

What's New?

Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People Current Awareness Bulletin

April 2015

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From the Web

CHILD PROTECTION

Deaf and disabled children talking about child protection

Julie Taylor et al.; University of Edinburgh/NSPCC Child Protection Research Centre
March 2015

This report highlights findings from in-depth interviews with 10 deaf and disabled people who had been abused during childhood. It looks at how they sought help, the barriers they faced and how professionals and organisations recognised and responded to the abuse. It includes recommendations for policy makers and commissioners, agencies working with deaf and disabled children, and parents and carers.

[Full-text](#)

Safe at school? Exploring safety and harm of students with cognitive disability in and around school

Sally Robinson, Dominique McGovern; Centre for Children and Young People, Southern Cross University
November 2014

This recent research project investigated the safety of students with cognitive disability in and around school. Evidence shows that children and young people with cognitive disability experience violence, abuse, and neglect at rates considerably higher than their peers. Despite this, little is known about the perspectives of students with cognitive disability on what helps and hinders them in feeling and being safe at school.

[Full-text](#)

CHILD RIGHTS

What does the Children's Rights Report 2014 say?

Megan Mitchell; National Children's Commissioner
December 2014

The Australian National Children's Commissioner has published a child-friendly version of her Children's Rights Report 2014. The child-friendly report is a short, easy-to-read summary of the contents of the Commissioner's report to Parliament. Children and young people were consulted during the development of the report.

[Full-text](#)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Royal Commission into Family Violence: issues paper

Royal Commission into Family Violence

March 2015

This issues paper provides general guidance to individuals and organisations in making written submissions to the Royal Commission into Family Violence.

[Full-text](#)

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Counselling in schools: a blueprint for the future

UK Department for Education

March 2015

Guidance about setting up and improving counselling services for schools in England. Advice includes: counselling should be part of a whole school commitment to improving mental health and well-being, and pupils should be involved in the development and evaluation of the service.

[Full-text](#)

National Assessment Program - Civics and Citizenship: years 6 and 10 report 2013

Julian Fraillon et al.; Australian Council for Educational Research; Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority

March 2015

The latest figures from a report by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) on the National Assessment Program in Civics and Citizenship (NAP-CC), released by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) reveal that half of the Year 6 and Year 10 students who participated in the sample assessment meet or exceed the 'challenging but reasonable' proficient standard.

[Full-text](#)

What works best: evidence based practices to help improve NSW student performance

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation, Department of Education and Communities (NSW)

March 2015

'What works best' brings together seven themes from the growing bank of evidence we have for what works to improve student educational outcomes. The seven themes addressed here are: High expectations; Explicit teaching; Effective feedback; Use of data to inform practice; Classroom management; Wellbeing; Collaboration

[Full-text](#)

Monitoring trends in educational growth: a partnership service to monitor the educational growth of students in the early to middle years of schooling

Australian Council for Educational Research

April 2015

Monitoring Trends in Educational Growth (MTEG) offers a flexible, collaborative approach to developing and implementing an assessment of learning outcomes that yields high-quality, nationally relevant data. MTEG is a service that involves ACER staff working closely with each country to develop an assessment program that meets the country's monitoring needs while being based as closely as possible on a set of defined design principles and quality standards.

[Full-text](#)

How young people's participation in school supports achievement and attainment

February 2015

Greg Mannion, School of Education, University of Stirling; Commissioner for Children and Young People in Scotland

February 2015

A number of secondary schools with catchments in more deprived areas of Scotland were identified as having higher than expected exam results. Seven of these schools were invited to take part. The research aimed to find out if the schools were addressing pupils' participation and rights in ways that were distinctively supportive of pupil achievement and attainment and how would pupils themselves describe the links between different kinds of participation and 'doing well'.

[Full-text](#)

Fiona Stanley Forum 'Inspired and Engaged Learners – A Conversion' [Video recording]

10 April 2015, Canberra ACT

A facilitated conversation between Lockie Cooke, founder of the ICEA Foundation in Western Australia and a panel of young Australians focusing on the role families and communities can play in developing a generation of inspired and engaged learners. The forum provided an opportunity for young people to share their perspectives on: The importance of education and learning; How they have been influenced by their families and communities in relation to learning; and The action parents, families and communities can take to positively support learning.

*Click 'Launch Webcast' at [ARACY forum link](#)

Childhood education and care, Australia, June 2014

Australian Bureau of Statistics

April 2015

Presents information on children aged 0-12 years and their families. Information presented includes: use of formal and informal care; cost and duration of care; working arrangements used by parents to care for their children; attendance at preschool programs; requirements for additional formal care or preschool; and informal learning.

[Full-text](#)

Attendance in primary school: factors and consequences

Daraganova, G., Mullan, K., & Edwards, B.; Australian Institute of Family Studies: Department of Social Services Occasional Paper Number 51:

October 2014

Using data from the first four waves of Growing up in Australia: the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children, and the National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), this report aims to understand attendance patterns in primary school and examines the effects of students' low attendance on their academic achievement (numeracy and reading). Broadly, the study found that higher levels of non-attendance were associated with lower levels of numeracy in primary school, but not literacy.

[Full-text](#)

EMPLOYMENT

The teenage dream unravels: trends in youth unemployment

Seuwandi Wickramasinghe ; Brotherhood of St Laurence

March 2015

The Brotherhood of St Laurence's national campaign My Chance, Our Future aims to draw attention to the crisis of youth unemployment in Australia. This research analysed the latest data that reveals one in five unemployed Australians is a teenager, and more than 290,000 Australians aged 15 to 24 were categorised as unemployed in January. We also reported the sharp decline in the probability of a young person finding a job from one month to the next.

[Full-text](#)

Career development supporting young Australians: A literature review

Brotherhood of St Laurence (BSL) and the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER)

April 2015

The report emphasises that as the working lives of young people become more casualised and insecure, they will need career development services to help them navigate these difficult work transitions, and need them for longer. . It outlines the existing careers programs and resources available to young Australians. The report was commissioned by Youth Connect.

[Full-text](#)

FAMILY & SOCIETY

World Development Report 2015: Mind, Society, and Behavior

World Bank

March 2015

This report aims to integrate recent findings on the psychological and social underpinnings of behavior to make them available for more systematic use by both researchers and practitioners in development communities. The report draws on findings from many disciplines, including neuroscience, cognitive science, psychology, behavioral economics, sociology, political science, and anthropology. In ongoing research, these findings help explain decisions that individuals make in many aspects of development, including savings, investment, energy consumption, health, and child rearing.

[Full-text](#)

Imputing income in the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children

Killian Mullan, Galina Daraganova, Kalyca Baker; Australian Institute of Family Studies

January 2015

Paper explains why imputing missing income data is of benefit to Longitudinal Study of Australian Children and shows how two techniques have been used in combination to impute this income data.

[Full-text](#)

The Time of Their Lives: Collecting time use data from children in the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children. LSAC Technical Paper No. 13

Corey, J., Gallagher, J., Davis, E., & Marquardt, M.; Australian Bureau of Statistics

November 2014

This LSAC technical paper focuses on the LSAC time use diaries which gather data on how a child spends their time on a given day or days. The diaries, allow researchers to track the relationship between a child's time use and their outcomes such as physical health, relationships, and social skills. The paper provides a detailed explanation of the diaries and how they are used by researchers using LSAC data. It also details how the methodology of the diary has changed over the course of LSAC, including the move from being filled in by parents to being filled in by the child.

[Full-text](#)

Working with culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) adolescents

Child Family Community Australia; CFCA Practitioner Resource

April 2015

This guide is aimed at supporting practitioners in the child, family and community sectors working with 12-17 years olds. The resource highlights the issues research has identified as commonly experienced by CALD adolescents. It provides links to evidence-based reports, resources and practice examples for hands-on application when working with CALD young people. Responses to specific issues are available throughout the resource to support professionals in the child, family and community welfare sectors.

[Full-text](#)

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Young people at high risk of sexual exploitation, absconding, and other significant harms: Literature review

Berry Street Childhood Institute

February 2015

Examination of what is known about young people who have high-risk behaviours, with a particular focus on the phenomena of sexual exploitation and absconding behaviours. The literature review canvassed literature and other documents that have informed and influenced policy and practice within Victoria over the past thirty years. This was supplemented by searches of a number of relevant databases.

[Full-text](#)

Influencing children's health: critical windows for intervention

Associate Professor Anna Timperio, Deakin University; VicHealth

April 2015

Almost one in four Australian children are overweight or obese and one in three expected to be by 2025. This research looks at the key moments for developing healthy habits in children and adolescents. The VicHealth research focuses on understanding the factors which lead to children becoming overweight or obese, particularly in the school, work, home and neighbourhood environments, and suggestions for intervention.

[Full-text](#)

Kids Helpline Insights 2014

Kids Helpline

April 2015

This report provides invaluable insights into the key issues affecting young people, outlining why more than 200,000 children and young people contact Australia's only 24/7 youth specialist counselling service each year, including how they contact the helpline, counselling trends and how Kids Helpline works with others to address national issues like youth self-harm, suicide, mental health and online

safety. The report is supported by the Kids Helpline Insights 2014: National Statistical Overview, as well as regional based State and Territory Reports.

[Full-text](#)

Voices of the Vulnerable: Insights and concerns from young clients accessing our services

Mission Australia

April 2015

Explores the results of the 2014 Youth Survey from the exclusive perspective of 542 of Mission Australia's young clients. It includes a cross section of young people who are accessing Mission Australia's employment, education, homelessness and drug and alcohol services, and reveals that disadvantaged youth place a much higher value on getting a job than other young people.

[Full-text](#)

INDIGENOUS ISSUES

Justice or an Unjust System? Aboriginal over-representation in South Australia's juvenile justice system

South Australian Council of Social Service (SACOSS)

March 2015

Twenty-times more likely to be imprisoned than the non-Aboriginal population and making up 46% of the young people in SA's detention centres, this report highlights the problem of over-representation of Aboriginal young people in this state's juvenile justice system and recommends a new approach to engage Aboriginal people at all levels, with a formally negotiated Indigenous Justice Agreement as a first step.

[Full-text](#)

Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health survey: nutrition results - food and nutrients, 2012-13

Australian Bureau of Statistics

March 2015

The ABS Australian Health Survey (AHS) is the largest and most comprehensive health survey ever conducted in Australia. The survey, conducted throughout Australia, collected a range of information about health related issues as well as new detailed information on nutrition, physical activity, and chronic disease and nutrient biomarkers. The Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (AATSIHS) forms part of the broader AHS.

[Full-text](#)

Overview of Australian Indigenous health status 2014

Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet

April 2015

This Overview of Australian Indigenous health status provides information about: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations; the context of Indigenous health; various measures of population health status; selected health conditions; and health risk and protective factors.

[Full-text](#)

Watering the garden of Family Wellbeing: Empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People to bloom and grow. Recommendations and outcomes from the national roundtable, Empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through the Family Wellbeing program.

March 2014

Report prepared for the Lowitja Institute by Luella Monson-Wilbraham. The central objective of Family Wellbeing (FWB) is to develop Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's skills and capacity to move from a position of disempowerment to empower them with a way to control and change their lives, and demand for FWB and evidence of the program's effectiveness continues to grow.

[Full-text](#)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health organisations: Online Services Report - key results 2013-14

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

April 2015

Sixth national report on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health organisations funded by the Australian Government Department of Health

[Full-text](#)

LAW AND JUSTICE

Gang-involved young people: custody and beyond

Fiona Factor and Professor John Pitts with Dr Tim Bateman; Beyond Youth Custody

April 2015

The latest findings from UK's Beyond Youth Custody found that young gang members who were relocated were particularly vulnerable to feelings of isolation and more prone to drifting back into criminal activity. -Literature review of reports about the rehabilitation of gang-involved young people aged between 10 and 25. The literature review is augmented by interviews with policy makers and practitioners. The fieldwork was undertaken between October and December 2014. 27 professionals attended focus groups in the south-east and north-west of England at which findings from the literature review and the challenges faced by practitioners were explored.

[Full-text](#)

Changes to sentencing practice: young adult offenders

Joe Clare, Cynthia Marwood, Dennis Byles; Victorian Sentencing Advisory Council

April 2015

Report examines the effect on young adult offenders of recent changes to sentencing options in Victoria. In particular, the analysis shows an increase in the use of the community correction order, a sentencing option introduced in Victoria in 2012.

[Full-text](#)

Youth justice in Australia 2013–14

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

April 2015

Presents information on all young people who were under youth justice supervision in Australia during 2013–14, both in the community and in detention. It also explores key aspects of their supervision, and recent trends. Indigenous children and teenagers are 24 times more likely to be incarcerated than their non-Indigenous peers, with the difference even more stark in Western Australia, according to AIHW's report.

[Full-text](#)

Preventing the onset of youth offending: The impact of the Pathways to Prevention Project on child behaviour and wellbeing

Trends & issues in crime and criminal justice no. 481

Ross Homel, Kate Freiberg, Sara Branch and Huong Le; Australian Institute of Criminology
May 2015

The idea has been gathering momentum for 50 years or more that institutions of care such as families or schools are more important in preventing crime than institutions of regulation such as the police. However, there are big gaps in our knowledge about how well civil-society initiatives work, including the effectiveness of family-support services that are often available in socially disadvantaged communities. This paper addresses this knowledge gap through an analysis of data from the child longitudinal database constructed through the Pathways to Prevention Project, a 10 year developmental crime-prevention initiative that operated until 2011 as a partnership between Mission Australia, Education Queensland and Griffith University.

[Full-text](#)

MENTAL HEALTH

KidsMatter Early Childhood Component 4 Literature Review: Helping children who are experiencing mental health difficulties

KidsMatter

February 2015

This guide and literature review focuses on understanding and responding to children who may be experiencing mental health difficulties.

[Full-text](#)

Mental health and behaviour in schools: departmental advice for school staff

UK Department of Education

March 2015

Non-statutory advice clarifying the responsibility of schools and outlining what they can do and how to support a child or young person whose behaviour may be related to an unmet mental health need. Focuses on: promoting positive mental health, including factors that put children at risk; identification; interventions; referral; and commissioning services directly.

[Full-text](#)

Family guide to youth suicide prevention

beyondblue

April 2015

This guide, in the form of separate booklets and fact sheets, aims to help parents and other family members reach out to young people at risk of suicide and to reduce Australia's youth suicide rate.

[Full-text](#)

PARTICIPATION

Children and young people as complainants [Seminar transcript]

Megan Mitchell, Children's Commissioner; Complaint Handlers' Information Sharing and Liasion (CHISaL) Seminar 25 February 2015

Megan Mitchell speaks about the right of children be heard, the barriers children face in making complaints, and how policies and practices might be improved. Jodie Ball, Deputy Director of Investigation and Conciliation, answered specific questions about the steps undertaken by the Human Rights Commission to make their complaints processes more child-friendly.

[Transcript](#)

Connect with Children Consultation Report

GoodBeginnings

February 2015

Involving children in decision making and recognising the validity of their voices is a concept that is gradually gaining broader recognition, however in practice continues to experience barriers in implementation. Two broad questions guided the consultation. These questions are: What is important to children and young people? and What do children and young people think about the service they receive?

Lists of sub-questions were provided to assist the consultation process; however the approach was locally owned and designed, enabling maximum relevance to the communities in which the consultations were located. Children's responses have been aligned with Key Result Areas of the Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) project The NEST. The NEST is a national action plan to improve the wellbeing of children and young people.

[Full-text](#)

POVERTY & HOMELESSNESS

Getting the house in order: keeping homeless older teenagers safe

Iryna Pona and Richard Crellin; The Children's Society UK

March 2015

Report on teenage homelessness. Based on responses from 259 councils, findings include: only half of homeless 16 and 17-year-olds who asked councils for help received an assessment despite the legal obligation to provide one. Recommendations include: ensuring teenagers are still treated as a child in need even if they refuse looked after status.

[Full-text](#)

The structural drivers of homelessness in Australia 2001–11

Gavin Wood, Deb Batterham, Melek Cigdem, Shelley Mallett

Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, RMIT University

March 2015

This project involved descriptive analysis and modelling techniques to understand the structural drivers of homelessness, using data from three Census periods (2001, 2006 and 2011). Homelessness is found to be highly spatially concentrated, with 42 per cent of the nation's homeless population concentrated in only 33 of the 328 regions (i.e. 10% of all regions) in 2011. By contrast, such regions received only 34 per cent of homelessness resources (in terms of SHS capacity). While this spatial mismatch of resourcing has lessened over time, redressing this imbalance is an important area for policy attention.

[Full-text](#)

Addressing entrenched disadvantage in Australia

Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA)

April 2015

Despite Australia's low unemployment rate and record levels of workforce participation, there are a significant number of communities in Australia experiencing entrenched disadvantage. In this policy perspective, CEDA examines issues associated with the economics of disadvantage, such as: The nature and extent of disadvantage; The cost and dynamics of disadvantage; and New ways to address entrenched disadvantage.

[Full-text](#)

TECHNOLOGY AND ONLINE SAFETY

Images of children and young people online

Australian Institute of Family Studies

CFCA Resource Sheet— April 2015

Resource Sheet providing information about safety and good practice when images of children and young people are displayed online. It outlines the legal obligations for Internet users who post images of children and young people on the Internet, and some of the emerging issues associated with the displaying of online images by children and young people. Guidance is also provided for supporting children and young people to be safe online. Throughout this paper, a child or young person refers to a person under the age of 18 years.

[Full-text](#)

Towards a super connected Australia - GenNBN: understanding Australia's most connected generation

Bernard Salt

April 2015

This report looks at the themes and the technologies that have been central to the making of the modern Australia lifestyle, from the time of Federation right through to today and beyond. It also investigates how the introduction of fast broadband could be the catalyst for a new generation, Australia's most connected generation, 'GenNBN'.

[Full-text](#)

2015 Stand Together lesson plans: Being reasonable and ethical online

Bullying. No Way!; Supportive School Communities (SSSC) Working Group

January 2015

Using a tree analogy, these lessons engage students in a community of inquiry that examines the qualities of respectful relationships (friendships), communicating with others online, and being reasonable and ethical when online. A suite of three 60 minute lesson plans and supporting resources for students in Years 3–4, 5–6, 7–9 and 10–12.

[Full-text](#)

'Self-bullying' online a new phenomenon, safety expert says

Lorna Siggins, The Irish Times

13 April 2015

Young girls writing negative messages to themselves has become a new form of self-harm through social media, a global social network's safety executive has said.

Ask.fm Europe's director of trust and safety Annie Mullins said that children "writing to themselves" has become the "biggest" cyber-bullying issue that the network faced. While the trend was not identified as a serious risk in Ireland, it had become an issue in a number of countries where "the most nasty horrid, awful statements" were being written by children to themselves.

[Full-text](#)

Teens, Social Media & Technology Overview 2015

Amanda Lenhart; Pew Research Center, US

April 2015

Aided by the convenience and constant access provided by mobile devices, especially smartphones, 92% of teens report going online daily — including 24% who say they go online "almost constantly,"

according to a new US study from Pew Research Center. More than half (56%) of teens — defined in this report as those ages 13 to 17 — go online several times a day, and 12% report once-a-day use. Just 6% of teens report going online weekly, and 2% go online less often.

[Full-text](#)

Recent journal articles

For a copy of any of these articles contact Barbara Glass, Information Coordinator at barbara.glass@kids.nsw.gov.au or Ext.7294

Youth Field Xpress, Issue 224, April 2015

Australian Clearinghouse for Youth Studies

Contents of April issue include:

- NYCH meeting sets targets for youth homelessness change
- Careers education needed more than ever: transition and work
- Home & Safety Video: The grim reality of life behind bars aims to deter youth from a life of crime

[Full-text](#)

Cued recall of alcohol advertising on television and underage drinking behavior.

Tanski, S.E. et al.

JAMA Pediatrics 169(3) 2015, 264–271

The researchers examined the reach of television alcohol advertising and its effect on drinking among underage youth. Receptivity to television alcohol advertising predicted the transition to multiple drinking outcomes. The findings are consistent with the idea that marketing self-regulation has failed to keep television alcohol advertising from reaching large numbers of underage persons and affecting their drinking patterns.

[Abstract](#)

All in the family: a retrospective study comparing sibling bullying and peer bullying

Lori A. Hoetger, et al.

Journal of family violence (Vol.30, No.1) January 2015 pp 103-111 Reports on research with 392 young American adults into retrospective experience of sibling and peer bullying. Found that participants viewed bullying behaviours between peers and siblings as somewhat similar, but sibling bullying behaviours were reported to be perpetrated and experienced more often. Sibling bullying behaviour was less likely to be reported outside the family. Concludes that sibling bullying may be widespread but often remains within the family and is not reported. Recommends that bullying intervention programmes should educate children about bullying in a variety of settings including the home.

[More information](#)

Students' Perceptions of Their Own Victimization: A Youth Voice Perspective

Emma-Kate Corby, Marilyn Campbell et al.

Journal of School Violence, January 2015

The article investigates the perceptions of 156 students who were victims of both traditional and cyberbullying (117 female, 45 male), ages 10 to 17 years, as to which form of bullying was more hurtful. Overall, students perceived traditional victimization to be more hurtful than cyber victimization. Reasons identified in the data to explain the different perceptions of victims were categorized and found to relate to: the bully, the bystanders, the bullying incidents, the emotional impact on the victim, and the victim's ability to respond. The perceptions of these students challenge

a number of suppositions presented in the literature that attempt to explain why cyberbullying is associated with more negative outcomes than traditional bullying. The implications for antibullying programs to address these issues are discussed.

[Full-text](#)

Childhood Self-Control and Unemployment Throughout the Life Span: Evidence From Two British Cohort Studies

Michael Daly et al.

Psychological Science, published online April 13, 2015

Parents who work to instill self-control in their children will see them reap the benefits not only in the short-term but throughout their working life, according to this new research. The researchers who led the study found that children with high self-control — who are typically better able to pay attention, persist with difficult tasks, and suppress inappropriate or impulsive behaviors — are much more likely to find and retain employment as adults, spending 40% less time unemployed than those who had a lower capacity for self-control as children. The researchers used two studies of more than 15,000 British children to examine the link between self-control and adult unemployment. Self-control was measured at ages as young as 7 and the analyses adjusted for intelligence, social class, and family background and health factors.

[Abstract](#)

Does School Type Affect Cognitive and Non-Cognitive Development in Children? Evidence from Australian Primary Schools

Hong Son Nghiem; et al.

Labour Economics, March 2015 [note: PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication]

This paper investigates the effects of primary school choices on cognitive and non-cognitive development in children using data from the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC). The authors from University of Queensland, Curtin University and the University of Southern Queensland militate against the measurement problems that are associated with individual unobserved heterogeneity by exploiting the richness of LSAC data and applying contemporary econometric approaches. They find that sending children to Catholic or other independent primary schools has no significant effect on their cognitive and non-cognitive outcomes. The literature now has evidence from three different continents that the returns to attending Catholic primary schools are no different than public schools.

[Full-text](#)

Social Influence on Risk Perception During Adolescence

Lisa J Knoll, Lucía Magis-Weinberg, Maarten Speekenbrink, Sarah-Jayne Blakemore

Psychological Science OnlineFirst, 2015 March 25 Adolescents have a greater likelihood of taking risks when they are with peers rather than alone. In this study, we investigated the development of social influence on risk perception from late childhood through adulthood. Five hundred and sixty-three participants rated the riskiness of everyday situations and were then informed about the ratings of a social-influence group (teenagers or adults) before rating each situation again. All age groups showed a significant social-influence effect, changing their risk ratings in the direction of the provided ratings; this social-influence effect decreased with age. Most age groups adjusted their ratings more to conform to the ratings of the adult social-influence group than to the ratings of the teenager social-influence group.

[Full-text](#)

Digital lives

Louis Weinstock

BACP Children & Young People, March 2015

Longitudinal research papers on the effects of digital device usage on the young brain are in short supply. Louis Weinstock suggests that we encourage children to consult their own experiential evidence concerning the time they spend using digital devices, and that we harness the power of digital technology to enhance children's internal capacity for wellbeing.

[Full-text](#)

Forthcoming conferences and events

This list is cumulative

New events added since the last issue of What's New are highlighted in red

MAY 2015		
7-8 May	Melbourne Vic	Understanding & Promoting the Mental Health & Wellbeing of Young People
8-9 May	Adelaide SA	Early Childhood Australia Reconciliation Symposium
11-14 May	Cairns Qld	Creating Futures: Evidence and Creativity in Tropical and Remote Settings
12 May	Sydney NSW	Tackling Complex Social Problems with Mark Cabaj: Moving the Needle on Complex Social Issues
13 May	Sydney NSW	Tackling Complex Social Problems with Mark Cabaj: Developmental Evaluation
19 May	Ballina NSW	Keep them Safe Seminar: Centre for Children and Young People, Southern Cross University
18-19 May	Melbourne, Vic	2015 Child Aware Approaches conference
18-19 May	Gold Coast, Qld	Eating Disorders and Obesity conference
24-27 May	Darwin, NT	13th National Rural Health Conference
JUNE 2015		
4-5 June	Melbourne, Vic	5th ACFID University Network Conference : Evidence and practice in an age of inequality
10-11 June	Sydney NSW	Ending Domestic Violence Conference
10-11 June	Sydney NSW	Happiness & Its Causes
10-11 June	Ottawa Canada	Families in Canada Conference 2015
11-12 June	Sydney NSW	Positive schools – mental health and wellbeing conference – Body of Evidence (conference will also held in Brisbane, Melbourne and Fremantle)

17 June	London UK	How safe are our children? National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children conference 2015
24-26 June	Hobart, Tasmania	Coming together for Australia's Children, ARACY Early Years Chapter and the Tasmanian Early Years Foundation ** Full program now available >>
24-26 June	Perth, WA	Third National Conference on Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
24-26 June	Cairns, Qld	Suicide & Self-harm Prevention Conference
25-26 June	Sydney NSW	ACOSS National Conference: Advancing the Common Good
29-30 June	Gold Coast Qld	No2 Bullying Conference
29-30 June	Canberra ACT	Australian Youth Mentoring Conference
29-30 June	Newcastle NSW	RYDON Youth Conference – Inspiring, practical and inventive approaches to working with & engaging young people
JULY 2015		
5-9 July	Perth WA	International Symposium of the World Society of Victimology
6-8 July	Sydney NSW	24th National Vocational Education and Training Research Conference 'No Frills' – Youth; Pathways; Skills
8-10 July	Brisbane NSW	Crime, Justice and Social Democracy Conference
8-11 July	Wellington NZ	Australasian Human Development Association Conference - Growing Healthy Young People, Children and Families
19-20 July	Albany WA	Building capacity – growing our children together
24 July	Sydney NSW	The Mental Health and Wellbeing of Young People - Generation Next
26-29 July	Hobart Tas	National Suicide Prevention Conference
29-30 July	Melbourne Vic	Community Work 2015 : Working together for the community
AUGUST 2015		
12-14 August	Surfers Paradise Qld	International Mental Health Conference
13-15 August	Canberra ACT	National LGBTI Health Alliance Health in Difference Conference 2015
25-28 August	Canberra ACT	The Mental Health Services (MHS) Conference 2015: Translating best practice into reality
31 August – 6 September	All States	National Literacy and Numeracy Week 2015 (*Noted in ACYP Policy and Research Events Calender)
SEPTEMBER 2015		
2 September	All States	Indigenous Literacy Day (*Noted in ACYP Policy and Research Events

		Calender)
4 September	All States	Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards for school aged children (*Noted in ACYP Policy and Research Events Calender)
6-9 September	Hobart Tas	Population Health Congress 2015
6-12 September	National, State and Territory events	National Child Protection Week
14-17 September	Perth, WA	SNAICC Conference - Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care
17-18 September	Melbourne, Vic	Victorian Homelessness Conference 2015
21-23 September	Prato, Italy	Young people and the law: international approaches to care, corrections and intervention
25-26 September	Melbourne Vic	Infants and Toddlers: Practice, Pedagogy & Research 2015
28-30 September	Kensington NSW	Australian Social Policy Conference : Rights and Entitlements in Times of Austerity
OCTOBER 2015		
2-4 October	Brisbane Qld	Youth for Change conference: Creating a better future
7-9 October	Gold Coast Qld	National Indigenous Say No to Domestic Violence Conference: Focus on a Brighter Future
8-10 October	Montreal, Canada	3rd International Conference on Youth Mental Health
20 October	Canberra ACT	Children's Week Council of Australia Inc. United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child 25 years on : Australia's children yesterday today tomorrow
24 Oct-1 Nov	National, State and Territory events	2015 Children's Week
28-30 October	Perth, WA	National Housing Conference 2015
NOVEMBER 2015		
4-6 November	Melbourne Vic	Australian and New Zealand Association for the Treatment of Sexual Abuse (ANZATSA) 7th Biennial International Research Theory & Practice Conference
9-10 November	Melbourne, Vic	Australian Long-Term Unemployment Conference
25 November	National, State and Territory events	White Ribbon Day : Australia's campaign to stop violence against women

Contributions to *What's New* and book suggestions for library are welcome.
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