Fay Miller  
Shadow Minister for Tourism, Housing, and Youth  

**Katherine like a violent war zone - enough of the rhetoric**  

23 March 2004  

Katherine is like a violent “war zone” and it's time the Martin Labor Government ceased the meaningless rhetoric and delivered on its promise to end the problem CLP Member for Katherine Fay Miller said today.

Ms Miller said yesterday in Katherine was another day of assaults and drunken chaos in Katherine with residents and tourists the unsuspecting victims.

“I experienced it first hand,” Ms Miller said.

“On the same day the Government is announcing break and enters are up 53% and violent crime has increased 76% in the past 12 months I witnessed the fear of tourists being harassed and intimidated in our major shopping centre. I was confronted with the trauma experienced by a young woman pushed from her bike, threatened and verbally abused.

“Chief Minister Clare Martin promised the people of Katherine the world when she wanted their vote at the Katherine by-election. Now the Chief Minister isn't interested in them.

“What's going on in Katherine is disgusting and the people have had a gutful of shallow promises by the Martin Government.

“The town deserves better treatment. It's a nightmare for the people living in the town but it has a domino affect when tourists flee town in fear and with nothing but bad words to say about Katherine and the Territory.

“It has a ripple effect. These people travel Australia’s highways staying at caravan parks along the way and repeat their tales of horror. It causes enormous harm to the Territory’s reputation and everyone suffers.

“Katherine needs help and it needs it now.”

Ends