

E-MALE News encouraging men's involvement in families, organisations and communities.

We Need You

NZ Father and Child Society is embarking on a nation-wide campaign to offer assistance to you! We have built a comprehensive data-base of all organisations, societies and individuals that promote fathers and men.

You will benefit by:

- Gaining information about other groups like yours, incl. resources you can use.
- assistance with funding, training courses and setting up new organisations.

[Click here to let us know about you or your organisation](#)

Men's groups protest Air New Zealand

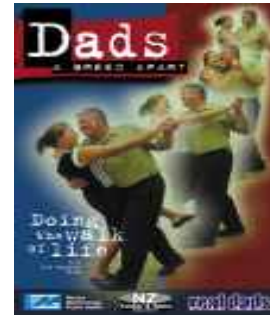
The Human Rights Commission is looking at our complaint and arbitration is set to take place shortly.

[Full article below!](#)

More useful information:

Editorial—Snippets—Other links—submissions
See below

15 February 2006



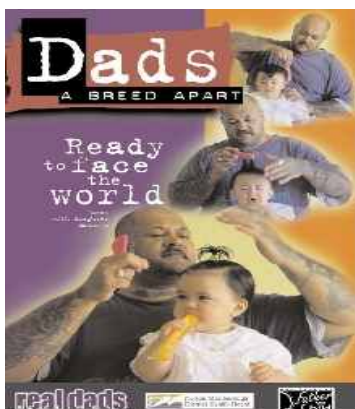
Good fathering flows from the realization that being a father is important.

Upcoming events:

Men's Summit 3 Wellington (tba) [see summit 1&2](#)

PHA seminar 5-7 July Palmerston-North (Adding men's interest to public health)

New resources available this month



Posters (of which there are four) are available to purchase from our web site at

www.fatherandchild.org.nz

Father and Child Trust (Christchurch)

Have an excellent [magazine](#); articles this month include:

- In Praise of cloth nappies
- Human interest—so close...yet so far.
- Section 59
- Family friendly cafés
- Book review "Men after separation"



Have your say!

Section 59 repeal bill is closing for submissions 28th Feb. The Bill states: "that the parents of a child or person in place of the parent are justified in using force by way of correction towards a child if the force is reasonable in the circumstances." [Click to vote!](#)

[Agree with repeal](#)

[Disagree with repeal](#)

To Subscribe to E-Male [click here](#)— or unsubscribe [click here](#)

Email : coordinator@fatherandchild.org.nz or call 03 5480403

Or visit our web site at: www.fatherandchild.org.nz for news, submissions and research

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the first edition of E-Male.

This newsletter is not intended as the be-all-and –end-all to information and advice but it is intended to be of assistance in joining together all our organisations in New Zealand for the purpose of sharing resources, advice and a guide for everyone, whether you have been in the industry for ever, or are a parent wanting to know what the father/family/dad industry is doing.

If you are an organisation in this industry, I encourage you to send through your information; What I'd like to know is who does what in New Zealand. Since starting the data base we have been able to make several referrals and as a result new groups are starting.

You may simply send a brochure to us if that is easier!

Has the climate changed? Some in our industry believe our time has come. We are noticing more and more newspaper articles decrying female violence and abuse. People are starting to notice that men are not the only perpetrators in DV cases.

NZ Father and Child Society is making several changes to it's constitution, to allow membership by anyone with similar views. That means **You are invited** to join. Your donation of \$10 (or \$50 for organisations) will help get everyone involved, consulted and informed.

Finally, let me invite you to submit articles and news about your organisation, useful tips or web sites and profiles. We need each other!

USEFUL WEB SITES FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Community Net is to help all community group organisations by:

- Access to relevant, quality information
- Raising the profile of the community
- Encouraging information sharing between groups

<http://www.community.net.nz/>

Charities Commission—Have you registered yet?

<http://www.charities.govt.nz/>

Arts calendar—What's on when and where in NZ

<http://www.artscalendar.co.nz/>

SUBMISSIONS

Current submissions of interest that are before parliament are available to view on our web site at [submissions](#)

- Section 59 Bill 28th February 2006
- Paid parental leave 17 February 2006
- Child Support amendment Bill 27 February 2006

How to make your own submissions:

[A useful site to help here:](#)

SNIPPETS

- In 1844 George French Angas, an artist, traveled among the Maori of the North Island of New Zealand. He described their attitudes to children: "Both parents are almost idolatrously fond of their children; and the father frequently spends a considerable portion of his time in nursing his infant..." (From Vol. 1, ch. 9, p. 91 of Angas G F (2000) *New Zealand Content from 'Savage Life and Scenes in Australia and New Zealand'*, Christchurch: Kiwi (Full text originally published in 2 volumes in 1847, the NZ material describes his visit in 1844.)
- In the December issue of Panui (the MWA newsletter, this issue not yet available at <http://www.mwa.govt.nz/news-and-pubs/publications/panui>), Ruth Busch, talking about protection orders, is quoted, "there seems to be a minimisation virtually of all breaches that involve psychological abuse and that's an irony because many women will tell you that the psychological abuse is much worse than the physical abuse that they are subjected to." (pp.1-2) This has implications for the argument that men have greater upper body strength, and so their violence is worse. It also could have implications for the smacking issue - what is worse, smacking or psychological abuse (would people who are violent to their children also use psychological abuse? If so, how will attempts to stop smacking help, even if they are effective?)?
- In a Tasmanian paper, *The Mercury*, there was an article on the complexity of modern family relationships and the implications for Christmas arrangements. [2][2]

Dr Watchorn [a Hobart psychologist] said when relationships were freshly separated, the game of chess could be emotionally charged and devastating.

"Following divorce or separation, the complexity of contact arrangements can magnify exponentially, with the competing needs of your family, your ex's family, your parents, your ex's parents, your ex's new partner's family and parents, your new partner's family and parents," he said.

Latest publications of interest:

The latest Issues Paper from Stuart Birks is now available on the web. It contains papers from two Men's Issues Summits held last year in Auckland and Christchurch. You can access it via: <http://econ.massey.ac.nz/cppe/papers/index.htm#1>

Alternatively, the contents, foreword and introduction are at:

<http://econ.massey.ac.nz/cppe/papers/cppeip15/cppeip15.htm>

And the whole publication is in a pdf file at:

<http://econ.massey.ac.nz/cppe/papers/cppeip15/cppeip15.pdf>

Men's groups protest Air New Zealand

A Motueka man remained protesting up a Richmond tree today as the Human Rights Commission sought a meeting with airlines over their decision not to allow men to sit next to unaccompanied children.

Air New Zealand and Qantas today showed no sign of backing down on the controversial policy, which has been criticised by politicians, lobby groups and the public.

Motueka man Kevin Gill camped on top of the 10m-high Otterson gum tree stump in Queen St, Richmond, last night in a bid to reverse the "discriminatory" policy.

Acting Human Rights Commissioner Joris de Bres on Wednesday said the policy appeared to be discriminatory but may be justified if the airlines could show good reason for it.

The commission had received several complaints about the policy and it hoped to have preliminary discussions with the airlines this week to resolve the matter, he said.

Mr Gill, having pledged to remain up the tree until something is done, said the commission's involvement hadn't persuaded him to move.

He had been told to expect a phone call from Air New Zealand management this morning and hoped this would be news of the policy being dumped.

"I'm prepared to stay up here as long as it takes."

Men were being treated as demons because of the minority who abused children, he said.

"What's going to be next. Are men not going to be allowed to sit next to boys on buses, trains and sports venues. It could just be the edge of the wedge."



The double amputee and political aspirant who stood for ACT in West Coast-Tasman at the last election hired cherry picker to hoist himself up the tree stump about 5.30pm on Tuesday.

He was joined by about seven other protesters last night with placards saying the airlines were sexist and men had rights too.

Hundreds of people had shown their support throughout the night and on Wednesday, he said.

"Trucks were tooting their horns all night and people have just been coming up and talking to me constantly."

Mr Gill said he travelled on planes once a month and occasionally had sat beside children, which had never been a problem.

Children's Commissioner Cindy Kiro has commended the airlines for the policy and for endeavouring to keep children safe. She refused to comment further on Wednesday but a spokesman from her office said her stance had not changed.

A Qantas spokeswoman confirmed that the policy remained in place and was not under review. The policy reflected parents concern and the need to maximise child safety, she said.

An Air New Zealand spokeswoman said no one was available to comment.

Nelson-based airline Origin Pacific does not have a similar policy and chief executive Dallas Hay was reluctant to comment on the merits of it.

Origin Pacific sat unaccompanied children next to men and women, but ensured they were seated next to or directly behind flight attendants, he said.

Nelson fathering advocate Philip Chapman said the policy demonised good men.

"The message to children is we're just not safe, full stop."

If it was accepted as being okay, the policy could be applied to all forms of transport such as buses, trains and taxis, he said.

Celia Lashlie, author of *He'll Be OK: Growing Gorgeous Boys Into Good Men*, and the Good Man Project, said she had "never heard so much nonsense in my life" as the Qantas and Air New Zealand policy.

Ms Lashlie, who previously had 15 years working in New Zealand's prison service, said it was entirely appropriate for men and women, to speak to children on planes.

"They're painting the picture that planes are full of potential paedophiles.

"My picture is that aeroplanes are full of good men moving up and down the country and there is a wonderful opportunity there," she said.

"New Zealand as a culture is starting to hide behind political correctness in order not to have to demonstrate moral courage and integrity."

That sentiment was echoed by Dunedin-based clinical psychologist Nigel Latta.

"It's insane. It's political correctness and cautiousness gone mad."

Nelson Mail 30 Nov 2005