

# Breakfast Without Bullying



On Tuesday 7 December the NTWLA held an informative seminar entitled “Breakfast Without Bullying”, where a cordon bleu breakky was provided accompanied by words of wisdom from Rachel Uebergang, Co-coordinator of the Northern Territory Women’s Working Centre (NTWWC), a community based non-profit organisation governed by a management committee comprised of volunteers.

The NTWWC provides free and confidential advice to women about work related matters. The Centre particularly target services to those in a disadvantaged bargaining position, insecure and low paid work. It provides information, advice and referral for NT women about work related issues such as pay, working conditions, unfair dismissal, superannuation, discrimination, sexual harassment and bullying.

*Attendees at the 'Breakfast Without Bullying' seminar.*

Rachel’s talk centred around bullying and the subtle and unsubtle manner in which bullying may present itself in a workplace; the associated issues that bullying may bring; and methods of recourse for bullying victims. Rachel gave several examples of the work the NTWWC did in assisting victims of bullying and painted a daunting picture of the widespread nature of bullying in the NT, and highlighted the importance of dealing with bullies as soon as practicable.

Rachel’s presentation was an inspiration and the breakfast was well attended and enjoyed by all.

## Clare Martin speaks on Women and Leadership

Sipping from glasses of wine, or juice, enjoying tasty savouries while at the same time listening to an inspirational speaker, a number of female lawyers in Darwin received motivational advice on women in leadership on 8 December 2010.

Clare Martin is a former journalist who was elected to the NT Legislative Assembly in a shock by-election win in 1995. She was appointed Opposition Leader in 1999 and won a surprise victory at the 2001 Territory election, becoming the first Labour Party and first female Chief Minister in the NT. She led the ALP to a record win at the 2005 election, prior to resigning in 2007.

Clare became an “accidental politician” and shared with us her belief it is vital to have a mentor; hers was Barbara James (another great female leader of the NT).

Clare made tough decisions, which ruffled feathers. One such inflammatory decision was the introduction of a speed limit to the NT, which was met with much resistance. However, knowing the deaths that had been caused on the NT roads due to excessive speed, Clare knew her decision was correct, despite the fact it is still met with distain by some today.

Clare believes the three main characteristics of a good leader are:

1. Persistence
2. Toughness/resilience
3. Courage

Sharing her experiences of a supportive family, Clare acknowledged their vital role in assisting her. Clare inspired us all, encouraging women in the NT to take up leadership roles. ●

*Anyone interested in joining us for further inspirational experiences can join the NTWLA, or just come along to our next advertised functions.*

