Minister Imposes Permanent Ban on Tongue Stud

The Attorney-General Peter Toyne has issued a permanent ban on the sale of a potentially deadly tongue stud in the Northern Territory.

The No Holes Tongue Stud is attached to the tongue by sucking to create a vacuum.

Dr Toyne imposed a temporary ban in March to allow the Consumer and Business Affairs commissioner to carry out further investigation into the dangers of the novelty jewellery.

“The Commissioner has advised me his investigations have found this product poses a real choking and inhalation risk,” he said.

Two other Australian jurisdictions and New Zealand have also banned the No Holes Tongue Stud. The bans follow the case of a nine-year-old New Zealand girl who inhaled the jewellery, forcing doctors to remove it from her lung.

Dr Toyne said the product had not been found on sale in Darwin but there was some anecdotal evidence it may have been available elsewhere in the Territory.

The ban is effective immediately.

Shoppers who find No Holes Tongue Studs or similar products on sale in Territory stores, should contact Consumer Affairs on 1800 019 319.

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