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## **Media Release**

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## Jail - No Bail

A major plank in the policies of new political party Hear Our Voice goes straight to the very hearts and minds of all decent Australians – violent and heartless acts of crime.

NSW Senate candidate for Hear Our Voice, Toni McLennan, said there is a compellingly urgent unmet need in our country to address the almost built in practice of 'light', 'notional', and often almost meaningless sentencing of criminals convicted of the most hideous, heinous and abhorrent crimes.

"Because of these lax sentencing practices, known pedophiles, gang rapists, violent home invasionists, child abusers, drug peddlers and other impersonators of the human race frequently roam freely amongst our communities," Toni McLennan said.

"More often than not these dangerous individuals re-offend and re-offend. They laugh at the law, its administrators and even the victims.

"This is a National issue that affects all Australians and it will only be resolved by the federal government putting pressure on the States and Territories to address the seriousness of this community wide problem through introducing appropriate, tough legislation.

"We also have high rates of recidivism in Australian prisons. What we need is genuine and effective rehabilitation programs for offenders, but for serious crime involving violent and cold-blooded acts we need appropriate sentencing so that the community is protected.

"Hear Our Voice believes that social justice is often forgotten when it comes to the victims. They are the vulnerable who are deeply affected by what has happened to them. When dangerous criminals re-offend they should not be given more chances to harm others.

"In these circumstances, it is **jail – no bail**, or, we sit back and allow governments to continue to fail to meet their responsibilities," Toni McLennan said.

## **Media Note:**

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