

The National Drug Research Institute invites you to

Sex, sutures and school assemblies: Better or worse post liquor restrictions?

*Free public seminar with
Grant Akesson,
Manager of Community Programs,
WA Drug and Alcohol Office*

**Thursday 19 May, 2011
2pm**

National Drug Research Institute Seminar Room
Curtin University Health Research Campus,
Level 2, 10 Selby Street, Shenton Park, WA

Reduce the availability of alcohol and experience (common sense) tells us that we will also reduce some of the more directly related harms: alcohol related presentations to the ED, alcohol related assaults and domestic violence, etc. But what about some of the less predictable and negative impacts? Do restrictions reduce or increase the rate of STIs, drink driving and illicit drug use? Are more people now drinking in licensed venues and what issues is this causing? This presentation identifies some of the less predictable and negative impacts of restrictions in Halls Creek and Fitzroy Crossing and, where possible, provides some explanation for these outcomes.

Grant Akesson has worked in the WA public sector for 20 years - the first 10 as a physical education teacher and secondary school deputy principal, and the second 10 in the alcohol and other drug prevention field. As Manager of Community Programs at the WA Drug and Alcohol Office, Grant's work includes engaging with communities and agencies at a national, state, regional and local level to support a coordinated and collaborative approach to reducing alcohol and other drug related harms. Over the past 5 years, Grant has worked alongside agency and community members in Fitzroy Crossing and Halls Creek to support the community in addressing their own local issues. This includes the development and running of alcohol management plans and committees, development of targeted prevention and treatment programs, and undertaking evaluations into impacts of the restrictions. Grant's interests specifically focus around determining what makes for sustainable and positive change in the culture of alcohol use within rural and remote communities.

RSVP to (08) 9266 1600 or ndri@curtin.edu.au by Wednesday 18 May, 2011.