

12 June 2012
CSCD/12/361



Ms Leyla Stefano
Coroner's Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
Level 11, 222 Exhibition St
Melbourne 3000

Dear Ms Stefano

Re: Abdullah Kocoglu (court reference 1453/11)

The coroner has requested that our office respond to the following recommendations made about the above case of a four year old boy who died from burns, after playing with matches-

- That fire and child safety authorities give consideration to a public safety campaign reminding parents and householders of the need to review the safety of their household if young children are likely to attend the premises
- That fire and child safety authorities give consideration to a public safety campaign reminding parents and householders that matches and other fire lighting implements should be stored safely and out of the reach of children.

Our office supports the two recommendations made in this case. Since its inception, the Office of the Child Safety Commissioner has produced a range of child safety resources for parents, professionals and children.

We would be happy to lead or work on a collaborative project with relevant stakeholders to develop and implement a community education strategy designed to reduce the incidence of children being burnt as a result of them playing with matches.

We would be very pleased to include the Coroner's Prevention Unit as a member of a working group in order to access relevant data and advice.

While my office does not have a budget allocation for the public safety campaign you recommend, we would be interested in participating in this important initiative.

Bernie Geary OAM
Child Safety Commissioner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernie Geary".

Child Safety
Commissioner

promoting
the safety
and wellbeing
of children

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