

# Upping the Anti

a workshop presented by SACOSS and YACSA



In South Australia, there is increasing interest in introducing anti-social behaviour orders and other measures to manage 'disruptive behaviour'. HousingSA is at the forefront of these initiatives, with the introduction of new, more punitive measures in response to disruptive tenancies. More recently, the Attorney-General has announced that legislation to introduce anti-social behaviour orders in South Australia is pending.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) has been operating for some time in the UK, as well as other jurisdictions, and many governments around Australia are looking to the UK in developing their own ASBO models. However, the success and effectiveness of ASBOs is hotly contested, with many advocates claiming that ASBOs exacerbate, rather than curb, anti-social behaviour.

The SA Council of Social Service (SACOSS) and the Youth Affairs Council of SA (YACSA), in partnership with Shelter SA and Homelessness SA, are hosting a half-day workshop to discuss anti-social behaviour orders, their use in managing disruptive behaviour and their appropriateness in the South Australian context.

## Presentations:

*The Tenure Trick: Behaviour Control Creeps across Australia*  
**Michele Slatter**, School of Law, Flinders University

*Anti-social Behaviour in Australia and England: convergence or divergence in policy approaches?*  
**Caroline Hunter**, Guest Scholar, School of Law, Flinders University and Senior Lecturer in Housing Law, Sheffield Hallam University, UK

*Socially unacceptable: better frameworks for responding to anti-social behaviour*  
**Jennifer Duncan**, Executive Director, YACSA and **Karen Grogan**, Executive Director, SACOSS

**Held on Friday, 24 August, from 9.00 a.m. for a 9.15 a.m. start, to 1 p.m.  
at Marjorie Black House, 47 King William Road, Unley**

## Registration costs:

Individuals\* and community organisations - \$10

Government organisations - \$25

\*Personal cheques and credit cards only are accepted for payment of individual registration



## Program

- 9.00 Registration
- 9.15 Opening and welcome
- 9.30 ***The Tenure Trick: Behaviour Control Creeps across Australia***  
**Michele Slatter, School of Law, Flinders University**

Since 1995 neighbours in SA have had the right to apply for the eviction of 'anti-social' tenants. This applies whether the tenants are in public, private or community rental properties. It's proved a problematic right in practice.. Nevertheless, it has been much admired in some quarters and in 2006 was reproduced in the Northern Territory. Although its approach is unique, the provision anticipated an increasing focus on tenant behaviour that's been seen increasingly as tenancy laws across Australia have been amended in recent years.

This presentation considers the risk of 'eviction through behaviour' that now characterises tenancies across Australia and ponders the implications in a time when rental is increasingly the tenure of no-choice.

- 10.30 ***Anti-social Behaviour in Australia and England: convergence or divergence in policy approaches?***  
**Caroline Hunter, Guest Scholar, School of Law, Flinders University and Senior Lecturer in Housing Law, Sheffield Hallam University, UK**

The presentation will start with an analysis of the growth of legal developments in the UK to tackle ASB and the criticisms which have been made to this enforcement led approach. How far these have been adopted in Australia will be briefly examined.

The second half of the presentation will focus on the different professional and practitioner responses in England, South Australia and other states in Australia and conclude with some questions about whether the UK approach is appropriate and will "catch-on" in Australia.

- 11.30 ***Socially unacceptable: better frameworks for responding to anti-social behaviour***  
**Jennifer Duncan, Executive Director, YACSA and Karen Grogan, Executive Director, SACOSS**

YACSA and SACOSS will present the background to anti-social behaviour orders and their operation in a range of international jurisdictions. The presentation will address the anticipated, and unanticipated consequences of ASBOS, particularly their impact on vulnerable groups such as young people, those experiencing mental health issues and those from diverse backgrounds.

The latter section of the presentation will be used to workshop constructive approaches to anti-social behaviour and a better model for responding to anti-social behaviour in the South Australian context.

- 12.30 Closing and refreshments

**To register, please complete the section below and forward to SACOSS by e-mail at [sacoss@sacoss.org.au](mailto:sacoss@sacoss.org.au) or by fax on 8272 9500.**

**For queries or further information, please contact [sacoss@sacoss.org.au](mailto:sacoss@sacoss.org.au) or telephone 8305 4222.**

### Registration for Anti-social behaviour orders and housing – Upping the Anti

Mr / Ms / Mrs / Miss / Dr / Prof / Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
Last name \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_  
Organisation \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact address \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Special requirements (diet/access etc) \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration fee:** Complete details below for credit payments, or please send cheque or money order payable to the South Australian Council of Social Service to 47 King William Road, Unley SA 5061. Please tick payment as appropriate:

Individuals\*/community organisation - \$10

Government organisation - \$25

\*Personal cheques and credit cards only are accepted for payment of individual registration

Visa Mastercard American Express Card number ...../...../...../.....

Expiry date (month/year) ...../..... Cardholder's name .....

Signature .....