

Relationships Australia

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 8 May 2009

“Thanks” to those we think of as mothers

Relationships Australia (SA) affirms Mother’s Day, on Sunday 10 May as a time to say ‘thanks’ and value the diversity and generosity of the women in our lives who offer their love, support and care.

We thank our mothers for their nurturing, care, love and support of us. We celebrate that mothers can be biological, foster, adoptive, grandmothers and chosen mums! We also thank aunties, older sisters and other women who take on the role of mother for children who are in need.

“An expression of appreciation and recognition of the importance of our relationships can be expressed in many different ways. It doesn’t cost you anything but time to give someone a hug and say ‘Thank you, I love you and appreciate you” said **Grant Pearson, Regional Manager - Relationships Australia (SA)**.

One of our services, Post Adoption Support Services, recognises that Mothers Day can also be a challenging day for many people.

Nikki Hartmann is the **Senior Coordinator, Post Adoption Support Services** for **Relationships Australia (SA)** and says

“For those who have been adopted, Mothers Day can bring feelings of sadness and loss for the mother they never knew, as well as love and happiness for the mother who raised them”.

Nikki Hartmann also reminds us that,

“For birth mothers, this day can often be filled with grief and pain over the child they lost to adoption. Adoptive mothers, as well as sharing the joy of Mothers Day, may at the same time experience sadness for their child’s loss of their birth mother”.

About Relationships Australia

Relationships Australia is a leading provider of relationship support services. We aim to support all Australians to achieve positive and respectful relationships. Our services are provided by professionally-trained and highly-skilled staff.

We are a community-based, not-for-profit organisation with no religious affiliations. Our services are for all members of the community, regardless of religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, lifestyle choice, cultural background or economic circumstances.

With more than 60 years experience, Relationships Australia provides confidential relationship support services in every state and territory.

www.rasa.org.au

These include counselling and education for individuals, couples, families and communities; family dispute resolution; family violence prevention; personal development; and training for professionals.

One of the services provided by Relationships Australia (SA) is Post Adoption Support Services (PASS). This service responds to the needs of people involved in adoption. This includes birth parents and families, persons who have been adopted, and adoptive parents and families.

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