



## RESEARCH SHOWS THAT HIGH STAFF-CHILD RATIOS ARE ONE OF THE KEY INDICATORS OF HIGH QUALITY CHILD CARE

Ratios of at least 1 adult to 4 children for children aged from birth to two years have been linked with:

- better intellectual development of children
- positive long-term benefits for children
- more positive interactions between staff and individual children
- better social development of children

The NSW *Children's Services Regulation (2004)* for centre based or mobile children's services suggest a ratio of 1:5 for children aged from birth to two years. Leading world expert Ron Lally calls this a "ratio for neglect".

**We are calling upon the Minister for Community Services and the NSW Department of Community Services to improve the current 1 adult to 5 children ratio for children aged under two years to a more acceptable level of 1 adult to 4 children.**

There are several ways to participate in this campaign. These include:

### 1. Sign this petition

Get as many signatures on the attached petition as possible and forward to **1:4 Make it Law Campaign, Building 21, 142 Addison Road, Marrickville NSW 2204**. You can photocopy this as many times as you wish. It would be appreciated if this could be sent back by Friday 17th September 2007 at the latest.

### 2. Sign up to the 1:4 campaign

Jump online to <http://www.ccccnsw.org.au/ratios/index.html> and sign up in support of the campaign.

### 3. Be aware and active

Log onto the 1:4 campaign website for regular updates and information for ways you can support this campaign at <http://www.ccccnsw.org.au/ratios/index.html>. This includes ordering your free copy of the campaign poster.

### 4. Organise a meeting with your local MP

Obviously this takes more time than firing off a couple of faxes, but we need as many MPs to really understand the issue as possible. Set up a meeting, take three people from your service including a parent and explain why you want him or her to persuade the Minister, Kevin Greene to change the Regulation to require a 1:4 ratio for birth to twos. Lobby strategies and key information are available on the campaign website at <http://www.ccccnsw.org.au/ratios/index.html>.



