

# COMING HOME

If someone in your family is returning home from time in prison you might want to check this information out

## WHAT?

**THERE ARE DIFFERENT WAYS** mum or dad might be released from prison such as coming home for short visits if they have been inside for a long time. They could come out on Home Detention (HD) and not really be allowed to leave the house much or be released on parole or on a straight release.

Most of these mean they have to be approved for release by the Adult Parole Board.

## HOME DETENTION

**HAVING MUM OR DAD AT HOME** on HD can be tricky. They are not really able to go out unless it has been approved. This means you can't do anything on the spur-of-the-moment.

You know, you can't just go and kick the footy together, head off shopping or for a coffee. They can't give you a lift when your friend invites you over. **PLUS** they are hanging around **ALL** of the time.

## COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

**IF MUM OR DAD** have to see a Community Corrections Officer or do some community work, this will need to take priority over anything else.

It is important for them to not miss their appointments or they can be 'breached' which can mean they have to return to prison or do community corrections for a lot longer. At the same time they might have to report to their local police station as well.

These are ways that our Department of Justice can check that they are managing okay.

THESE FACT SHEETS ARE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12 YEARS AND OVER



**LOL?**

**OK SO YOU ARE FEELING PRETTY HAPPY** at the thought of mum or dad coming home. Life will settle down, you can do your own thing again; you don't have to feel responsible for **ANYTHING!** Or do you? You could be just a little bit nervous that things will be turned upside down. What if you don't get along anymore? What if it has been simpler while they were away? You could also still be pretty angry about what has happened to your family. Does everyone expect you to just accept their word that all will be **COOL?**

## **OMG, THEY'RE COMING BACK!**

**THINGS WILL CHANGE** when they come back home and you can be used to **NOT** having this parent around. Try and be patient with them. They have a lot to get used to again and are probably pretty nervous. They remember the younger version of you so take your time to get to know them again. Remember, if they are hanging about it just means that they are interested in you.

**BTW**

**IF SOME OF THESE FEELINGS** don't go away, it probably means you need to talk to someone. Now they are home, you can talk together and even if you disagree about what you are all feeling it can still feel good to just let it all out. They need to do it too. Otherwise you can talk together with someone at **VACRO**.

## **WANNA KNOW MORE?**

- Need to understand what's going on?
- How can I get my life back?
- What else can I do?
- Want to ask some questions about what we do?

**Contact VACRO** 'a community organisation providing information and support for those involved with the criminal justice system' on **9605 1900** or freecall **1800 049 871** or look at **other factsheets on our website for more info:**  
<http://www.vacro.org.au/youth/index.html>