



## Swimming Coach Condemned

Comments made recently by Lawrie Lawrence about toddler drowning have raised the ire of many people especially those who have lost loved ones through drowning.

Mr Lawrence was quoted yesterday in the Adelaide Advertiser as saying – “You've got a ticket in a raffle to go to a funeral this summer if you've got a kid under five” is completely and totally abhorrent and disrespectful to those who have lost loved ones.

Hannah's Foundation Founder and CEO Mr Andrew Plint has fielded a number of phone calls from parents who have expressed their disgust at Mr Lawrence's comments.

“Whilst the message that supervision of young children around water is of paramount importance, stupid comments like these do nothing to further the cause of drowning prevention,” Mr Plint said.

“Unfortunately Mr Lawrence has developed a history of making inappropriate comments in recent times even describing his much vaunted DVD as the proof in the pudding for drowning prevention”.

As the father of a child who has drowned, Mr Plint said he was aghast at the lack of compassion and understanding Mr Lawrence displayed.

“Hannah's Foundation is calling on Mr Lawrence to issue a full and abject public apology for his insensitive and ultimately stupid comments as they do nothing to further the cause of raising awareness of drowning prevention in Australia,” he said.

Mr Plint said Hannah's Foundation supports Royal Life Saving Societies “Keep Watch” program which has Supervision as the 1<sup>st</sup> and most successful barrier to Drowning Prevention.