggest hopes at the moment being: the All Blacks winning the Webb Ellis Cup. After the final match, it'll be a sprint to the finish line for our political leaders to win votes.

VALUE your vote KNOW your electorate leaders and ENGAGE with what each Political Party is seeking to achieve which will impact you, our children, our families.

When we lift the Cup this weekend, our next biggest challenge is voting in leaders who will transform NZ for the better over the next 3 years. I am always hopeful!

Aroha nui,  
John Sax

**FORUM FOR CHILDREN: Tuesday 30th October 2011**

*The Trust is pleased to have delivered a very successful Forum for our Children at the Northern Club, Auckland City.*

The purpose of the Forum held Tuesday 30th September was to hear from leaders in their field of expertise provide a guiding voice and insight of what is ideally best for our children to prosper and become good contributing citizens of New Zealand.

The speakers from very different backgrounds each delivered with heart and passion for our children and families addressed key issues and recommendations to empower our political, business and community leaders to impact social policy development and welfare reforms.

Our speakers were:  
Dr Teuila Percival QSO, MBChB, FRACP Head of Pacific Health, Auckland University *"A medical perspective on the realities of child abuse and neglect for our New Zealand families and how we can effect change"*

Mr Willie Jackson, CEO Manukau Urban Maori Authority (MUMA), Broadcaster and Maori Leader *"The 'how to?' for Maori children and families to fare better is good for New Zealand as a Nation"*

Mr Bob McCroskie, Family First National Director *"What the research really says about child abuse and why family structure matters"*.

The feedback from the event was very positive. For many in

the audience it was the first time to hear from each speaker.

The general feedback was that it was very good to hear from different speakers who brought a very different perspective on key issues concerning our children and suggested recommendations. The audience had the opportunity during Q&A time to further enquire and find more answers.

The Trust hopes to deliver a similar Forum next year but will work to leverage of the success of this one continue the dialogue with our supporters.

**A Girl Called Hope**

Young women who face abuse, depression, eating disorders, addictions, self harm and unplanned pregnancy is the target of this non-profit organisation, *A Girl Called Hope*.

Grounded on Christian principles the organisation offers a 6-month programme free of charge for women aged 16 to 28 years old.

Equipped with life principles, social skills, nutrition and fitness training – The programme reaches all aspects in a young women's life and this covers physical, spiritual and emotional issues.

The Organisation's main goal is to see young women restored to full health; to discover the purpose for

their lives and to bring value to their world as productive and thriving individuals.

Founded by Nancy Alcorn in America back in 1983. Having a background in dealing with troubled youth, Alcorn gained insight into the reasons why social problems exist, particularly in the lives of young women.

*A Girl Called Hope* made home to New Zealand in

August, 2007 as they took their first intake of young women in. They currently have eight young women in residence.

The organisation runs the Walk for Hope fundraiser, where all proceeds goes towards their cause to help young women.

For more info go to [www.agirlcalledhope.org.nz](http://www.agirlcalledhope.org.nz)



## Effective and Loving Parenting Techniques

### Loving Parenting Tip #1- Show Love

Children need to be shown and told they're loved. Each and everyday, numerous times a day, tell your children you love them. Take them in your arms and hug them, kiss them, and tell them how special they are to you.

### Loving Parenting Tip #2- Praise

Children need to know you recognize when they do something well. When you catch your child doing something good, tell them you are proud of them and that you notice how wonderful they are.

### Loving Parenting Tip #3- Listen

It is so important our children are heard. Even if they are wrong or unreasonable, listen to them. It doesn't mean you give into them, but listening tells your children you think they are important and you are interested in their feelings and what they are saying.

### Loving Parenting Tip #4- Show Your Children They Are Safe

When your child is scared or hesitant, give them comfort and let them know you are always there to protect them.

### Loving Parenting Tip #5- Structure

In order to feel safe and to learn boundaries, children need a regular schedule of meals, naps, bedtimes, and other activities. Try posting a schedule where your children can view it as well as making clear the family rules and what consequences will take place should they break those rules.

### Loving Parenting Tip #6- Consistency

Family Rules need to be clear and consistent. Both parents must enforce the same rules and it must be done all the time.

## Mitigating the risk of men's violence against women increasing during the Rugby World Cup 2011.

As New Zealand comes to the end of hosting the 3rd largest sporting event –The Rugby World Cup, we are now approaching the finals so things will now begin to heat up both on the field and off the field.

The article '*Mitigating the risk of men's violence against women increasing during the Rugby World Cup 2011*' by Debbie Hager and Diane Woollen Neville highlights the link between major sporting events and increased sexual, physical and emotional violence against women.

This link can be explained in two ways: the hyper-masculinity and resulting peer behaviours associated with some team sports and the excessive alcohol consumption that occurs "*My Mummy's A Criminal*"

during and after the game match.

I am a huge rugby fan since I can remember, growing up and watching rugby on television was always a happy gathering (and still is) with my siblings, parents and sometimes with extended family.

As a rugby-mad Nation, what we cannot ignore is the copious amounts of alcohol that is likely to be consumed over the course of the world cup and the subsequent impact that this could have on family violence, abuse and neglect.

The report cites evidence of increased levels of violence, abuse and neglect during major sporting events.

Recommendations have been

made in this report with respect to advertising, policing, venue safety, safety of children and young people and a number of other areas.

The Government will need to take up these recommendations to ensure that any risk of increased violence particularly within the family and towards children is mitigated during this time especially as our Nation already is gearing itself up for an amazing period in history (especially if we win the Webb Ellis Cup!).

**If you wish to read the full report go to [www.forourchildren.org](http://www.forourchildren.org)**

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This is definitely the part of the forum where many eyes are opened, not only to the realities of life in Parliament, but to the personal values and beliefs which have propelled MPs to get to where they are today.



Above: Joanna Overall & 2011 ALF young leaders

The keynote speaker for the banquet dinner in the Beehive was Sir Michael Hill who shared his insights of his journey into leadership, with strong memories and how each shaped his attitude towards life. He encouraged delegates to aim high to achieve success.

All keynote speakers allowed delegates to see an in-depth picture of the journey and struggles which they faced in their lives - an

in-depth picture than what is usually portrayed in the public arena. Greg Fleming, Trustee of Aspiring Leaders' Forum, brought all the threads together in the last keynote session.

For the Sake of Our Children Trust and Nautilus Foundation were pleased to have been involved in facilitating this Forum and also supporting six young leaders to attend.

2011 brought together young leaders who are passionate, concerned and courageous enough to make a difference in NZ. We hope the connections made will last the test of time and help ensure their success.

### Keynote speakers at ALF Forum 2011

MP Speakers: Hon Paula Bennett (MP for Waitakere, National) & David Shearer (MP for Mt Albert, Labour)

*Sir Michael Hill - Jewellery Store entrepreneur, violinist, philanthropist, golf course owner, farmer and best-selling author.*

*Nicola Bell- CEO of Saatchi & Saatchi New Zealand*

*Marcus Akuhata-Brown - Consultant for Tukaha Global Consultancy, teacher and communicator*

*Rangi McLean- Kaumatua, Trustee on many trusts and boards.*

*Greg Fleming- founding and current Trustee of the Aspiring Leaders' Forum, CEO Maxim Institute*

## Upcoming Events

**Saturday 22nd October 2011**  
National Make a Difference Day

This is your opportunity to 'seize the moment' to improve your community through volunteer service.

**Sunday 23rd October 2011**  
Rugby World Cup Final  
Eden Park, 9.00pm



**Thursday 27th October 2011**  
Trust Board meeting, 1pm  
Auckland Office

**Saturday 26th November 2011**  
NZ Election Day

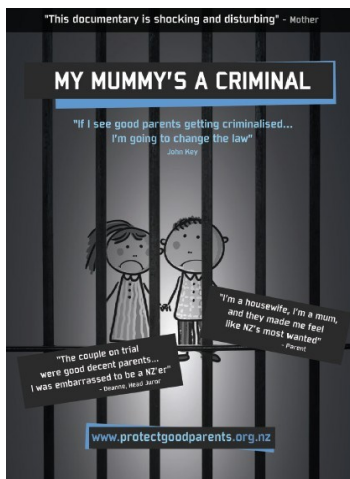
## Bits & Pieces

*The Trust were pleased to send 40 families and their children to see the Live Pantomime: Beauty and the Beast in support of the Burns Support Unit.*

*The Trust were pleased to support the Annual West Melton Plunket Event held in Christchurch last month. The evening was a huge success!*



## Film Review: 'My Mummy's a Criminal' -A must see!



highlights five families who have been criminalised as a result of the anti-smacking law, in direct contradiction to the claims, promises and reassurances made by the Prime Minister, psychologist Nigel Latta, police and Child Youth and Family.

Quotes from the documentary include:

*"The couple on trial were good decent parents...I was embarrassed to be a NZ'er"*  
– Head Juror

*"I'm a housewife, I'm a mum, and they made me feel like NZ's most wanted."*

*"Our family has been ripped apart because of the anti-smacking law."*

*"The only abuse that's happened to our kids has been having to go through this process."*

The documentary includes interviews with the head juror of one of the cases which lasted two weeks in

court (with a full acquittal),

and the older daughter of a solo dad who says that her younger sister used the anti-smacking law to 'get' her dad.

The documentary contains concrete evidence that the Prime Minister's review of the smacking law carried

out by Nigel Latta, the Police Commissioner, and the head of CYF contained glaring errors including:

- misrepresented basic facts by leaving out material information
- factually wrong in some cases
- contained the alleged actions of parents which were found to have no basis in court but which still presents the parent as being abusive,
- failed to take into account the response of the court including discharges without conviction for what were previously claimed as serious assaults.

This is the report which the Prime Minister has relied upon to defend himself against criticism of his lack of inaction after the overwhelming rejection of the law in the Referendum.

A senior Wellington lawyer featured in the documentary describes the Latta review as a 'rubber stamping' process and argues that the 'net' has been cast too wide and the anti-

smacking law is penalising

good families.

A Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Law at Auckland University explains the meaning of 'criminalisation', and warns parents that any smacking could land them in trouble with the police or CYF.

Reviewers of the documentary say

*"This documentary is shocking and disturbing."*

*"This is a wake-up call to NZ parents about the danger of the anti-smacking law to good parents."*

*"Every kiwi parent needs to watch this."*

"We would encourage every NZ'er to view this documentary and judge for themselves whether the anti-smacking law is damaging to good families and is a distraction from tackling actual child abuse," says Family First NZ National Director Bob McCoskrie.

If you wish to purchase a copy please go to [www.familyfirst.org.nz](http://www.familyfirst.org.nz).

