



**Media Release August 27 2006
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Gun Crime Still a Problem Despite Tough Laws

Gun crime data released by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) demonstrates the power of tailoring policing initiatives, according to the International Coalition for Women in Shooting and Hunting (WiSH).

WiSH Chairwoman Ms Samara McPhedran said that “Gun crime has remained stable between 2004 and 2005, with downwards trends occurring in the five years since the introduction of specific police operations to tackle illicit firearm use, such as an increased police presence in areas of high crime.”

The majority of offences occurred in the Sydney region, indicating residual problems with crime ‘hotspots’.

“It remains a concern that despite boasting the toughest gun laws in Australia, New South Wales, and particularly Sydney, still has a higher level of gun crime than the rest of the country.”

“This shows that bans cannot stop crime, and sends a clear message to politicians that what we need is a well resourced police force, along with appropriate social services and intervention strategies to help young men who are drifting towards a life of crime.”

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Chair, International Coalition for Women in Shooting and Hunting (WiSH)

www.ic-wish.org

*Reference: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research
http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/bocsar/ll_bocsar.nsf/pages/bocsar_trends_shootingmar06*

WOMEN ON TARGET FOR POSITIVE CHANGE