

Casino High School

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Dear Paul and INTRA Youth Service

I have been involved with the **'SO BIG THERAPUTIC MARTIAL ARTS PROGRAM'** for students at risk at Casino High School for the past three years.

During this time I have seen many of the students from the program develop and display greater self-discipline, enhanced social skills and coping strategies especially when it came to dealing with their day-to-day confrontations with both staff and their peers.

Where once their first reaction would be to use verbal abuse and/or physical violence I'm now actually witnessing participants on a more regular basis replace previous behaviours with actions such as walking away or stating that they are not wanting to fight.

It's now not uncommon for those students participating in the program to actually seek me out at school and proudly inform me of how they themselves have dealt with issues without fighting or to ask me for advice on how to deal with situations or to help mediate the situation on their behalf. Some even just hang around with me until they are calm enough to get on with the rest of their day again.

These skills have been acquired as a direct result of the student participating for an extended period of time in your program. So apart from saying thank you for providing the opportunity to participate in this program in the past I'm also saying that I and the selected students from Casino High School are looking forward to continue working and participating in the future.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Moar
Relieving Principal

Glenn Kemister
Tutorial Teacher