

## MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER JULIA GILLARD

## THE OPENING OF THE NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE QUILT DISPLAY

I was honoured to receive Dr McInnes' invitation to attend the opening of the display of the National Remembrance Quilt. While I cannot be there in person, I did want to assure you of my support and commitment to eliminating violence against women and children.

Each of these quilt blocks bears witness to the devastation that domestic violence causes to families, friends and communities.

Yet, in coming together to form this quilt, each beautiful block becomes part of a whole that is greater and stronger than any one patch could be on its own.

So, too, is the movement against domestic violence. Each of us has a role in preventing violence, but our individual messages are far more effective when amplified by the voices of those around us.

The women, communities and agencies who have contributed to this Remembrance Quilt know, just as I do, that the work of ending violence against women and children is not over, not by any means. But by joining together to attest our abhorrence of this violence, we come closer to creating a society where women and children are safe in their homes and communities.

The Honourable Julia Gillard Prime Minister of Australia