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## Will Clubs lead a Reduction in Poker Machines?

UnitingCare Wesley commends the insight that Peter Holmes a Court and Russell Crow (NSW Rabbitohs) have into the negative affects of poker machines on their customers and community.

“This club is recognising the harm that poker machines do to their customers. A harm which flows into the community, with families torn apart and children paying the real cost of living in a family with problem gambler.” Peter McDonald said today.

“The NSW Sydney Rabbitohs club offers a challenge to our South Australian clubs. Are the clubs able to recognise the damage that poker machines can do to their patrons?” Peter McDonald asked today.

“We reject the Clubs claim that poker machines improves the community. While some money goes back into the community, this money has come from families who least can afford it. During June this year Port Adelaide Enfield council was drained of 7 million while Burnside Mitcham only lost 1.3 million.”

“Any reduction in poker machines spending would move into other products which are beneficial for the community and are not addictive.” Rev Peter McDonald said.

“The two most influential clubs – that could make a significant difference in South Australia is the Australian Labor Party and the Liberal Party of Australia.”

“Our Parliament allowed the introduction of gambling in South Australia and so we call on them to reduce the harm by reducing the total numbers.”

### Further Comments

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