

CONFERENCE OF LEADERS OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

CLRI (NSW)

ABN 52 476 362 010
Member of Catholic Church Religious Group

The Honourable John Howard
Prime Minister
Parliament House
Canberra

Thursday 1 July, 2004

Dear Mr Howard,

Re: the increase in funding allocated to advertising

I write on behalf of the CLRI Justice committee, a group representing the Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes in NSW. CLRI includes approximately 4,000 Catholic Religious and their associates.

We write to express our growing concern about the amount of money the Federal Government is proposing to spend on advertising in the next six months. We are aware of the justification given in recent days for such spending, but find it difficult to justify, particularly in the face of such decisions as the legislated rise in prescription medicines and the failure to meet huge housing, health and education shortages, highlighted in recent days.

It is difficult to see this as other than a cynical exercise designed to win votes, especially when decisions, which impact negatively on the community receive no such publicity whatever.

We look forward to receiving a response that can assure us of the value of these exercises.

Yours sincerely,

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(CLRI NSW)

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