



**Media Release
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Legal Gun Ownership Up, Gun Misuse Down

The International Coalition for Women in Shooting and Hunting (WiSH) have rejected claims by the New South Wales Greens that legal gun ownership relates to firearm abuse.

WiSH Chair Dr Samara McPhedran said “The statistics show very clearly that firearm misuse does not relate to the number of legally owned guns in Australia.”

“Firearm homicides and suicides have been declining for many years. They were falling prior to the 1996 legislative changes, and firearm misuse continues to fall regardless of the increases in legal gun ownership.”

“This sends a clear message that increases in legal firearm ownership do not cause increases in firearm misuse.”

“The reality is that more and more Australians are seeing through the shrill rhetoric of the anti-gun lobby.”

“It is now widely known that shooting is a safe and challenging activity the whole family can participate in.”

Contact:

Dr Samara McPhedran –

0415 963 189/+61 415 963 189

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

www.ic-wish.org

WOMEN ON TARGET FOR POSITIVE CHANGE