



# Family violence ads 'not enough'

**PHILLIP HUDSON**

THE Federal Government has been accused of not backing its advertising campaign against domestic violence with enough support for women and children fleeing abuse at home.

Labor made the claim as the Government tonight re-runs its *Violence Against Women: Australia Says No* television ads at a cost of \$6 million as part of a new \$75.7 million policy to tackle domestic violence and sexual assault.

Opposition women's spokeswoman Tanya Plibersek said the Government had not given states enough money to provide safe accommodation and support.

The states have rejected a federal offer of \$932 million over the next five years.

Ms Plibersek said the Institute of Health and Welfare had recommended 15 per cent more money for refuges just to keep them open.

"You cannot run an advertising campaign without actually providing proper resources and a safe place to go for the women

and kids who are given the courage to leave violent situations," she said.

"If they're not prepared to do that then all the rest of it is just window dressing."

Family and Community Services Minister Kay Patterson, who will meet state ministers on Wednesday, said Canberra was offering \$175 million extra.

"This government has proven its absolute commitment to trying to reduce the incidence of domestic violence . . . and it's extremely disappointing that all Labor's intent on doing is throwing around allegations," a spokeswoman said.

The ads were first run last year and there were 44,000 calls to a helpline.

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