

Advocate for Children and Young People

Current awareness bulletin

October 2016

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Articles and publications

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Lancet series on urban design, transport and health

Billie Giles-Corti et al.

The Lancet, 23 September 2016

A 3-part Series in *The Lancet* explores how integrated multisector city planning, including urban design and transport planning, can be used as an important and currently underused force for health and wellbeing within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals in both high-income countries and low-income and middle-income countries. Article titles include: Urban design: an important future force for health and wellbeing; Healthier neighbourhoods through healthier parks; Urban design and transport to promote healthy lives; City planning and population health: a global challenge; Use of science to guide city planning policy and practice: how to achieve healthy and sustainable future cities. Free full-text access at the register link below.

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CHILD PROTECTION

Child protection Australia 2014-2015

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)

October 2016

Comprehensive information on state and territory child protection and support services in 2014-15, and on the characteristics of Australian children within the child protection system. This report shows that: 151,980 children, a rate of 28.6 per 1,000 children, received child protection services (investigation, care and protection order and/or were in out-of-home care); three-quarters (73 per cent) of these children had previously been the subject of an investigation, care and protection order and/or were in out-of-home care; and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were 7 times as likely as non-Indigenous children to be receiving child protection services.

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Child abuse and neglect statistics [Update]

Adam Dean, Child Family Community Australia (CFCA)

CFCA Resource Sheet, October 2016

This paper presents and discusses a snapshot of data describing child protection activity in Australia. The data presented is a summary of the data provided in Child Protection Australia 2014-15 published by Australian Institute of Health and Welfare [AIHW].

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Scoping study for research into prevalence of child sexual abuse in Australia

Ben Mathews et al.; Social Policy Research Centre (UNSW)

September 2016

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse appointed a team of researchers to scope the research design, methodology, cost and governance structure of two studies investigating the prevalence of child maltreatment in Australia, including the prevalence of institutional child sexual abuse. The first study would estimate the prevalence of child maltreatment in a representative sample of Australian adults, while the second study would estimate the prevalence among Australian young people.

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Families with complex needs and the intersection of the family law and child protection systems: final report

Family Law Council

October 2016

This report was developed in response to the growing concerns in Australia about the separation of federal family law and state and territory child protection and family violence systems, and the risks to children's safety associated with this situation. The report notes the growth in the number of suspected child abuse reports across all states and territories in Australia and the increase in such matters being referred to the Family Law Court. It also covers a range of matters in relation to families with complex needs seeking to resolve their parenting disputes.

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The next chapter in child protection legislation for Queensland: options paper

Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services (QLD)

November 2016

Queensland government is undertaking a comprehensive redesign of the Child Protection Act 1999. This paper proposes possible responses to thirteen specific areas identified during the initial consultation. Options also respond to outstanding recommendations in the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry final report.

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic and family violence initiatives and funding across Australian jurisdictions in 2016-17: A quick guide

Helen Portillo-Castro

Parliamentary Library Research Paper Series 2016-17, October 2016

This Parliament of Australia resource summarises recent funding commitments by state and territory governments to address domestic and family violence. It provides context for these commitments by giving an overview of the national framework for reform to which all jurisdictions have subscribed. It also explains how the National Plan relates to federal, state and territory funding.

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Identifying and responding to family violence and child safety concerns; Findings from the AIFS Evaluation of the 2012 family violence amendments

Rachel Carson, Rae Kaspiew, Jessie Dunstan et al.; Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS)

Family Matters, No.98, November 2016

The Family Law Legislation Amendment (Family Violence and Other Measures) Act 2011(Cth) introduced amendments to the Family Law Act 1975 (Cth) that were primarily intended to improve the family law system's screening of, and response to, family violence and child abuse. AIFS was commissioned by the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department to undertake an evaluation of these 2012 family violence reforms, with the reports arising from this evaluation being released in late 2015. The evaluation showed that children's needs are still being ignored and family violence is going undetected, with a substantial minority of separated parents in the survey not being asked about family violence.

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ECONOMICS

The cost of violence against women and their children in Australia

KPMG; prepared for Department of Social Services

May 2016

This report is to update KPMG's 2009 report and analysis, The Cost of Violence against Women and their Children. This report also seeks to enhance, refine, and extend the previous approach to contribute better to the evidence base for the implementation of the National Plan and the development of the Third Action Plan 2016-2019.

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The Cost of unresolved childhood trauma and abuse in adults in Australia

Dr.Cathy Kezelman et al.; Blue Knot Foundation

2015

Blue Knot Foundation (formerly called Adults Surviving Child Abuse (ASCA) and Pegasus Economics developed this report on the economic impact of unresolved childhood trauma and abuse in adults in Australia. The report highlights a strategy for addressing the structural budget deficit by addressing the public health issue of childhood trauma and abuse at its core.

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Two Years are Better Than One: Developing a universal preschool program for Australian 3 year olds - evidence, policy and implementation

Mitchell Institute

October 2016

Report argues that an extra year of preschool has positive impacts for all children and is one of the most effective strategies to change the life course of the quarter of children and young people experiencing education challenges across the country. While Australia currently provides one year of preschool, this report shows that two years can do even more to improve brain growth and emotional wellbeing, and is especially beneficial for children experiencing developmental vulnerabilities.

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Learning to be more human

Karen Prout

SVA Quarterly, October 2016

Discusses the ideas proposed by global education consultant, Charles Leadbeater in which he identifies four features of innovative schools essential to prepare students for the changing world of work. They centre around developing students' humanity. At a gathering of school leaders Charles Leadbeater previewed his now released report, The Problem Solvers. In the report, Leadbeater states if education is going to prepare students for the future world of work, its core purpose needs to shift from teaching students to follow instructions to preparing students to identify and solve problems.

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The problem solvers; The teachers, the students and the radically disruptive nuns who are leading a global learning movement

Charles Leadbeater

June 2016

The author argues that schools should be 'teaching young people to find interesting questions; to come up with solutions that no one has thought of; and to work together to create things that make a difference in the world. We need to develop people who are better at being human.'

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Measuring STEM in vocational education and training

Patrick Korbel; National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER)

October 2016

This paper explores ways to measure how the vocational education and training (VET) sector is contributing to the development of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) related skills. The STEM-related skills and knowledge are considered necessary for the changing economy.

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What is STEM? The need for unpacking its definitions and applications

Gitta Siekmann; National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER)

October 2016

'STEM' as a synonym for a diverse group of skills and academic fields and the term poses various problems in terms of workforce planning and targeted interventions. This summary brings together findings from NCVER research investigating educational and occupational concepts and their associated definitions raised in the literature review.

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EMPLOYMENT

State of the Family report - Positions vacant? when the jobs aren't there

Anglicare Australia

October 2016

The report shows a total of 732,000 Australians were registered as unemployed and an estimated 875,200 were underemployed in June. There is only one job advertised for every six low-skilled job seekers who are increasingly excluded from the workforce, raising concerns about a growing number of Australians forced to live below the poverty line. This new report shows there were 138,044 people competing for 21,812 entry-level jobs advertised nationally in May. The snapshot shows only 13 per cent of all jobs advertised in May were at the entry level, requiring year 10 or equivalent education.

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PwC Young Workers Index and report 2016

Price Waterhouse

October 2016

Price Waterhouse Cooper's Young Workers index found that increasing the number of youth in jobs, education and training by three per cent was worth \$17 billion and would lift gross domestic product by 1.1 per cent. The global index charts how 35 OECD countries develop the potential of workers aged between 15 and 24. It found that Australia has almost 87 per cent of its youth in employment, education or training, which compared unfavourably to the leading countries in the index at around the 90 per cent mark.

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The future of work - setting kids up for success

Regional Australia Institute; nbn, Australia's broadband network

November 2016

Report reveals that to remain competitive in the 2030 job market, one in two Australians will need skills in programming and software development, as well as an ability to build digital technology. A mix of global trends

are coming together to radically re-shape the world of work. These trends include global urbanisation, ageing and expanding middle classes, ever-increasing global trade in goods and services, and the rapid acceleration of innovation in digital technologies. The high demand jobs will be in the areas of high tech jobs, high touch jobs and high care jobs.

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What next?: Addressing New Zealand's youth unemployment

Alan Johnson, The Salvation Army Social Policy and Parliamentary Unit (New Zealand)

October 2016

The Salvation Army states that New Zealand needs to fully resource a set of expectations for individuals, ensuring all school leavers go into work or further training at least until they reach 20 years old. The author argues that persistent unemployment in this age group suggests Government and some industries see immigration as an easy-fix to skill shortages, rather than tipping the balance in favour of upskilling young New Zealanders. Specific responses such as connecting school to work and more apprenticeships and younger apprentices are among the recommendations.

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FAMILY AND SOCIETY

Global Youth Development Index

Commonwealth Secretariat

October 2016

Australia has ranked third in a global survey of opportunities for young people and is the highest ranked Commonwealth country. The survey ranks 183 countries according to the prospects for young people in employment, education and health, and their opportunities for engagement in the civic sphere and politics. Germany achieved the top rank for youth development, followed by Denmark and Australia while the Central African Republic had the lowest score. The report, the second to be issued following one in 2013, looked at 18 indicators including literacy and mental disorder rates, financial inclusion and voter engagement.

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The Australia we want report, first report

Community Council of Australia (CCA)

October 2016

The Community Council for Australia (CCA) is framing new policy platforms for the future of the Australian charities and not-for-profit sector. 60 key sector leaders were brought together to discuss and develop an outline of the goals and measures that reflect the kind of Australia we want to live in. This report is a comprehensive assessment of an emerging national agenda for change. It is the first set of findings, the benchmark on how Australia is performing against measures indicating the kind of Australia leaders in the sector would like to live in.

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A Synopsis of The Valuing Children Initiative Benchmark Survey 2016 - Part A

Essential Research; The Valuing Children Initiative

November 2016

Eighty per cent of Australians are concerned about the health and happiness of future generations of Australian children, according to The Valuing Children Initiative Benchmark. The data was weighted after quotas were placed on age, gender and location. Participants were drawn from the ResearchNow online survey panel. Further, less than half of those surveyed believe that all children in Australia have a fair and equal opportunity to flourish and to maximise their potential, while nearly 50 per cent believe governments give too little consideration to children.

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Everyday sexism: girls' and young women's views on gender inequality in Australia; Plan International Australia and Our Watch survey

IPSOS Australia

October 2016

The survey found that while most young women and girls believe that gender equality is improving in Australia, many, like young women in other parts of the world, still experience and perceive inequality, lack of safety or security, and disrespect in many contexts, including at home, on public transport and in public spaces, online, at work, and in their relationships.

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Every last girl: free to live, free to learn, free from harm

Amanda Lenhardt et al.; Save the Children

October 2016

Report ranks the best and worst countries to be a girl. It includes a 'Girls' Opportunity Index' which measures countries against five indicators: early marriage, adolescent pregnancy, maternal mortality, women in parliament, and secondary school completion. The report shows that Australia has been outranked by countries including Serbia and Slovenia, being placed 21st out of 144 nations.

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Building safe and strong families: earlier intervention and family support strategy

Department for Child Protection and Family Support (WA)

September 2016

The Department for Child Protection and Family Support has developed the strategy in partnership with the community services sector to enable the service system to be more responsive and effective for the most vulnerable families in Western Australia.

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Diversity, complexity and change in children's households

Jennifer Baxter, Australian Institute of Family Studies

September 2016

Two in five Australian children live in households with more complex family relationships at some stage during their childhood. Complex households are simply non-traditional households, and these are very much the mainstream with over 40 per cent of children having experienced some form of family complexity before they reach the age of 13.

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The longitudinal study of Australian children: annual statistical report 2015

Australian Institute of Family Studies

October 2016

This report produced by the Australian Institute of Family Studies aims to provide valuable insights into family functioning and child development for researchers, policy-makers, and those who provide services and support, as well as the community at large. Using five waves of LSAC data, this report covers a variety of aspects of the ways in which Australian children's experiences and environments affect their prospects and progress, from birth to 13 years old.

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HEALTH

Child maltreatment and problem gambling: A systematic review

Wendy Lanea, Paul Saccoc, Katherine Downton et al.

Child Abuse and Neglect, Volume 58 August 2016

This study systematically reviews research on child maltreatment and risk of gambling problems in adulthood. It also reviews adult problem gamblers' risk of abusing or neglecting their own children. Multiple database searches were conducted using pre-defined search terms related to gambling and child abuse and neglect. Six of seven studies examining childhood sexual abuse and four of five examining physical abuse showed a significant positive association between abuse and later gambling problems. The authors proposed that future

studies of gambling pathology could include questions about the effects of gambling on children, in order to increase the research evidence base regarding maltreatment risk of children of problem gamblers.

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Rethinking development and health; Findings from the Global Burden of Disease Study

Sean McKee

October 2016

Global Burden of Disease (GBD) is one of the largest compilations of global health morbidity and mortality data, spanning 1990 to 2015. It was established in the early 1990s in order to overcome the gaps and mismatches in existing health data, and to come up with a way of systematically examining the distribution and trends in disease, injuries, and risk factors worldwide.

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Childhood bullying victimization and overweight in young adulthood: A cohort study

Baldwin, Jessie et al.

Psychosomatic Medicine, Vol.78(9) November-December 2016

Previous studies dating back to the 1960s linked bullying in childhood with a greater propensity to overweight as adults. This research team set out to examine whether bullying in a modern context would have similar effects on weight, given that it may take different forms today (e.g. cyberbullying) than it did in the 1960s. The environment children grow up in today has also changed, with unhealthy food more readily available and sedentary lifestyles more common. The research study found that once again children who are bullied in school are more likely to be overweight in their adult age than the non-bullied ones. The study further suggested that children who were chronically bullied in school are 1.7 times overweight as young adults than non-bullied children.

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Perceptions of early body image socialization in families: Exploring knowledge, beliefs, and strategies among mothers of preschoolers

Janet M. Liechty, Kristen Harrison and Samantha Clarke

Body Image, Volume 19, December 2016, Pages 68-78

Preschoolers may express awareness about body-image issues - but their parents may miss opportunities to promote positive body-image formation in their children because parents believe them to be too young to have these concerns, new research suggests. University of Illinois eating disorders and body-image expert Janet Liechty, who led the study, said young children are forming their body images - positive or negative - far earlier than many parents expect and largely outside of parental awareness.

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The drinking habits of youth in NSW, Australia: latest data and influencing factors

Ralph Moore et al.

Public Health Research & Practice, September 2016

The New South Wales School Students Health Behaviours Survey (2014) reported a substantial reduction in students aged 12-17 years reporting that they had ever consumed alcohol, from 82.7 per cent in 2005 to 65.1 per cent in 2014. Similar downward trends are reported nationally and internationally. This paper identifies some of the diverse influences on young people's alcohol consumption, and policies and programs that support healthy behaviours.

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INCLUSION

Building belonging: A toolkit for early childhood educators on cultural diversity and responding to prejudice

Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC)

October 2016

This comprehensive toolkit of early education resources includes an ebook, song with actions, educator guide, posters and lesson plans. It is focussed on encouraging respect for cultural diversity and tackling racial prejudice in early childhood settings.

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INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Overcoming Indigenous disadvantage: Key indicators 2016

Productivity Commission

November 2016

The Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage report measures the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, identifying where things have improved (or not) against 52 indicators across a range of areas including governance, leadership and culture, early childhood, education, health, home and safe and supportive communities. The report includes case studies on things that work to improve outcomes. The report has been produced in consultation with all Australian governments and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

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Always was, always will be Koori children; Systemic inquiry into services provided to Aboriginal children and young people in out-of-home care in Victoria

Commission for Children and Young People, Victoria

October 2016

Victoria's child protection system has failed Aboriginal children in the state on an individual and systemic basis, a landmark state-wide investigation of nearly 1,000 cases by the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People Andrew Jackomos has found. Mr Jackomos said the groundbreaking Taskforce 1000 investigation found children were taken from home for their own safety only for many to suffer physical, mental and cultural neglect across multiple agencies, including child protection, police, education, and health.

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The Family Matters report; Measuring trends to turn the tide on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child safety and removal

University of Melbourne, the Centre for Evidence and Implementation, SNAICC, National Voice for our Children and Save the Children Australia

November 2016

On 9 November 2016, the Family Matters campaign released its inaugural report. This report revealed alarming results on the state of child protection in Australia for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children. Among the findings were that the numbers of Indigenous children in the child protection system is set to triple (from 15,000 to 45,000) by 2035 should current trends continue and only 17 per cent (\$700 million) of overall child protection funding was invested in support services for children and their families. This baseline report will now be produced annually to measure progress.

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander suicide prevention evaluation project (ATSISPEP); Evaluation report

Professor Pat Dudgeon et al.; University of Western Australia

November 2016

The report's lead author Professor Pat Dudgeon from UWA's School of Indigenous Studies, said the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Suicide Prevention Evaluation Project (ATSISPEP) had evaluated 88 suicide prevention programs Australia-wide to identify the successful ones. Among the 17 recommendations were that Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services should remain the preferred providers to mental health care within their communities and Indigenous young people should be supported and trained to work in suicide prevention among their peer group. The researchers also developed an evaluation tool to ensure vital factors were employed in suicide prevention programs and to measure the level of success of these programs.

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LAW AND JUSTICE

Young people in child protection and under youth justice supervision 2014-15

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)

October 2016

A better understanding of the characteristics and pathways of children and young people who are both in the child protection system and under youth justice supervision can assist support staff, case workers and policy makers to get the best outcomes for these children and young people. This report presents information on young people aged 10-17 who were involved in the child protection system and subject to youth justice supervision at some time during 2014-15, using data from the linked child protection and youth justice supervision data collection. Results are limited to the 5 jurisdictions with both child protection and youth justice National Minimum Data Set data for 2014-15 (Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory) - a total of 30,402 young people aged 10-17.

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Violent criminal careers: A retrospective longitudinal study

Wai-Yin Wan and Don Weatherburn; NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR)

Crime and Justice Bulletin, No. 198, September 2016

Contrary to popular belief, most violent offenders brought to court appear to stop offending after their first conviction. BOCSAR tracked the offending patterns of all 26,472 offenders born between 1986 and 1990 (inclusive) that had at least one violent offence proved against them before 31 December 2014. The mean follow-up time was 6.35 years but the longest follow-up period was 21 years. In the median case, after 20 years, an estimated 77 per cent had not been convicted of a further violent offence. BOCSAR found, however, that the risk of violent re-offending varied greatly across different offender groups.

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Laying the guideposts for participatory practice: Children's participation in family law matters

Kylie Beckhouse

Family Matters, November 2016 No.98

Article focusing on the role of Independent Children's Lawyers. Drawing on international learnings, it reviews how children's voices in family law court proceedings are heard, analyses different approaches, identifies some structural impediments that may inhibit participatory practice, and outlines some enhancements that could be made to improve children's participation in the Australian family law system.

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One way or many ways: Screening for family violence in family mediation

Helen Cleak and Andrew Bickerdike

Family Matters, November 2016 No.98

Research suggests that screening for family violence among mediation clients has not been very effective, and there is also significant disagreement as to what constitutes best practice for screening in this context. This article discusses the research on these issues, including family law reforms to address family violence, the prevalence of allegations of family violence among separating families, opportunities for and facilitating disclosure, barriers to disclosure, approaches to screening in mediation, Australian and international screening tools, prevalence and severity of partner violence among clients, and needed screening and risk assessment processes.

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Patterns of recorded offending behaviour amongst young Victorian offenders

Paul Sutherland, Melanie Millsteed; Crime Statistics Agency

September 2016

This paper uses a statistical technique, the semi-parametric group-based method, to identify the latent offending trajectories of a cohort of Victorian offenders born over a two year period between April 1996 and March 1998, across the first eight years of their offending as recorded by Victoria Police. The analysis identified four trajectory groups: 'low', 'adolescent limited', 'late developing' and 'high', with the vast majority of

offenders falling into the low group. Risk factors for inclusion in one of the three higher rate trajectory groups included being male, identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, and living in one of the most socio-economically disadvantaged areas at the commencement of their offending record.

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MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health and wellbeing of young people 2016 [Seminar presentations]

Generation Next

June 2016

Presentation notes and materials from a series of seminars organised by Generation Next and held in Australian states in mid 2016. Topics include respectful relationships; Radicalisation and vulnerable youth/Dr Clarke Jones; Understanding self-Harm and how to support young people/Michelle Mitchell; Gambling and young people/Dr Wayne Warburton; Practical strategies for schools to tackle racism/Dr Naomi Priest.

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School-based depression and anxiety prevention programs for young people: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Aliza Werner-Seidler et al.; Black Dog Institute

Clinical Psychological Review, (forthcoming issue) Volume 51, February 2017, Pages 30-47

This global research analysis shows that national delivery of school-based prevention programs will reduce incidence of depression and anxiety. The analysis of 81 research trials from across the world showed that the anxiety and depression prevention programs were still having an effect more than 12 months after delivery, suggesting that the benefit is sustained. Interestingly, for depression prevention programs, effects were greater when programs were delivered to students aged 14 years or younger.

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The ripple effect: understanding the exposure and impact of suicide in Australia

Suicide Prevention Australia

September 2016

The analysis is based on the responses of 3,220 Australian residents who self-identified as having been touched by suicide in some way. Among its key findings, the report highlights that suicide is a public health issue in Australia with 89 per cent of respondents stating they knew someone who had attempted suicide and 85 per cent knew someone who had died by suicide.

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OUT OF HOME CARE

Supporting young people leaving out-of-home care

Monica Campo and Joanne Commerford; Child Family Community Australia (CFCA)

CFCA Paper, No. 41, October 2016

The transition from adolescence to adulthood - emerging adulthood - is now recognised as a significant stage in the life cycle in developmental, emotional and social terms. Young people leaving out-of-home care face this transition without family support and with significant extra barriers such as poor mental health, intellectual and physical disabilities, and developmental delays. They are further disadvantaged through structural impediments and economic and social policy factors, such as the lack of affordable or appropriate housing and high unemployment. This paper examines the international and Australian literature to identify key areas of support that may help young people to successfully transition from care.

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Children in care [Update]

Lucy Ockenden and Kathryn Goldsworthy, Child Family Community Australia (CFCA)

CFCA Resource Sheet, October 2016

Paper provides a snapshot of the data on Australian children and young people who were in out-of-home-care during 2014-15. Some of the key challenges in providing a safe and stable care arrangement are also discussed. [weblink](#)

Broken homes; On the frontline of Australia's child protection crisis

Linton Besser, Four Corners

ABC TV, Monday 14 November 2016

Four Corners investigation into residential group homes has found some of the country's most damaged children are still being placed in danger. Now, it's not state institutions in the spotlight, but private providers, beneficiaries of a multi-billion-dollar taxpayer-funded industry.

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Quality Assurance Framework (QAF); An overview

NSW Family and Community Services (FACS)

October 2016

The Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) will provide OOHC caseworkers with access to reliable and comprehensive information about the safety, permanency and the wellbeing of children in statutory OOHC. This information will be collected from various sources including: FACS, NGOs, Health, Education, carers and young people. The QAF will also provide a central point where information and data will be held. The QAF will support caseworkers by providing them with a more comprehensive picture of what is happening in a child or young person's life. It will ultimately be integrated into ChildStory, a new IT eco-system which will be accessible to both FACS and NGO caseworkers.

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POVERTY AND HOMELESSNESS

Poverty in Australia 2016

Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS); Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC)

October 2016

This fifth edition of 'Poverty in Australia' is part of the 'Poverty and Inequality in Australia' series. Report found that Australia has failed to reduce the level of overall poverty in our community over the 10 years to 2014, with 13.3 per cent of the population (2.99 million people) living below the poverty line in 2013-14. Alarmingly, there has in fact been a 2 percentage point rise in the number of children living in poverty in the period, now 17.4 per cent (731,300 children). The majority of people living in poverty receive social security payments as their main source of income, underscoring the Government's direct role in preventing poverty through ensuring adequate income support payments. At the same time, a third of people living in poverty rely on wages as their main source of income.

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The financing, delivery and effectiveness of programs to reduce homelessness

Paul Flatau, Kaylene Zaretsky, Lisa Wood, Darja Miscenko; Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute

October 2016

This research examined the funding sources of homeless services through administering a survey to Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) and other (non-specialist) services which deliver homelessness services (non-SHS). It provides evidence from the Australian Homelessness Funding and Delivery Survey of how services supporting those experiencing homelessness are funded and how different forms of funding and the level of funding impacts on the delivery of homelessness assistance.

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Communities taking power: Using place-based approaches to deliver local solutions to poverty and disadvantage

Victorian Council of Social Service (VCOSS)

October 2016

Place-based approaches are defined as ones that aim to help communities deliver local solutions to entrenched poverty and disadvantage by bringing local people, community organisations, businesses, government, and public services together. This document details 13 basic elements of place-based approaches that provide the best framework for success. There are also some policy and practice shifts required in the way these are delivered within the community, the community sector and by government. A number of Victorian case studies are included. VCOSS has provided the framework to all state MPs and local councils in Victoria.

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POLICY AND SERVICE PROVISION

Valuation Report 30 June 2015 Baseline Valuation

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC); Department of Social Services

October 2016

In its May 2015 Budget, the Commonwealth Government announced an intention to implement the Australian Priority Investment Approach to welfare in Australia. The development of this approach was one of the recommendations of the review of Australia's welfare system, A New System for Better Employment and Social Outcomes (the McClure Report), along with the broader recommendation for reform, to simplify the system and reward work. This PWC report provides a baseline analysis of lifetime welfare costs as at 30 June 2015; setting a benchmark and highlighting areas of interest. Further analysis of Priority Investment Approach data has identified the priority groups for initial policy responses as young carers, young parents and young students transitioning directly to unemployment payments. Factsheets on each of these three groups are provided at the attached link. The report provides a foundation to begin the investment process. Subsequent annual valuations will increase the evidence base and help identify what is working.

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Healthy homes and neighbourhoods intergrated care initiative [Powerpoint presentation]

John Eastwood and Erin Miller; Sydney Local Health District

October 2016

The Healthy Homes and Neighbourhoods Integrated Care Initiative is a cross-agency care coordination program which aims to ensure vulnerable families: have their complex health and social needs met; keep themselves and their children safe; and are connected to society. The program will contribute to the development of integrated services for vulnerable families with complex health and social care needs.

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TECHNOLOGY AND ONLINE SAFETY

Kids online; Parent views and information needs

Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner

September 2016

In 2016, the Office undertook a national survey of kids, teens and parents who use the internet. Parents were asked about their approach to online safety, and what information they need to support their children to be safe online. Kids aged 8 to 13 and teens aged 14 to 17 were asked detailed questions about their internet use and online practices, including how they manage their negative experiences online. The national survey was undertaken in June 2016. It had two parts: a parent survey and a child survey. The total sample comprised 1,367 kids, 912 teens and 2,360 parents. Only one child and one parent were interviewed per household. The survey was conducted online. Infographical and textual representation of the results is presented.

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#RewriteYourStory

Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner

September 2016

#RewriteYourStory shares real life stories with young people about cyberbullying.

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VIOLENCE

National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022: Third Action Plan 2016-19

Department of Social Services

October 2016

Over 12 years the National Plan launched in 2011 aims to achieve a significant and sustained reduction in violence against women and their children. The National Plan focuses on the two main types of violent crimes that have a major impact on women in Australia - domestic and family violence and sexual assault. The Third Action Plan sets out an ambitious agenda that, with the support of key stakeholders and the community, will substantially reduce domestic, family and sexual violence in Australia. The Third Action Plan builds on the the work undertaken in the First and Second Action Plans to help keep women and children safe and help improve outcomes for the future generations.

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Forthcoming conferences and events

This list is cumulative

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

NOVEMBER 2016		
24-25 November	Sydney NSW	Social justice, social enterprise and the market: challenge or opportunity
24-25 November	Wollongong NSW	Decolonising criminal justice: Indigenous perspectives on social harm
24-25 November	Bunbury WA	It's no secret: sexual assault, sexual abuse and domestic violence national conference
25-26 November	Melbourne Vic	16th Australia's Homosexual Histories Conference: Beyond the Culture Wars: LGBTIQ History Now
28 November - 1 December	Fitzroy Vic	Cities and successful stories: The Australian Sociological Association Conference
29 November – 1 December	Canberra ACT	FRSA National Conference 2016 ; Measuring success in the family and relationship sector
29 November - 2 December	Hobart Tas	ANZSOC 2016 : Horizons Criminology
DECEMBER 2016		
1 December	Sydney NSW	NSW Youth Work Awards and the Youth Action AGM
4-5 December	Sydney NSW	Youth, Health and Practical Justice Conference
5-7 December	Brisbane Qld	Australian Stop Domestic Violence Conference
7-9 December	New Orleans USA	Building powerful connections: Zero to Three Annual Conference

15-19 December	Delhi, India	18th World congress on criminology
JANUARY 2017		
16-18 January	Canberra ACT	30th ACHPER (Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation Inc.) Conference
FEBRUARY 2017		
13-15 February	Canberra ACT	National Indigenous Mental Health & Wellbeing Forum
MARCH 2017		
17 March	Sydney NSW	Generation Next - Student Wellbeing and Leadership Program
21-23 March	Canberra ACT	Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) National Indigenous Research Conference 2017
MAY 2017		
2-5 May	Wellington, NZ	8th Australasian Drug and Alcohol Strategy Conference 2017
15-16 May	Melbourne Vic	Child Aware Approaches Conferences
15-17 May	Gold Coast, Qld	Australian and New Zealand Addiction Conference 2017: Prevention, treatment and recovery
21-22 May	Berlin, Germany	ICMH 2017: 19th International Conference on Mental Health
JUNE 2017		
6-8 June	Melbourne Vic	Parent Engagement Conference : maximising Every Child's Potential - Call for Abstracts closes: 30 January 2017
28-30 June	Montreal Canada	Conference of the International Society of Child Indicators
AUGUST 2017		
4 August	Sydney NSW	Generation Next Conference; The Mental Health and Wellbeing of Young People
7-8 August	Gold Coast Qld	4th National Eating Disorders and Obesity Conference
10-12 August	Sydney NSW	CREATE Foundation Conference; Voices in Action: Empowering young people for positive change
SEPTEMBER 2017		
12-14 September	Canberra, ACT	7th SNAICC National Conference

If you have a query about any of the content please contact Barbara Glass at:
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