



DVD launch a positive event for Ngiuu families and children

The NT Legal Aid Commission was heartened by the community involvement and enjoyment at the launch of the DVD 'Family Problems: Your Rights When Things Go Wrong' at Ngiuu on 19 June. The DVD is part of the NT Legal Aid Commission's *Indigenous Families Project*.

The DVD is entirely in the Tiwi language and commences with the Tiwi creation story, Murtunkala, before leading into a story about domestic violence and going to court.

The DVD is the result of 18 months community development work on the Tiwi Islands, with local actors, film makers, interpreters, community members and service providers, including legal services, police and the courts.



The *Indigenous Families Project* is being undertaken territory wide with films completed in Arnhem Land, Tiwi islands and the Barkly Region.

The principles sustaining the project is the need for cross cultural education in regards to family and law issues, and that people within the communities and language group concerned are best placed to conceive the appropriate resources for their region and people.

The process consists of a series of meetings with local law men and women, heads of organisations and service providers working on the ground in the area of family services and law. If the community is interested in being part of the project, workshops are planned where the local law experts and service providers can interact and work together to determine the priorities for the community in terms of legal education.

The workshops provide and opportunity to educate the service providers about the existing Aboriginal legal systems, and educate them on working with interpreters.

When the content is determined, the local multimedia team, and a group of creative people, local law experts and interpreters work at developing the script.



The video is then shot with local actors, interpreters and technical crew. In the process, all involved can access professional training and develop their skills as well as expand their professional horizons.

The launch opened with food and drinks and addresses by Elders Teddy Portaminni and Teresita Puruntatameri, NTLAC Deputy Director Meredith Harrison and Magistrate Luppino. The food and speeches were then followed by an evening outdoor screening of the film.

For more information about the Project, please contact Fiona Hussin at the NT Legal Aid Commission on 89993000.

