

Delay destruction

SIR: If the mindless recreation of motor car racing and motor cycle racing were to be banned and abandoned, surely enough fossil fuel would be saved to postpone the greenhouse effect for at least 100 years — and spare us further destruction of our environment.

Dorothea Walton,
Owen Street,
Jamberoo.

April 12

Enough violence

SIR: This is an argument, not necessarily in favour of the cane, but certainly against a society system that cultivates violence.

Professor R. K. Oates writes that "the reintroduction of the cane teaches children that problems can be solved by violent means" (Letters, April 14). This is humbug as far as I am concerned. Football, particularly close-ups of eye gouging etc, the murder of police, of political and ecological protesters; boxing, violent television and films and child abuse all teach children that violence is the best way to deal with problems and win.

I do not want to hear the protest: "This is just one more act of violence". No, society is cultivating this attitude when we pay to watch, read about and enjoy the above activities. We continually discount the number of people who begin to develop an appetite for, and appreciation of, violence and its power.

Some of these thugs and class disrupters go on proving every day that violence wins and the rest of the class loses.

Margot Garrick,
Dudley Road,
Rose Bay.

April 15

Gay-bashing

SIR: The Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby welcomes the police hotline on gay and lesbian assaults (*Herald*, April 10). Our organisation's Streetwatch Program has revealed an alarming level of verbal abuse, physical assault (often involving hospitalisation) and harassment. The attacks are not confined to just the inner city "trouble spots". Streetwatch showed that attacks occurred in Western Sydney as well as regional and country centres.

The problem is not confined to gay men. Lesbians, too, are frequently the victims of rape by teenage gangs.

Gays and lesbians merely demand

the protection under the law that other citizens enjoy. Some States of the United States have considered specific "anti-hate" legislation protecting racial minorities. In the meantime, we expect pro-active policing and good levels of police service to alleviate this horrific problem.

Gary Cox and Jane Clements,
Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby,
Darlinghurst.

April 12

Staff talent

SIR: I refer to Peter Davidson's letter (*Herald*, April 11) regarding the NSW State Government's employing a design studio at great cost to supply its offices with a logo.

Although I agree that it is about time that good design was recognised and encouraged, let it also be known that there are a number of competent, nay excellent, designers in Mr Greiner's very own Public Service. These designers have the same training, experience and qualifications as those employed in these competitively expensive advertising and design studios. For example, the graphics for the exhibitions at the Mint, Powerhouse and State Library were designed by public servants.

The yearly salary of one public servant averages about the cost of that one logo.

Would it not be a better idea to encourage the employment of more good, qualified designers in government departments than to spend taxpayers' money paying a consultant to produce just one logo?

Hilary Rhodes,
Designers and Artists Branch,
NSW Public Service Association,

April 14

Darlinghurst.

VICE REGAL

His Excellency the Governor-General and Mrs Hayden attended and His Excellency presented the new Queen's Colour to Her Majesty's Australian Fleet at the Royal Australian Navy Fleet Base, Woolloomooloo, yesterday afternoon.

Their Excellencies arrived in Canberra from Sydney, yesterday afternoon.

In the evening, their Excellencies entertained Professor and Mrs J. Griffin, and Ms H. J. O'Neill and Mr S. H. C. Mills, at dinner, at Government House, Canberra.

His Excellency the Governor and Lady Martin yesterday morning received Mrs N. Cutler, president of the War Widows' Guild of NSW, Mrs U. Boyce, State secretary, and Mrs E. Santolin, State treasurer.

Later the Governor, attended by Lieutenant C G. Bold, Aide-de-Camp, as part of Sea Week, launched the children's puppet show *The Clean Stream Show* and a book called *Let's Clean the Water Clean*, sponsored by the NSW Government Litter Reduction Campaign, State Pollution Control Commission, at the Sydney Aquarium, Darling Harbour.

In the evening the Governor, attended by Lieutenant Bold, was a guest at the Annual Anzac