



Mother-and-Infant Facilities at Adelaide Women's Prison: A cost effective measure in the best interests of the child

Report Launch - Presented by Juliette McIntyre – UniSA School of Law

The Women Lawyers' Association of SA Inc. is proud to invite you to the launch of this Report, having been involved in both its initiation and review. We hope to see the establishment of such facilities in the near future and will continue to campaign the State Government to provide funds for this.

Please join us for drinks, nibbles, and conversation after the official launch event:

14 September 2017 at 6.15pm

Lyceum Club, 20/24 Leigh St, Adelaide SA 5000

RSVP by 8 September to admin@wlasa.org.au

This Report brings together international research and local expertise to argue for the establishment of a Mother-and-Infant Facility at Adelaide Women's Prison.

Australia, as a party to the 1990 Convention on the Rights of the Child, has committed to furthering the rights of children at the Federal, State and Territory level. One of the rights of the child recognised in the Convention is that a child has the right not to be separated from his or her parents except where it has been determined that such separation is necessary for the best interests of the child.

Research has demonstrated clearly that separation of an infant from its mother due to maternal imprisonment has devastating effects on the child's emotional and physical wellbeing, which cannot be said to be in the child's best interest. Mother-and-Infant Facilities offer a unique opportunity to provide these families and the community long term social and economic benefits that derive from reduced recidivism, improved mother-child relationships, improved childhood outcomes, and breaking the cycle of intergenerational criminality.

The Report includes a proposal and architectural plans for the development of a high quality multipurpose facility to complement the current secure facilities at the Northfield Prison Complex on Grand Junction Road. This proposal was prepared by Sarah Paddick (B Arch Hons) of Totalspace Design, an expert in security architecture with particular experience in mother and baby accommodation within secure facilities.



Juliette McIntyre is a Lecturer in Law at the University of South Australia. She holds a first class LLM in International Law from the University of Cambridge, and BA and LLB/LP with Honours from Flinders University. She is a recipient of the Law Foundation of South Australia Fellowship, and has extensive litigation experience in public international law, including before the International Court of Justice.