



MEDIA RELEASE

21st Annual Silent Domestic Violence Memorial March ' JUSTICE FOR SAORI JONES'

Outrage continues in relation to the killing of Saori Jones, a loving mother of two young children who was brutally killed last December by her violent ex-partner. Her body was deliberately concealed by the perpetrator until the Police finally discovered it some 10 days later. The Women's Council's call to the Department of Public Prosecutions for an Appeal has been denied; and public concern about the leniency of the sentence downgrading of the original charges of manslaughter to that of 'unlawful assault causing death' continues!

On Wednesday 23rd November 2011 hundreds of victim's families, friends and concerned community members will gather for the 21st Domestic Violence Memorial March to be held at Stirling Gardens, Perth commencing at 11.00am, to mourn the deaths of nine women, men and children who have lost their lives this year in WA as a result of domestic homicide.

"The JUSTICE FOR SAORI JONES campaign gives voice to all women and children who do not see justice in life or in death...Who will speak for the silent witnesses that suffer domestic terrorism in their own homes each day...and who will speak for those who are not here to tell their truth such as Saori Jones?" said Women's Council's CEO, Angela Hartwig

The Women's Council is calling on the State Government to urgently review current laws, particularly in relation to s281 Criminal Code 'unlawful assault causing death' as they believe this charge should not apply in cases where it can be established that there has been a history of physical violence and abuse. The nature of this charge implies that a one-off momentary act of violence has caused the death, and does not appropriately reflect the history and circumstances of the crime. These charges have been laid in cases that concern the violent deaths of women and children by reason of domestic and family violence.

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