

# MEDIA RELEASE



The Hon **David Hawker** MP  
Federal Member for Wannon



12 August 2009

## HOW TO DRUG PROOF YOUR KIDS

Federal Member for Wannon, David Hawker, is urging local parents concerned about drugs and alcohol to familiarise themselves with *How to Drug Proof Your Kids*, a new program helping parents to equip their children to make wise, healthy choices during their adolescent years.

Attending the launch today at Parliament House in Canberra, Mr Hawker said the program is aimed at parents of children aged 8 to 14, and emphasizes the risks of both illicit and licit drugs, with a special emphasis on alcohol.

"Aussie kids face tough choices in the teen years," Mr Hawker said.

"Statistics show that 70 per cent of 14 year olds have used alcohol and a third have used marijuana.

"School kids in Australia smoke 3,500,000 cigarettes a week.

"These are alarming figures, and sadly, alcohol and other drugs are the number one cause of serious injury and death in young people.

"Research shows that parents and families play a crucial role in reducing the risk of harmful drug use, including alcohol.

"This program takes parents through a number of steps and changes they can make that will lead their children to a healthy future."

For more information on the program, or to be trained to deliver the *Drug Proof Your Kids* program in your local community, go to [www.families.org.au](http://www.families.org.au) or call 1300 300 361.

- ENDS -

**Media contact:** Jane Templeton (02) 6277 4118

The Hon **David Hawker** MP Federal Member for Wannon

**Hamilton Office** 190 Gray St, HAMILTON VIC 3300 **Warrnambool Office** 73 Kepler St WARRNAMBOOL VIC 3280

**Freecall** 1300 131 692 **E** [David.Hawker.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:David.Hawker.MP@aph.gov.au) **W** [www.davidhawker.com.au](http://www.davidhawker.com.au)