

## Roxy Musk – *The Law and You*



Roxy Musk - Top FM

**It may not be a well-known fact that a Larrakia woman from Darwin has received a national award for broadcasting, but a single meeting with Roxy Musk will convince you that this woman could do just about anything.**

Roxy Musk's mellow tones can be heard on *Top FM* every afternoon and among the services she provides during her segment is a program called *The Law and You*.

The concept of providing this particular community service came to Roxy as a result of her disturbance at injustices she saw and horror at the number of black deaths in custody. She contacted police and with assistance (in particular from former NT-based prosecutor Peter Bannon, QC and his wife, Denise), set up the show as an information tool which she hoped would provide some balance, something she feels very strongly about.

The program regularly hosts contributions from NAALAS and CAALAS as well as the police media section and is aimed at informing the wider community about the law as it affects everyone. *The Law and You* is decidedly cross-cultural in its approach, aiming to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as well as Europeans.

Roxy is a woman who clearly uses her talents to help people and who has defi-

nitely been endowed with the talent of speaking, which could be viewed as ironic, given that one of the great influences in her life was her grandmother who did not speak.

She has a deep understanding of the importance of radio as a medium and describes the voice as "a vibration that touches minds". As a former Aboriginal Education Liaison officer, she also appreciates the skills that working in radio both in front of the microphone and behind the scenes can promote and has been active in encouraging students to view work experience in radio in this way.

A traditionally-raised Aboriginal woman, Roxy is a believer in reconciliation and promotes both traditional Aboriginal law and European law. Listening to her back up her beliefs with stories from her own experience creates an atmosphere almost chilling in its honesty and decidedly convincing in its power.

Roxy Musk has been involved in the media business for some time. She provides a vital link between mainstream broadcasters whose respect she has earned (as evidenced by the fact that she received a best broadcaster in Australia award in 1996), community broadcasting and the real people who make up the listening audience.

It is no surprise that Roxy has an

involvement with the law, as one of her totems is the white eagle who, according to traditional belief, carries the law in its talons. This influence seems family-wide as one of Roxy's children is DPP practitioner Shahleena Musk.

Roxy has been active in the push for a broadcasting licence for Radio Larrakia and if this application is successful, it seems certain the world will hear a lot more of her.

There is much more to be said about this remarkable woman who was as thrilled by her part in the speech recovery of a small boy in Palmerston as she was by having superstar Tina Turner in the studio. However, saying things is something Roxy does so impressively herself. What she achieves in terms of helping the community and its individual members is even more impressive.

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