



MALE AGGRESSION STUD

- THE project will study the effects of victimisation and violent images among young Australian men.
- It will explore links with masculine identity and have applications for developing an understanding of the aspects of disengagement from violence.

Violence study: Professor Stephen Tomsen.

- **What causes violence among young men?**
- **Your voice:** blacktownsun.com.au.

Violence in young men's lives

By **Nick Soon**

IF fights involving youth outside Sydney hotels during weekends come to an end, Professor Stephen Tomsen can be thanked.

The Professor of Criminology at University of Western Sydney and Adjunct Professor David Gadd, from the University of Manchester, are doing a study called "Violence and disengagement from violence in young men's lives."

Professor Tomsen has \$140,000 from the Australian Research Council (ARC) for a three-year project.

The Stable Research Team will help him to interview youth aged 16 to 25 from Blacktown, the Hills, Holroyd, Parramatta, Penrith, Blue Mountains, Fairfield, Campbelltown and Liverpool.

Each youth will receive \$80 for two hours of their time.

The study will have 10 focus groups of young men.

They include people of racial/ethnic minorities including Middle Eastern, Pacific Islander backgrounds and young Australian indigenous men.

Each group will have 10 participants — a total of 100 youth.

Professor Tomsen's areas of expertise include violence and hate crime, cultural criminology, masculinity, sexuality, youth, culture, deviance and transgression, social theory, psychoanalysis and subjectivity, social movements and ethnography.

"We will explore ways young people can avoid violence in dealing with each other and with other people," he said.

"This will make us understand the problems faced by young people across different backgrounds.

"We are very hopeful of finding the cause and solution on what is troubling our young people."

Those interested in participating in the study can contact Professor Tomsen at s.tomsen@uws.edu.au.