

27th February 2005

Media alert

Attention: Radio and TV producers

Loneliness in Australia: New report

The Australia Institute's latest report focuses on loneliness in Australia. Entitled *Mapping Loneliness in Australia* the new report is by Institute research fellow Dr Michael Flood. The report is being released this weekend.

Findings include:

- 1 Men tend to be lonelier than women from early adulthood right through to old age**
- 2 Among 25-44 year olds, men who live alone report much lower levels of support and friendship than men who live with others, but the same is not true of women**
- 3 Single fathers with children are the loneliest people in Australia**
- 4 Men rely on their wives or partners for their emotional and social needs more than women who draw on wider sources of support**

A summary of the report can be found under What's New on the Institute's website www.tai.org.au.

For comment, please contact:

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The Australia Institute is a public-interest think tank based in Canberra.

www.tai.org.au