

NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS (Inc.)

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PRESS RELEASE

" The NZASW has reacted strongly to statements made by the Prime Minister to Rotary in Palmerston North in which he blamed parents for anti-social behaviour amongst young people.

The recent comprehensive report "Youth and the Law in a Multicultural Society" , drew conclusions which do not support the Prime Minister's simplistic analysis.

Parenting in today's difficult economic and social climate is not an easy task. Many families are experiencing the stresses of unemployment, low wages (requiring both parents to work) and inadequate housing.

Families in distress need a greater level of community support and understanding rather than a "blame the victim" approach. "

21 March 1983

Circ: All NZASW Branches - for follow-up locally