Advocate for Children and Young People
Current awareness bulletin
March 2017

Contents

Articles and publications

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

WalkSpot; Exploring people's perceptions of walking safety
Victoria Walks and CrowdSpot
March 2017
The WalkSpot project is a collaboration between Victoria Walks and CrowdSpot, enabled by a TAC Community Road Safety Grant. It aims to understand what makes people feel safe or unsafe while walking, and identify trouble spots, to help road management agencies work to make things better. The crowd-sourcing initiative, geared to participation by young people, will help improve safety in Melbourne with people providing data to help improve road safety changes and prioritise government investment. An interactive online map will be used to pinpoint walking safety issues and concerns.
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Play-full and playful cities: The infrastructure of play in the Netherlands
City of Play Ltd
January 2017
This is a pilot study exploring select elements of a 'Playful(l) Cities Manifesto'. The study aimed to understand the Netherlands' renowned bicycle infrastructure, how it emerged, how it alters the way in which people use the city and how it affects the lives of children and their experience of the city. The city's vast array of playgrounds and playable space was identified in order to define a range of typologies to better communicate how play can be integrated into a city.
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Cityscapes with Julie Wagner - innovation in cities
Julie Wagner, Tim Williams; The Committee for Sydney
22 February 2017

Tim Williams from the Committee for Sydney speaks to Julie Wagner, Non-Resident Senior Fellow and Co-Director of the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Initiative on Innovation and Placemaking at the Brookings Institution. Julie recently came to Sydney at the invitation of the Committee, and gave two presentations about a topic in which she is considered the world's leading expert: innovation in cities. In this conversation, she discusses lessons for Sydney in its pursuit of a world-class innovation district, emphasising the importance of effective placemaking in creating vibrant new smart districts.
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Building the case for child friendly cities
Tim Gill
March 2017
Consultant Tim Gill has announced a new research project to explore the factors at work in policymaking for more child-friendly urban environments. In this article he describes the project, the issues it will address and what he hopes it will achieve. The project will focus on what it means for a city to take child-friendliness seriously; What makes decision makers put real momentum and energy behind the vision of making the urban environment work better for children and young people; and what it takes to move beyond fine words, small pilot projects and one-off participation events.
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CHILD PROTECTION

Child protection Australia 2015-16
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)
Child Welfare Series no.66, March 2017
During 2015–16, 162,175 Australian children received child protection services (investigation, care and protection order and/or were in out-of-home care). Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were seven times as likely as non-Indigenous children to have received child protection services. This report also showed that children from geographically remote areas were more likely to be the subject of a substantiation, or be in out-of-home care than those from major cities.
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Help-seeking needs and gaps for preventing child sexual abuse; A Report for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse
Vicky Saunders and Morag McArthur; Institute of Child Protection Studies, Australian Catholic University
March 2017
Study included a literature review to inform and provide context to the data collection phases of the research project, and to describe the evidence regarding the needs and help-seeking behaviour of the stated target groups, a service-mapping exercise and interviews with 23 existing service providers. Report found that there was no coordination of prevention programs and there are limited programs and services available to help prevent child sexual abuse.
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Interim report: Royal Commission into the protection and detention of children in the Northern Territory
Commissioners Margaret White AO and Mick Gooda
March 2017
The Royal Commission has released its interim report, which outlines the actions taken, observations made and future directions planned for its inquiry. The youth justice and child protection systems in the Northern Territory are inextricably linked. Evidence before the Commission reveals that children and young people in out-of-home care are more likely to enter the youth detention system. In the remaining period, the Commission's attention will focus on child protection, including its link to detention.
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Corporal punishment: Key issues [updated CFCA Resource Sheet]
Brooke Walton; Child Family Community Information Exchange, Australian Institute of Family Studies

CFCA Resource Sheet, March 2017
Resource designed to inform service providers and practitioners about corporal punishment research and legislation. It outlines recent research literature (from 2000 to 2016) and discusses the use and effects of corporal punishment on children. It explores the factors that influence the use of corporal punishment and provides a brief overview of alternative disciplinary techniques. Finally, it summarises current legislation regarding the use of corporal punishment as a means of disciplining children in Australia.
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Technology-related sexual solicitation of adolescents: a review of prevention efforts
Sandy K. Wurtele, Maureen C. Kenny
Child abuse review, Vol.25, No.5, September-October 2016, pp 332-344
Explores sexual solicitation of young people by adults using information and communication technologies such as mobile phones, social networking sites and smartphones. Describes some of the characteristics of young people who are at risk of online sexual solicitation, and looks at the characteristics of the adult perpetrators. Outlines some of the current digital media lessons and safety messages, and suggests that a multi-stakeholder approach is needed to safeguard children and young people.
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Grooming and child sexual abuse in institutional contexts
Professor Patrick O'Leary, Emma Koh and Andrew Dare; Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse
February 2017
Paper provides an overview of key conceptual issues in the definition and understanding of grooming. It takes a narrative review approach to synthesising key literature, drawing on an understanding of perpetrator modus operandi. What is known about grooming, particularly as it relates to institutional child sexual abuse is identified and discussed.
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CONSUMERISM

How youth navigate the news landscape
Mary Madden, Amanda Lenhart, Claire Fontaine
February 2017
Report finds that teens and young adults in US express low levels of trust in the news media and use a variety of strategies to confirm, verify, and clarify the stories they care about, according to a study produced by Data & Society Research Institute and supported by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. The report explores youth news consumption behavior on mobile and social media. It reveals how young people are adapting to a changing media environment to access news they trust. The report is based on findings from six exploratory focus groups with 52 teenagers and young adults in three U.S. cities: Philadelphia, Chicago, and Charlotte, North Carolina.
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DISABILITY

Relationships and recognition; Photos about working together
Centre for Children and Young People, Southern Cross University
February 2017
The publication celebrates the participation of young people in the community with the help of their support worker with a collection of photos from the Relationships and Recognition research project. The book is a component of an ARC Linkage project supporting greater participation of young people with disabilities.
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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Identifying the differences between generalist and specialist family violence perpetrators: Risk factors and perpetrator characteristics
Sarah Coghlan and Melanie Millsteed; Crime Statistics Agency
In Brief, No. 8 February 2017
This report explores the differences between perpetrators of family violence committing only this type of crime and those who commit other types of crime. The study examines the recorded family violence incidents and non-family violence offences for a cohort of family violence perpetrators over a five year period from 2012 to 2016. Forty percent of the cohort were classified as generalist perpetrators who were recorded for non-family violence offences in addition to family violence incidents, while 60 per cent were specialists who were only recorded for family violence incidents and related offences.
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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Factors influencing university student satisfaction, dropout and academic performance: an Australian higher education equity perspective
Ian W. Li, David R. Carroll; National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education, Curtin University
March 2017
This study investigated the determinants of student satisfaction in Australian higher education, with a focus on students in various equity groups. Furthermore, the study examined the determinants of three key academic outcomes: being at risk of dropout; actual dropout from university studies; academic performance, as measured by students' Weighted Average Marks (WAM). Findings of this study indicate a strong need to provide support to students from equity groups from an early stage of their access and participation in university studies.
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NAP sample assessment – Science Literacy 2015; National Assessment Program
Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA)
March 2017
Report shows little change between Australian Year 6 students' science literacy levels between the 2006 and 2015 results at the national level and in most Australian states and territories. ACARA argues that the results highlight the need for improvements in primary school science teaching.
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My School [website]
Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA)
March 2017
The My School website is a resource for parents, educators and the community to receive information about each of Australia's over 9,500 schools and campuses. My School now has nine years of data enabling fair comparisons to be made among schools serving students from similar socio-educational backgrounds, using the index of community socio-educational advantage (ICSEA). It is ICSEA that enables fair comparisons to be made between schools with similar students. New features in 2017 include the latest (2016) profile and population data on each school; outcomes from the 2016 round of NAPLAN testing; nine years of performance data for comparison; the latest financial figures on each school, including capital expenditure and sources of funding.
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Expenditure on education and training in Australia 2016
Megan O'Connell, Kate Torii
14 December 2016
Brings together data across all areas of education to prompt governments to consider a more planned and consistent approach to distributing resources. This report shows that some stages of education have been

clearly prioritised over others. The findings suggest that quality vocational education and training (VET) is not a priority. The latest 2014-15 data shows VET spending drop to almost 4 percent below 2005 levels and VET enrolments take the sharpest dive in ten years of more than 10 percent in 12 months.
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Regional student participation and migration: analysis of factors influencing regional student participation and internal migration in Australian higher education
Cardak, Buly A.; Brett, Matthew; Bowden, Mark et al.; National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education, Curtin University
February 2017
Study examines regional student participation and migration, using novel data sources and analytic techniques. It seeks to progress knowledge of regional student participation and mobility through quantitative analysis of: factors associated with regional student progression through school and into higher education, using data generated by the Longitudinal Survey of Australian Youth (LSAY); and factors associated with the migration of students with a commencing regional home address to major cities and other regional areas using customised data obtained from the Department of Education and Training.
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EMPLOYMENT

Preparing young people for the future of work; Policy roundtable report
Kate Torii, Megan O'Connell; Mitchell Institute
Mitchell Report, 1/2017 March
Report from the Mitchell Institute has found that Australia's education system is not preparing students for the future of work, with school leavers lacking key workplace skills, being disengaged and struggling to find permanent jobs. Key report recommendations include: a stronger focus on capabilities at school; and support for teachers to develop capabilities in students.
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Generation stalled: young, underemployed and living precariously in Australia
Brotherhood of St Laurence
March 2017
In total, more than 650,000 young people were unemployed or underemployed in February 2017, according to this new report from Brotherhood of St Laurence. The report finds that young Australians are under pressure as they grapple with the dual threat of rising underemployment as well as stubbornly high unemployment. Australia's youth underemployment rate, where people have some work but want more hours, has surged to 18 per cent- the highest it's been in 40 years. That rate is even higher than the youth unemployment rate for 15-24 year-olds in the labour force of 13.5 per cent, which has been persistently high since the 2008 global financial crisis.
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FAMILY AND SOCIETY

World happiness report 2017
John Helliwell et al. (Editors)
April 2017
Norway has jumped from 4th place in 2016 to 1st place this year, followed by Denmark, Iceland and Switzerland. All of the top four countries rank highly on all the main factors found to support happiness: caring, freedom, generosity, honesty, health, income and good governance. Australia ranked in the top 10 happiest countries in the world. By choosing to produce its oil slowly, and investing the proceeds for the future rather than spending them in the present, Norway has insulated itself from the boom and bust cycle of many other resource-rich economies.
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HEALTH

ACOSS budget priorities statement, 2017-18; Submission
Australian Council of Social Service
February 2017
ACOSS submission to the Federal Budget process, outlining their priority recommendations for the 2017-18 Federal Budget.
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Annual research review: childhood maltreatment, latent vulnerability and the shift to preventative psychiatry - the contribution of functional brain imaging
Eamon J. McCrory, Mattia I. Gerin, Essi Viding; National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC)
Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry, 58(4) April 2017; 338–357.
The researchers review extant functional neuroimaging studies of children and adolescents exposed to early neglect and/or maltreatment, including physical, sexual and emotional abuse across four neurocognitive domains: threat processing, reward processing, emotion regulation and executive control. Findings are discussed in the context of 'latent vulnerability', where alterations in neurocognitive function are considered to carry adaptive value in early adverse caregiving environments but confer long-term risk. This new project, funded by the NSPCC and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), is to lay the preliminary groundwork for developing an everyday clinical screening tool. This could help identify those children at most risk of future mental health problems.
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Inheriting a sustainable world: Atlas on children's health and the environment
World Health Organization (WHO)
March 2017
This new edition of the 2004 WHO publication 'Inheriting a sustainable world: Atlas on children's health and the environment' takes into account changes in the major environmental hazards to children's health over the last 13 years, due to increasing urbanization, industrialization, globalization and climate change, as well as efforts in the health sector to reduce children's environmental exposures. The analysis highlight the range of problems, both traditional issues especially in developing regions, and emerging issues of growing concern, which are largely products of the industrialized world. Each year, household air pollution causes 531 000 deaths of children under five, as well as chronic respiratory infections, lung disease, cancer and other health effects. Data analysis related to Australian children has been provided by researchers from the Children's Health and Environment Program, University of Queensland, WHO Collaborating Centre for Children's Health and the Environment.
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INCLUSION

Challenging racism project 2015-16; National survey report
Blair, K., Dunn, K. M., Kamp, A., & Alam, O.;Western Sydney University
March 2017
The project examined the extent and variation of racist attitudes and experiences in Australia, as well as attitudes to cultural diversity, discomfort/intolerance of specific groups, ideology of nation, perceptions of Anglo-Celtic cultural privilege, and belief in racialism, racial separatism and racial hierarchy. The project also explored targets experiences of racism and the circumstances in which these events occur. The different forms racism takes, the various spheres of life in which incidents occur, the frequency of incidents, responses to incidents (undertaken by both bystanders and targets) and the impact of those experiences on victims are also explored.
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Teaching about difference...differently [online resource]
Together for Humanity Foundation Ltd; Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
March 2017
The online resource, Difference Differently, is aligned with the Australian Curriculum to help students, Years 3-10, learn about diversity and difference with the aim of building Australian students' intercultural understanding. Modules aim to help students recognise diversity, in whatever form, as a normal part of life and a characteristic of human existence, to understand the significance and complexity of prejudice, identity, citizenship, and belonging, to empathise with people and their stories, perspectives, beliefs, and worldviews, even when these differ to their own and to commit to engaging with and respecting a diverse range of people in their lives, even when faced with challenges arising from that diversity.
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INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS

Knowing, Growing, Showing; financial literacy resources for Indigenous students
Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) in partnership with the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) Indigenous Education team
March 2017
A new resource to assist teachers to build financial capability of Indigenous children and youth. The resource covers three key stages: an introduction to the basics of money; developing an understanding of money and the skills needed to make smart choices with money; and engaging students in applied learning to demonstrate an understanding of money and enterprise.
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Building pathways online: Indigenous futures collaboration
Ellie Rennie, Prabha Prayaga, Yee Man Louie; Swinburne University of Technology
March 2017
In mid-2013, Swinburne University of Technology set out to increase Indigenous participation in higher education using online learning platforms and new methods of student support. More than 100 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students participated in the Indigenous Futures Collaboration. This report uses evidence from the Indigenous Futures Collaboration to examine the extent to which online delivery can help overcome barriers to education for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in regional and remote areas.
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IBobbly mobile health intervention for suicide prevention in Australian Indigenous youth: a pilot randomised controlled trial
Joseph Tighe, Fiona Shand, Rebecca Ridani et al.; Black Dog Institute
BMJ Open, Vol 7 Issue 1, January 2017
Study shows the results of world's first randomised controlled trial of a suicide prevention app in any population. The Black Dog Institute's suicide prevention app, iBobbly, designed for Indigenous Australians shows positive results over a six week introductory period. Results include: a 42 per cent reduction in symptoms of depression; a 30 per cent reduction in suicidal ideation; and a 28 per cent reduction in distress.
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Overview of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health status
Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet
March 2017
A comprehensive summary of the recent indicators of the health and current health status of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people shows that there has been a decline in Indigenous death rates and the infant mortality rate has declined significantly, with less Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers smoking during pregnancy. For the first time, the Overview includes a section on environmental health and also provides contextual information about: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations; health conditions; and health risk and protective factors.

LAW AND JUSTICE

Youth justice in Australia 2015-16
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)
AIHW Bulletin no. 139, March 2017
There were about 5,500 young people (aged 10 and older) under youth justice supervision in Australia on an average day in 2015–16, due to their involvement, or alleged involvement, in crime. This number has decreased by 21 per cent over the 5 years to 2015-16. Indigenous young people continued to be over-represented in the youth justice system: young Indigenous people were 17 times as likely as non-Indigenous young people to be under supervision on an average day.

The same four walls: Inquiry into the use of isolation, separation and lockdowns in the Victorian youth justice system
Victorian Commissioner for Children and Young People
March 2017
The report reveals the true extent of the use of isolation and lockdowns in the state's youth prisons. The inquiry examined the use of isolation for the 18-month period from February 2015 to July 2016, and also examined the use of these practices in the first two weeks of December 2016. The State Government has accepted the report's 21 recommendations for improvements in the system in principle, including ensuring compliance with legislation and policy, appropriate responses to mental health needs, introducing basic sanitation into isolation rooms and staffing.

The future of youth justice: A community-based alternative to the youth prison model; new thinking in community corrections
Patrick McCarthy, Vincent Schiraldi, and Miriam Shark; Harvard Kennedy School Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy
October 2016
The authors argue that the youth prison model in United States is fraught with high costs, poor outcomes, and endemic abuse, and has historically been resistant to reform. Further, the negative impacts of being incarcerated in youth prisons are not evenly distributed, but rather show unwarranted disparities for youth of color. The report offers concrete alternatives for policy makers to maintain public safety, hold young people accountable, and turn their lives around. The researchers stress that youth in trouble need guidance, education, and support, not incarceration in harmful and ineffective youth prisons.

Declining juvenile crime - explanations for the international downturn
Bert Berghuis and Jaap De Waard
Justitiele Verkenningen, vol. 43, no. 1, March 2017
In this analysis the researchers suggest that the real triggers for the freefall in incidence of youth crime in many countries are two complementary developments. The first is connected to technological developments, the rise of the smartphone and online gaming, which heralded a change in leisure time, in which hanging out with friends and seeking out kicks with them by displaying behaviour that oversteps moral standards play a more marginalised role. This plays out against the backdrop - and second development - of a broader trend in which it has become less possible to commit crime (undetected) due to prevention measures and in which crime in itself has become less acceptable.

Keeping kids in school and out of court: a study of education-youth justice collaboration in the US, Scotland and Denmark
Jackie Anders; Winston Churchill Memorial Trust of Australia

December 2016

Some positive developments in the youth justice area are already underway in Victoria, such as the State Government commitment to a statewide diversion approach announced in the 2015-16 Budget. Likewise, several initiatives to address school disengagement have been introduced recently. However, at the same time there are calls for a stronger, tough on crime approach to youth offenders, following a spike in serious offending by a small number of young people and high-profile incidents at youth detention facilities. In this climate, it is all the more critical that policies and practices are coordinated and driven by evidence of what works. This research project report discusses cross-system collaborative efforts in the US, Scotland and Denmark to keep young people in school and out of the justice system and puts forward 12 recommendations for improvements to Victoria's approach.

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Sentencing children and young people: overarching principles and offence specific guidelines for sexual offences and robbery: definitive guideline

Sentencing Council UK

March 2017

Guidelines on sentencing children and young people in UK. This covers overarching principles; guidelines for sexual offences; guidelines for robbery. Factors affecting the welfare of a young person which courts should be alert to include: mental health problems; vulnerability to self-harm; the effects of experiencing loss, neglect and abuse. The Council emphasises that the approach to sentencing should be focused on the child, rather than the offence.

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The age of criminal responsibility in Queensland

Queensland Family & Child Commission (QFCC)

February 2017

Information paper examines research and data, with a specific focus on the 10 to 12 year old cohort, and considers whether the research establishes a strong evidence base for setting the minimum age of criminal responsibility (MACR) at a minimum of 12 years. The paper also considers alternative options to increasing the MACR.

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MENTAL HEALTH

National LGBTI mental health and suicide prevention strategy

Sally Morris and Ross Jacobs; National LGBTI Health Alliance

December 2016

A plan for strategic action to prevent mental ill-health and suicide, and promote good mental health and wellbeing for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) people and communities across Australia. The strategy aims to respond to LGBTI people in current need, to provide interventions to those who are at risk, and to interrupt the structural factors that contribute to overrepresentation of LGBTI people in mental health and suicide statistics.

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OUT OF HOME CARE

What is known about the placement and outcomes of siblings in foster care? An international literature review

Sarah Meakings, Judy Sebba & Nikki Luke; Rees Centre for Research in Fostering and Education, University of Oxford

February 2017

This review of the international research examines what is known about the placement of siblings in foster care. It synthesises the findings from studies that have examined factors associated with the decision to place

children together with, or apart from siblings, and considers the evidence on a range of outcomes for joint or separate foster placements. The literature review found that, in general, siblings placed together experienced greater stability of placement.

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Our lives our care: looked after children's views on their well-being
Coram Voice and University of Bristol, UK
February 2017
Report looking at the views of children in care on their wellbeing. A survey of 611 children aged 4-18 years, across six local authority areas in England finds that: 83 per cent said that being in care had improved their lives; 14 per cent of children in care had scores that suggested low well-being; and girls were five times more likely to have low well-being in comparison with boys.

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PARTICIPATION

South Australia's inaugural Commissioner for Children and Young People; How children and young people participated in the selection process
The Council for the Care of Children
March 2017
Reviews the involvement of children and young people in selecting South Australia's inaugural Commissioner for Children and Young People. The Council felt that their presence and involvement made the selection process an educational and memorable experience for all involved. The report and the video are recommended as resources to guide, inform and promote the involvement of children and young people in other recruitment and selection processes.

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POVERTY AND HOMELESSNESS

What children and young people experiencing homelessness have to say; Consultation report
Advocate for Children and Young People
March 2017
In October and November 2016, the NSW Advocate for Children and Young People (ACYP) undertook ten consultations with sixty children and young people 30 male, 30 female from four regions of NSW - Mid North Coast, Metropolitan Sydney, Southern region and the Central Coast - to discuss their experience of homelessness. Participants reported that having strong support from workers and the availability of multiple service domains were valued. However there was a need for more accessible information about what support services were available. Recommendations include media and social media awareness campaigns, increasing youth specific services for young people effected by violence, increasing homelessness services after hours and on weekends, increasing mental health and drug rehabilitation services and transport assistance through travel vouchers and learn-to-drive programs.

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The economic benefits of providing public housing and support to formerly homeless people
Flatau, P., Wood, L., Zaretzky, K. et al.; Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI)
Research and Policy Bulletin 215, November 2016
The research examined the impact of programs providing social housing with support for people experiencing homelessness under the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH).

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The case for investing in last resort housing
Ellen Witte; Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute, University of Melbourne; SGS Economics and Planning
March 2017

It's cheaper to provide last resort housing to homeless people than to leave them sleeping rough, a new cost-benefit analysis has found. The analysis found governments and society benefit more than they spend by providing last resort housing to homeless individuals. This is mainly through reduced healthcare costs, reduced crime, and helping people get back into employment or education. This comprehensive cost-benefit analysis was commissioned by a team of experts from the University of Melbourne, NGOs, and architecture firms.
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Conducting a youth count: A toolkit
Voices of Youth Count (VoYC); Chapin Hall, University of Chicago
October 2016
The toolkit describes the VoYC Youth Count approach conducted in 22 communities in the United States throughout the summer of 2016; capturing learnings and providing guidance and tools to all communities looking to improve the ways they count youth experiencing homelessness. Voices of Youth Count (VoYC) is a national policy and research initiative designed to link evidence and action by capturing the diverse experiences of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness and housing instability, or who have run away, more clearly defining the size of the population, and driving compelling knowledge into the hands of the broad national community dedicated to ending youth homelessness.
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Entering prostitution in adolescence: history of youth homelessness predicts earlier entry
Courtney Cronley, Andrea N. Cimino, Kris Hohn
Journal of aggression maltreatment and trauma, Vol.25, No.9, 2016, pp 893-908
Investigates the relationship between youth homelessness and prostitution in a metropolitan region of the southern USA. Questionnaires were completed by 96 women who self-identified as having engaged in prostitution. Analysis showed that women with a history of youth homelessness entered prostitution nearly eight years earlier than those without. Other groups of women who entered prostitution at a younger age included: participants reporting adverse experiences; women with less than a high school degree or equivalent; those who admitted to having had suicidal thoughts in the last month; those with a history of being involved with juvenile criminal justice.
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Children and the living wage
Susan St John, Yun So; Child Poverty Action Group Inc.
February 2017
New Zealand was once a model for other countries to follow in regard to its egalitarianism. Today, there is high income and wealth inequality and an unacceptable level of family poverty and homelessness. The age group that has the highest levels of material deprivation is the group aged 0-17 years. The authors argue that while better wages are essential, on their own they are an insufficient response, especially to child poverty. Higher basic wages must be accompanied by strengthening the generosity and effectiveness of tax-welfare policies.
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Dying from inequality; Socioeconomic disadvantage and suicidal behaviour; Summary report 2017
Stephen Platt, Dr Stephanie Stace and Jacqui Morrissey (Editors); Samaritans
February 2017
Report looking at socioeconomic disadvantage and suicidal behaviour. Findings from the UK-wide research shows that: experiences of childhood adversity increase the risk of suicidal behaviour, especially among those who are socioeconomically disadvantaged; and unemployment is more likely among those who have adverse childhood experiences, particularly men who have experienced childhood sexual abuse.
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TECHNOLOGY AND ONLINE SAFETY

Bursting the bubble: Why online safety education needs to evolve
Ken Corish

March 2017
The author of this blog post outlines the case for developing a set of standards for online safety education in the UK to develop resilience in children and young people. Key points include: online safety messages do not always resonate; more depth and sophistication is required if online safety education is to initiate the right conversations and lead to positive outcomes. The South West Grid for Learning Trust (SWGfL) has begun to develop a 360EVOLVE, a free framework to help schools consider what a child of a certain age/developmental stage should know about the online landscape and how it shapes their own behaviour and vulnerability. weblink

Forthcoming conferences and events

This list is cumulative
New events added since the last issue of What's New are highlighted in orange

APRIL 2017		
26-29 April	Cairns Qld	14th National Rural Health Conference; A world of rural health
MAY 2017		
1 May	Melbourne Vic	Creating child safe institutions research symposium
2-5 May	Wellington, NZ	8th Australasian Drug and Alcohol Strategy Conference 2017
3-4 May	Sydney NSW	Improving Outcomes in Out of Home Care: Breaking cycles of disadvantage through child-focused support
5 May	Melbourne, Vic	Australian Council on Children and the Media (ACCM) Conference: Tots and Tech: growing up well with media and technology
5-6 May	Gold Coast Qld	Early Childhood Australia reconciliation symposium
7-8 May	Gold Coast Qld	Australian and New Zealand Eating Disorders and Obesity Conference
9-10 May	Sydney NSW	Think Outcomes 2017; presented by Centre for Social Impact, ARACY and Social Impact Measurement Network of Australia
11-12 May	Wodonga Vic	Building Bridges Conferences; a Regional Early Years Conference
14-20 May	National	Family Matters National Week of Action
15-20 May	National	National Families Week
15-16 May	Brisbane Qld	Child Aware Approaches Conference; Driving national action on child safety and wellbeing
15-17 May	Gold Coast, Qld	Australian and New Zealand Addiction Conference 2017: Prevention, treatment and recovery
16-17 May	Sydney, NSW	ACMA: Australian content conversation 2017

21-22 May	Berlin, Germany	ICMH 2017: 19th International Conference on Mental Health
JUNE 2017		
5 June	Sydney NSW	Taking Stock: Housing policy in NSW
6-8 June	Melbourne Vic	Parent Engagement Conference : maximising Every Child's Potential - Keynote Speaker announced: Professor Bill Lucas, Director of the Centre for Real-World Learning (CRL) at the University of Winchester
16-17 June	Hobart, Tas	Education and Care Leadership Conference: Destination Tasmania 2017
19-23 June	Canberra ACT	10th National Policy Officers' Evidence-based Policy Development Conference 2017
20 June	Sydney NSW	Reshaping justice: client-centred service delivery, technology and innovation (Law and Justice research symposium)
26-27 June	Brisbane Qld	No More Harm National Conference; bullying, harassing and discriminating behaviour solutions
28-30 June	Montreal Canada	Conference of the International Society of Child Indicators
JULY 2017		
1-2 July	Perth WA	Aboriginal Health Conference 2017
5-7 July	Hobart, Tas	26th National Vocational Education and Training Research Conference 'No Frills'
5-11 July	Perth WA	UN Youth Australia National Conference 2017 : Innovation Revolution
6-7 July	Sydney NSW	Youth Health Conference 2017; Biennial conference of the Australian Association for Adolescent Health (AAAH Ltd)
12 July	Brisbane Qld	Safe Cities Conference
17-19 July	Canberra ACT	Collaboration for Impact Conference 2017
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
10-11 August	Gold Coast Qld	FUTUREgen17 Conference - Youth Engagement, Education, Employment & Entrepreneurship: Collaborating for Impact & Innovation
10-12 August	Sydney NSW	CREATE Foundation Conference; Voices in Action: Empowering young people for positive change – Call for abstracts by 10 February 2017
21-23 August	Gold Coast Qld	18th International Mental Health Conference

SEPTEMBER 2017		
12-14 September	Canberra, ACT	7th SNAICC National Conference
15-16 September	Melbourne Vic	2017 National foster and kinship care conference
25-27 September	Kensington NSW	Australian Social Policy Conference – Abstract submissions by 17 May 2017
OCTOBER 2017		
4-6 October	Melbourne Vic	Global Alcohol Policy Conference 2017 : Mobilising for Change – Alcohol policy and the evidence for action
NOVEMBER 2017		
13-15 November	Ballarat, Vic	13th Australasian Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Conference
23-24 November	Melbourne Vic	MYAN National Multicultural Youth Conference
27-30 November	Perth WA	The Australian Sociological Association Conference – Belonging in a mobile world
29 November-1 December	Sydney NSW	National Housing Conference 2017 - Building for better lives. AHURI and NSW Department of Family and Community Services
DECEMBER 2017		
TBA	TBA	2017 National Employment Solutions Conference: Finding Solutions (details to be available shortly)
4-5 December	Melbourne Vic	Australian Stop Domestic Violence Conference: Providing the Skills for Change
4-7 December	Manchester UK	The Children's Global Media Summit 2017

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