

Adam Wratten
Reporter

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If law is broken, any law-breaker must face court

YESTERDAY, The Bulletin carried a report on a schoolgirl who had fronted a court in Yeppoon earlier this week in relation to a tuckshop attack.

An argument with another student had boiled over.

Accompanying this report was another on a Gladstone teenager, who has been charged with assault following an incident on an AFL field.

The clear message is that it doesn't matter where you are, you will pay for your actions if you do the wrong thing.

And that's exactly how it should be.

Sure, organisations such as sporting bodies, clubs and schools are entitled to deal with issues as they arise and to protect their image.

But criminal behaviour should also be dealt with in a court of law.

I'm sure everyone has heard the message that one punch can kill.

But it's not just physical violence.

Bullying is also a common occurrence.

Recently, we saw a young girl racially abuse star Sydney Swans' AFL player Adam Goodes verbally during a big game in Melbourne.

This prompted the AFL to produce a television advertisement targeting bullying, which has since been appearing on scoreboards.

It's important to think about the consequences before you act and everyone, regardless of where they are, should expect to be punished in a court if they step over the line.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COUNCIL REPLIES

Work on footpath under bridge to begin soon



BEING REPLACED: Work starts next week on repairing the flood-damaged path under the Fitzroy Bridge.
PHOTO: CHRIS ISON ROK130613CPATH2

THANK you PR for your interest in the footpath under the Fitzroy Bridge (TMB, 12/6/2013).

The council is progressing with the footpath and planning has been completed. We are currently waiting to remove a dangerous tree on site.

Construction of the new footpath under the bridge is due to begin next week and is estimated to take about a week to complete, weather permitting.

Thanks for your patience.

Tony Williams,
Deputy Mayor,
Rockhampton Regional Council

Make it jail for drivers who cause death

ANOTHER accident where the driver absconds before the police arrive.

If and when this person is caught they should be charged with blatant disregard for the life of the people that were injured in this accident and a minimum sentence should be set by the courts of 10 years imprisonment.

Why should a couple with young children have to face the stress and possible loss of one of their children because some drug or alcohol affected idiot has no regard for the people they injure or kill.

If the driver was, in fact, under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the driver should be charged with attempted murder.

If someone dies because of their actions, the driver should be charged with murder.

When you take control of a motor

“it was apparently looked on by the judiciary as being of a minor nature with only a one week suspension

Kev Hopkins

vehicle, you know of the possible outcome if you are affected by drugs or alcohol and you have an accident that kills or maims.

You are driving a loaded gun and can kill or maim as many people with a vehicle as you could with a gun. This person would have known that they were putting other people at risk and that they should not take control of a vehicle.

I will be asking the Australia First

Party to make it part of their policies to charge any person that is involved in an accident involving a motor vehicle that causes injury or death, that those persons be charged with murder or attempted murder and that they serve a minimum sentence of 10 years hard labour.

I am sick of seeing the aftermath of the actions of drunken or drug affected idiots that have no regard for others and that the courts give a slap on the wrist and let them go.

I will ask that it is part of the Australia First party's Policies that a mandatory sentence is given out for these types of offences

■ **Peter Schuback,**
Hervey Bay

Celebrity indiscretions influence young fans

THE global obsession with celebrity

has created an almost impenetrable protection barrier around sports, movie and pop music stars.

This is sending mixed messages to fans who place these celebrities upon a pedestal and hero worship, that it's okay to fall occasionally.

The importation of artists such as Joel Madden, Seal and Ricky Martin as judges for The Voice talent show implies that these are good role models to aspire to.

The truth is that they all display some indiscretions, which are quickly overlooked and excused, in a society which allows them fallibility for the sake of their talent.

It seems to be an unwritten agreement between show producers attempting to increase ratings and popularity and the celebrities themselves, who display some unacceptable behaviours to some degree, from their lifestyle.

This is not a problem unless it impacts young minds and influenc-



On Monday: The Yank in Oz, Lisa Donovan, shares

It's Thinking vs Feeling

The French Lesson

with
David French



CIPL's chairman is an expert regarding the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, and my association with him has led to a heightened interest in aspects of psychological type. While Extroversion and Introversion are traits commonly discussed, it's Thinking vs Feeling that I want to explore here.

Facts and logic matter to thinking types and being one, I place them above my own feelings and the feelings of others when I make decisions. Of course I care about how others feel, but

if a decision has to be made, I'll base it on what I think will lead to the best outcome. Feeling types, in contrast, act in accordance with their own feelings, not really caring if they are underpinned by fact.

The tension between thinking and feeling is perhaps one of the most interesting conundrums of our time. In the West, did the fall of the Howard, Blair and Bush governments signal the rise of feeling over thinking? These governments sought a pragmatic middle ground in issues of economics and its corollary, social welfare. Despite presiding over a massive increase in living standards, they were swept aside because of a "feeling" that they were somehow not looking after,

“Funny; wasn't it the Taliban that crashed the planes into the World Trade Centre?

or listening to "the people".

The rise of feelings as a "legitimate" decision tool is evident everywhere. Last weekend, a slowcoach passenger at Brisbane airport security turned to me and said "you can blame George Bush for this delay". Funny; wasn't it the Taliban that crashed the planes into the World Trade Centre?

An associate says that moving paedophiles around within an

institution is no different to changing the portfolios of incompetent (Labor) politicians and public servants. Really? Large electricity generators are lobbying for concessions on the basis that power produced by base-load stations is subsidising users of solar. Actually, base-load generation is not nearly as cheap as is commonly portrayed.

The era of feelings is dangerous. It might be fine to have an opinion, but sharing it entails a responsibility to check the facts. When feelings subsume common-sense and hurt others, it's time to shut them down with extreme prejudice.

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