

# CYPMatters

Every child and young person counts!

## Respect & listening

### **Empowering young people – by listening to them**

The ability to participate and have their voice heard is an important issue for children and young people. Young people across Australia talked about the matters that concern them, from bullying to transport in the *Australian Children's Commissioners and Guardians Joint Participation Paper 2018*. [More >](#)

### **What do children and young people have to say about safety in institutions?**

Only when institutions hear from children directly, take their views seriously and act on what they say will they become safer places. [More >](#)

### **Healthy and unhealthy relationships**

This website from Childline UK helps young people understand the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships, to identify signs that their relationship might not be quite right and what they can do to stay safe. It includes an eight part video series following a fictional character who gets into an unhealthy relationship. [More >](#)

### **SNAICC Submission to the Government of South Australia on the Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) (Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People) Amendment Bill 2018**

Aboriginal children in South Australia are over 11 times more likely than non-Indigenous children to be in out-of-home care and experiencing disadvantage. SNAICC believes the bill should be strengthened so that the Aboriginal Commissioner is adequately resourced and empowered to create positive change for ATSI children. [More >](#)

### **New research shows Australian teens have complex views on religion and spirituality**

Data from this study shows Australian teens are genuinely open to diversity in other people. While only a minority follow a faith with strong conviction, as a whole they are not anti-religious. Tellingly, teens are wary of attempts by some to dictate to others what they can and cannot do, or who are disrespectful of those not like themselves. [More >](#)

### **We see the big picture: Girls' Attitudes Survey 2018**

Findings from this UK survey of girls and young women aged 7-21 years on a range of subjects, including mental health; wellbeing; education; relationships and safety include: 71% of girls knew another girl that had experienced mental health problems; 52% of girls have experienced harassment on the street, or know someone that has. [More >](#)

## Health & wellbeing

### **The Health and Wellbeing of Tasmania's Children and Young People Report 2018**

There are a myriad of factors that can impact on the health and wellbeing of children and young people. Accurate data contribute to informed decision-making and allow us to consider how different services can work together to improve outcomes for children and young people across a range of areas. [More >](#)

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## **AIFS 2018 Conference highlights**

Selected sessions of the 2018 conference, including the keynote presentation, *Families: What, so what, now what?*, were filmed and are shared here. A variety of content and media from the conference will continue to be added over the coming weeks. [More >](#)

## **Work-life balance the key to raising happy kids, study reveals**

The ability of mothers to juggle work and family commitments has long been known to affect children. This survey of 2496 families shows dads' work matters too. Work-life conflict led to fatigue, distress or emotional withdrawal as they forgo family events or valued time with their children for work-related opportunities and expectations. [More >](#)

## **A Snapshot of Family Diversity in Canada (February 2018)**

A statistical exploration of family diversity in Canada, providing an expanded and detailed portrait of modern families, as well as trends that have shaped the vibrant and evolving family landscape over the years. [More >](#)

## **Transition care planning: Scotland**

The Scottish Government has published clinical process guidance for young people moving between child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) and adult mental health services. The guidance covers: principles of transition; responsibilities of services to ensure good transition; and the transition pathway. [More >](#)

## **Good Childhood Report 2018**

This UK report provides the latest national picture of children's subjective well-being and trends over a number of years. Children's happiness with their lives had risen steadily in the 15 years from 1995 to 2010. But this progress has now been reversed and children's well-being is now as low as it was two decades ago. [More >](#)

## **Encouraging resilience in your pre-teen**

The period leading up to the teenage years is one of immense change for children. Assisting them to develop resilience in the pre-teen years will help them feel confident and capable of dealing with teenage challenges and improve their ability to learn and pay attention in school. [More >](#)

## **Grow Well Live Well**

Collective Impact helps organisations and communities work together to address complex social problems, such as supporting children and young people to grow up and reach their full potential. Extensive community, service provider and stakeholder consultation has been used to create the Palmerston State of the Children Report. [More >](#)

## **An Australian model of the First 1000 Days: an Indigenous-led process to turn an international initiative into an early-life strategy benefiting indigenous families**

To ensure Indigenous families benefit from the 1000 days framework, an Indigenous-led engagement process was undertaken linking early-life researchers, research institutions, policy-makers, professional associations and human rights activists with Indigenous organisations and families. [More >](#)

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## Focus on fathers: research brief

Children flourish when their parents are supported and Fathers' mental health and co-parenting relationships have a powerful effect on child development. Results from this survey, one of the largest surveys of fathers of its kind, show a positive picture of fathering: most are doing well and feel supported. [More >](#)

## Children's Headline Indicators

This set of 19 high level indicators, identify children's immediate environments as particularly important to their health, development and wellbeing. Among the key findings of this report are that 22 per cent of children were living in households with housing stress in 2016, a decrease from 26 per cent in 2011. [More >](#)

## Child Poverty: How To Hold Back The Rising Tide

One in four children in the UK is living in poverty and two thirds of them are in a household where at least one adult is working. This can have a profound effect on their future as well as their wellbeing in the here and now. [More >](#)

## Timeline of trauma and healing in Australia

This timeline looks at some of the events, trauma and healing that has taken place in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities over the last two and a half centuries. [More >](#)

## No Job, No Play: Health researchers register rise in vaccinations following welfare payment cuts

Vaccination rates appear to have increased following the Federal Government's decision to reduce welfare payments for unvaccinated children. While benefits can be shown both for children and for the wider community, some people believe that the Government is bringing in policies that are dividing the community. [More >](#)

## Journey to Social Inclusion

This report provides evidence that receiving permanent housing and intensive support is required for people experiencing homelessness to stay housed and improve their health and wellbeing. Sixty per cent of participants in the Victorian Journey to Social Inclusion (J2SI) Phase II program were stably housed, compared to 30 per cent of people from the randomised control group, with 56 per cent of participants reporting they felt safe 'all of the time', and 22 per cent reporting feeling safe 'most of the time'. [More >](#)

## Safe & nurtured

### Sport and betting don't have to go together, but kids don't know that

Remember when you could watch sport without seeing a gambling advertisement? The thing is that children and young people don't. Bombarded by an excess of advertisements, invitations, promotions and inducements delivered via smartphone, TV, computer, billboards and at matches, 75 per cent of children and young people aged 8–16 years believe that betting on sport is normal. [More >](#)

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## **Domestic and family violence and its relationship to child protection**

Domestic and family violence is a significant social problem which has become the focus of increased community concern. Whether children experience violence themselves or witness this behaviour, this violence can have long-lasting impacts on children's wellbeing and development. [More >](#)

## **Children sending and receiving sexual messages**

The nature of child abuse imagery on the internet is changing. Recent analyses of child abuse material on the internet indicates that a third of material is now self-generated, with the majority of images being taken in the home, most often in a child's own bedroom. This UK survey, focuses on children's experiences of online grooming, especially their experiences of receiving and sending sexual messages. [More >](#)

## **Parental alienation empirical analysis: Child best interests or parental rights?**

In addition to concerns about the lack of scientific support for parental alienation concepts, critics are concerned about the inappropriate application of parental alienation concepts in custody and access cases that involve domestic or family abuse/violence, including the potential misuse of parental alienation theory to discount parent and child safety issues. [More >](#)

## **Children and young people in separated families: Family law system experiences and needs**

The aim of this project was to investigate the experiences and needs of children and young people whose parents had separated and had accessed the family law system, focusing on children and young people's experiences of these services and how the family law system may better meet their needs. [More >](#)

## **What is child abuse and neglect?**

The purpose of this resource sheet is to provide practitioners, policy makers and researchers with a working definition of child abuse and neglect. It also provides information about: whether the abuse types constitute grounds for protection of a child under child protection law; and whether the abuse types are a crime under criminal law, with the possibility of punishment of the offender. [More >](#)

## **Defining the public health model for the child welfare services context**

There are many theoretical and conceptual frameworks that inform our thinking about the structure of the service system and the delivery of services to vulnerable families. Here, the public health model is applied to the Australian child welfare and protection systems to explore how the service system responds to child abuse and neglect. [More >](#)

## **Responding to disclosures of child abuse and neglect**

This webinar attempts to assist practitioners in how to respond to children and young people's disclosures of abuse. Twelve questions are answered including: What is child abuse and neglect? Who abuses children? And, why is it important to respond well to children's disclosures? [More >](#)

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## **Inquiry to shine light on SA's 'inexcusable' poverty rate**

South Australian welfare groups have called on the State Government to address what they say are inexcusable and entrenched realities facing low-income earners, as a Parliamentary inquiry gets underway to uncover the extent of poverty in the state. [More >](#)

## **Reflections on Child Protection Week**

This blog speaks about Child Protection Week and guides us through some of the key essentials we need in order to have an effective system where children's rights are heard and respected. [More >](#)

## **Standards for safeguarding and protecting children in sport**

These UK Standards provide a framework for all those involved in sport to help them create a safe sporting environment for children and young people to protect them from harm, and seek to provide a benchmark to help those involved in sport make informed decisions, and to promote good practice and challenge poor practice. [More >](#)

## **The economic costs of child abuse and neglect**

This updated resource sheet outlines the economic costs of child abuse and neglect. It looks at both the direct costs e.g. child protection, out-of-home care and family support services, and the indirect costs in terms of prevention and the long-term costs of supporting victims/survivors of child abuse. [More >](#)

## **The collateral consequences of child removal**

These reports explore the collateral consequences of child removal for Tasmanian families and how policies, programs and practice do and should address them. *Breaking the Cycle* examines the complexities of assessing and supporting parenting capacity in the context of parental trauma, specifically through the experiences of parents who have had repeat child removals. *In Limbo* looks at the complexities of assessing and supporting parenting capacity in the context of poverty and homelessness, specifically through the income and housing challenges faced by families post child removal. [More >](#)

## **Predicting child abuse**

A series of articles in the Guardian report that local authorities in England are developing and using 'predictive analytics' systems, where algorithms are used to identify families who may need attention from children's services. However, it is likely to be hugely controversial due to its potential to intrude into individual privacy and the risk of accidentally incorporating and perpetuating discrimination against minorities. [More >](#)

## **A population approach to the prevention of child maltreatment**

This paper outlines how a population approach to evidence-based parenting support can contribute to the prevention of child maltreatment by reducing the family-related risk factors associated not only with abuse and neglect but also with a broader array of adverse childhood outcomes. [More >](#)

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## **Strengths-based social care for children, young people and their families**

Strength-based approaches (SBAs) focus on the strengths as well as the needs of children, young people and their families. This report describes how SBAs work in children and family settings and how effective they are including: the key features of SBAs; embedding SBAs in practice; and avoiding pitfalls. [More >](#)

## **Enjoying & achieving**

### **Teaching Australia**

In 2014, Gabrielle Stroud was a thirty-something dedicated teacher with over a decade of experience. Months later, she resigned in frustration and despair when she realised that the NAPLAN education model was stopping her from doing the very thing she was best at: teaching individual children according to their needs and talents. [More >](#)

### **Why playtime is an essential part of childhood development**

Children's lives are overscheduled now more than ever before and all those activities are taking a bite out of their free playtime. By short-changing playtime, children miss out on emotional, social, physical, and cognitive benefits and a lack of playtime can lead to negative consequences like anxiety. [More >](#)

### **New education program integrates Aboriginal culture into teaching maths and science**

In this hands-on initiative students attend overnight camps, where yarning and dance circles set the scene for workshops taught by Aboriginal leaders. They learn angles through the art of spear making, aerodynamics by studying boomerangs and drones, magnetism through storytelling, and chemistry through bush medicine. [More >](#)

### **Young people returning to sentenced youth justice supervision 2016–17**

The majority of young people who receive a supervised youth justice sentence serve only one sentence, and do not return. Young people whose first supervised sentence was detention were more likely to return to sentenced supervision (50%) than those whose first sentence was community based (39%). [More >](#)

### **Playing out: a Children's Commissioner's report on the importance to children of play and physical activity**

Today's children are the least active generation ever. Just one in four boys and one in five girls in England do the recommended 60 minutes of activity each day. At the same time children between the ages of 5-15 spend nearly two hours a day online during the week and nearly three hours a day at the weekend. [More >](#)

### **Finding what really works in education**

Global inequality in education outcomes is very far from being solved. Even in highly developed countries, large numbers of students are not graduating from secondary education with appropriate certification. To make the right kinds of investments, policymakers and educators need to be aware of their cognitive biases and the ways in which these can drive us all to covet and privilege the wrong things. [More >](#)

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## Digital Inclusion Index 2018

There are still substantial gaps between Australians who are digitally included and those who are not. Digital inclusion is now fundamental to full participation in economic and social life and an ever increasing number of essential and community services and other communications are going digital. [More >](#)

## Participation

### A child friendly election in Norway

In September 2017, Save the Children Norway designed a children's election aimed at children aged between nine and 15 years. The overwhelming response of over 60,000 participants demonstrates how willing and eager children and young people are to learn about politics and how much they want to be included. [More >](#)

### The YeS Project: educator guide

This digital and social health program encourages young people to act as positive leaders and supportive friends in all their social spaces, especially online. The program helps spark proactive conversations between young people about their digital lives and practices, ultimately improving on them. [More >](#)

### Read all about it - kids' news website takes NYC by storm

Do children in cities really have the chance to participate? Often this question is centred on urban planning and design, but for one young New York City resident it was the desire to be a voice for her generation that proved the spark for creating Kids' News NYC. [More >](#)

## Prepared for adult life

### Raising boys: How to nurture gentle sons

There's a perception held by some parents that boys are 'tougher' than girls. However if they feel safe and valued, and always feel they are listened to in the early years, this encourages good social emotional competency; the ability to handle issues like anger management, problem solving, decision making and conflict resolution and to have respectful relationships with girls. [More >](#)

### A strength-based program for adolescents with autism

It is widely recognised that many individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) have abilities and strengths well suited to employment in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) industry. Despite this, their overall employment rate remains marginal. [More >](#)

### Young Australians' prospects still come down to where they grow up

Children growing up in disadvantaged communities enjoy few opportunities for upwards social mobility when compared with their peers in more affluent suburbs. Significantly, the children of low-income families in better-off suburbs have higher aspirations and know what they need to do to achieve those. [More >](#)