MAKING PARENTS AND GOVERNMENT MORE ACCOUNTABLE FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS

The Territory Opposition will support measures to hold irresponsible parents to account for repeat offending by their children.

“Where parents just don’t care what their kids get up, they should be held responsible for repeat criminal offending,” says Jodeen Carney, Leader of the Opposition.

“I’m sure there would be a different reaction from irresponsible parents to vandalism by their kids if they had to pick up the bill.

“Equally is parents were to be fined for repeated break and enter they would be more interested where their kids were going in the middle of the night.

“A good deal of the responsibility for the rise in juvenile crime must also be shouldered by the Labor Government.

“It has repeatedly announced half-hearted measures to curb criminal and anti-social behaviour with little success.

“In October last year the anti-gang laws were introduced and pronounced ‘an effective tool to break-up gangs and dramatically reduce their impact on the community.’

“More than a year later, gang violence has never been more of the problem in the northern suburbs of Darwin and the Labor Government is announcing yet another ‘package of measures’.

“In June this year another Mobile Police station was unveiled with the promise ‘Gang haunts, crime hot spots and areas where anti-social behaviour occurs in Darwin will continue to be targeted with this second mobile station.’

“The Labor Government has all the right words about tackling crime in the Territory – it’s a pity its record doesn’t match its rhetoric.

“I look forward to seeing just how tough these measures actually are.”

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