



## PAARISA - Office of Health and Preventive Measures

Paarisa conducts campaigns on health and preventive measures; the basis of the work is The Home Rule Government's political objectives during the period of 1999 - 2003.

### Specific political objectives to improve the area of prevention and health care 1999-2003:

- Preventive work are continually to be strengthened and developed centrally, regionally and locally
- Coordination of central, regional and local preventive initiatives will be strengthened and developed.
- Lifestyle diseases will be combated.
- Responsibility of the individual citizen with regard to their own and their families health will be made clear to everyone.
- The rights of children to grow up in secure and harmonious environment shall be ensured. Neglect of children - including sexual abuse - has to be prevented.
- Care for unborn, newborn and small children and their parents will be given a high priority.
- The number of unwanted pregnancies will be reduced.
- Smoke-free environment will be ensured for all citizens; children as well as adults.
- A drug free Greenland.
- A cut down of alcohol consumption with 25 % during the period of 1999 - 2003.
- The spread of venereal diseases and HIV shall be combated.
- Suicide is not acceptable and shall be prevented.

### The Assignments of Paarisa:

- To guarantee the implementation of the political objectives of prevention,
- To be a service organ to politicians, municipalities, and citizens,
- To be initiator to municipalities and societies,
- To ensure co-ordination of preventive activities centrally, regionally, and locally,

- To ensure the active participation of citizens in preventive activities,
- To ensure the collection and communication of knowledge,
- To act as clerical staff of the Inuuneq Nakuuneq funds (the Good Life funds),
- To act as clerical staff for the Alcohol and Drug Council,
- To act as clerical staff for the AIDS funds,
- To act as clerical staff for the Council of Prevention Politics,
- To assist in ensuring an expedient regulation on preventive measures,
- To ensure the cross-ministerial co-operation and co-ordination, and the definition of the limits of the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Culture and Education, and the Ministry of Health.

Preventive activities shall take place on the terms of the country and the people. All citizens shall have access to knowledge and information, in order to ensure that the individual citizen can take responsibility for his/her life and health.

The primary preventive work will take place in the municipalities and the health districts, in towns and settlements, in schools and educational institutions, through society work, in the homes, and in the daycare centers and the childrens homes.

Municipalities and organizations can communicate with Paarisa and apply for advice on preventive activities and efforts. It is important to Paarisa, that the starting point is defined by the local population concerning preventive activities and efforts.

**Paarisa activities about sexual abuse of children:** Paarisa ensures public debate through informative campaigns such as the Paarisa newspaper, enlightening TV-spots etc. Paarisa is the organizer or co-organizer of conferences and public debate contributions on prevention in general and on children and adolescents specifically, including sexual abuse of children.

On April 1, 2001 Paarisa has established a hot line for children, in co-operation with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Save the Child Denmark. The hot line is open 19.00-21.00 every day throughout the year.

### Pamphlets published by or in co-operation with Paarisa:

**Abused? Secrets?** Reprint 1999: Pamphlet for adolescents on sexual abuse. The pamphlet has been produced for adolescents, who have been sexually abused, and for adolescents who want to know more about sexual abuse. Many adolescents do not know what to do and where to go. In this pamphlet they can find some good advice.

**I Have a Secret.** 1999: A book on protection of children against sexual assaults. Most adults love children and will do anything to make sure that nothing happens to them. But there are also dangerous adults. This book is about the importance of saying no, when there is something the child does not like. Nobody shall be sad because of a secret, they dare not tell. All children have the right to say no.

**The Secret Space.** 1999: A reader for 7 - 12 years old Danish and Greenlandic children. The purpose of the book is to prevent children from being exposed to sexual assaults. The book is about how children must trust their feelings and say no. The book is suitable for introduction to theme work at school as well as for reading at home.

**When Confidence Is Broken...** 2001: The pamphlet has been produced to create more openness on sexual assaults on children. The pamphlet caters for sports coaches, leaders, and parents to draw their attention to the problem. The pamphlet has been produced by the Greenland Sports Association in co-operation with Paarisa.

