

# PRATO 2019

**Working with violence in adults and youth.**  
Effective clinical, welfare and legal strategies

## Program & Abstracts

**Prato, Italy.**

**30 September – 2 October 2019**

*Post-conference workshops on 3 October*

**[swinburne.edu.au/prato2019](http://swinburne.edu.au/prato2019)**



Centre for Forensic  
Behavioural Science





Centre for Forensic  
Behavioural Science

## **Working with violence in adults and youth**

Effective clinical, welfare and legal strategies

**Monash University Prato Centre**

**30 September – 2 October, 2019**



Forensicare



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## Important information

### Presenters

Presenters using data projectors are asked to load their presentations onto the computer in the room where they will be presenting in a break prior to the presentation. If you need help with this, please see the technician or ask at the Registration Desk.

Presenters are asked to convene at the front of the appropriate room with the Chair of their session a few minutes before the start of the session.

### Name badges

Admission to all sessions and catering is by the official conference name badge – please wear it at all times when at the conference. Tickets are necessary for the conference dinner.

### Social program

The **Welcome Reception** will be held at the Monash Centre at the close of Monday's sessions. This function is included in the full registration fee. Partners and guests are most welcome to attend; the fee is AUD\$35. Additional tickets can be purchased via the conference website.  
[www.swinburne.edu.au/prato2019](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/prato2019)

Delegates will enjoy the stunning surroundings of the Villa Medicea 'La Ferdinanda' at Artimino for the **Conference Dinner** on Tuesday 1 October. Ferdinando I De' Medici took residency of this magnificent villa with his whole court in 1594. Today, the villa provides a tranquil setting and superb catering for special functions. Delegates will be transported from the Monash University Prato Centre to the venue via bus. This function is included in the full registration fee. Partners and guests are most welcome to attend; the fee is AUD\$125. Additional tickets can be purchased via the conference website.  
[www.swinburne.edu.au/prato2019](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/prato2019) Dinner bookings close one week from conference start; however there may be availability at the conference. Check at the registration desk.

Please assemble on the street in front of the Monash Centre **by 5.45pm SHARP**. The group will then walk to the bus departure point (a very short walk).

### Special dietary requirements

There will be ample vegetarian and gluten free options for all lunches.....these will be found on the main catering tables.

At the dinner, those who provided dietary information will need to identify yourself to catering staff.

### Internet access

Instructions for accessing wifi are available at the registration desk. Delegates are welcome to use the desk top computers in the computer lab. Photocopying and printing can be arranged on a user-pays basis.

**DISCLAIMER:** At the time of printing, all information contained in this booklet is correct; however, the organising committee, its sponsors and its agents cannot be held responsible for any changes to the final structure or content of the program, or any other general or specific information published here.



## Welcome

Violence is a serious and pervasive problem in both young people and adults. A concerning level of crime and disorder and the criminalisation of youth has broad social, legal, economic and health consequences. Crime and violence are often rooted in broader urban and social problems. Media and community responses call for more, and more authoritarian, sanctions. Australian prison populations have grown by almost 40% over five years, with higher rates of growth for female offenders. Such growth is unsustainable and unnecessary as intervention can lead to desistance from crime. Efforts to prevent violence and to understand and treat violent offenders come up against 'get tough on crime' approaches, which are often disaggregated and fail to address the 'real world' problems. A broad range of professionals are involved in such efforts but confront difficulties in achieving cooperation, with whole of government commitment.

This international conference brings together policy contributors, lawyers, clinicians, legal decision makers, advocates, and researchers to explore the phenomenon of violence from a cross-disciplinary perspective, focusing on clinical, welfare, and legal strategies to explore effective responses to addressing, intervening and preventing violent behaviour. The conference will be held at Palazzo Vaj, the Monash University Centre in Prato, Tuscany, which provides an exciting opportunity to meet in an inviting setting to share research, practice and policy developments that enable a critical examination of novel approaches to understanding and managing violence across the lifespan. This exciting conference is hosted by Professor James Ogloff AM (Swinburne University of Technology, Australia) and Professor Rosemary Sheehan AM (Monash University).

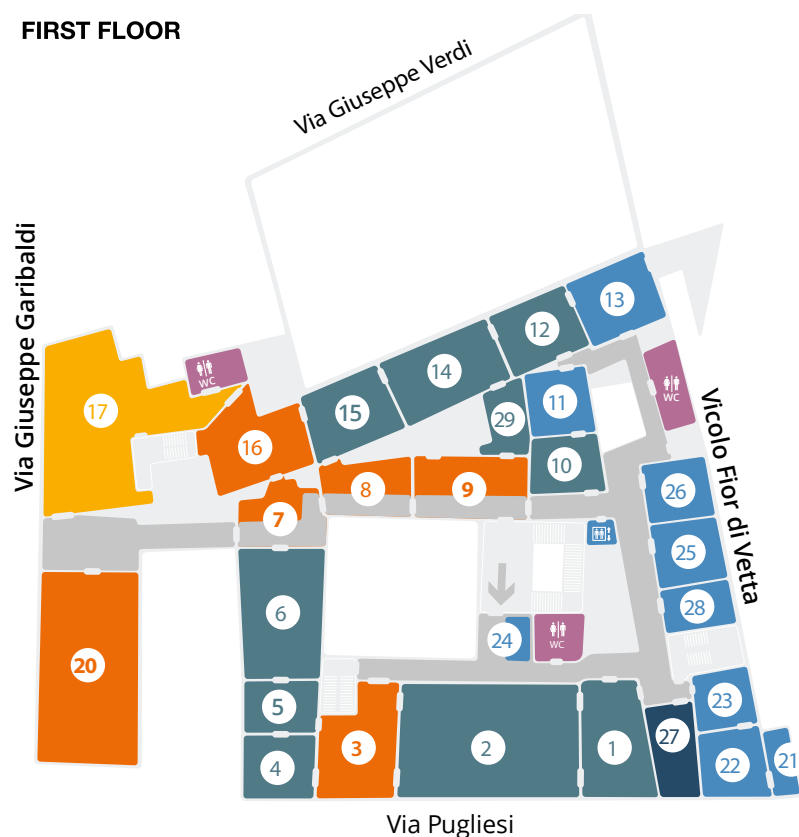
**We look forward to welcoming you to Prato.**

**James Ogloff, Rosemary Sheehan and Michael Daffern**  
**Conference Convenors**

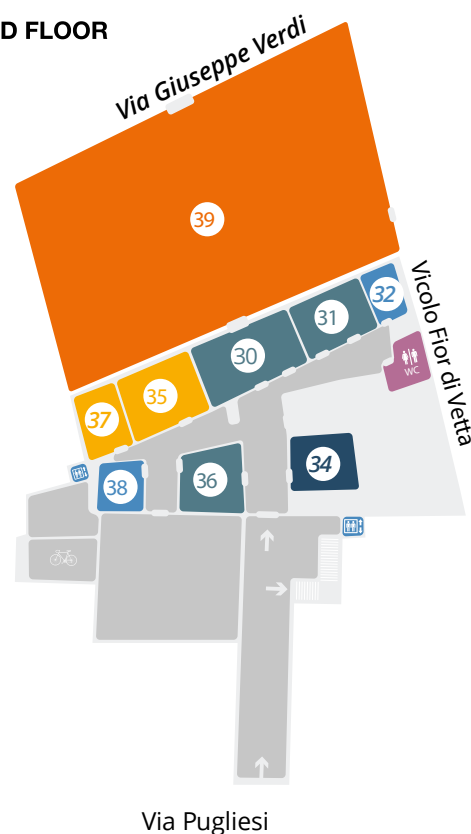


## Monash Centre Floor Plan

**FIRST FLOOR**



**GROUND FLOOR**



| Room Number | Room name                      |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| 1           | Sala Caminetto (Registration)  |
| 2           | Salone Grollo                  |
| 4           | Breakout 1                     |
| 6           | Sala Veneziana                 |
| 8-9         | Lunch, morning & afternoon tea |
| 20          | Terrace                        |
| 22-23       | Computer labs                  |



## Monday 30 September 2019

8.30am Registration

9.00am – 9.30am **Welcome and conference opening:** Professor James Ogloff AM *and* Professor Michael Daffern

9.30am - 10.30am **Keynote address: Perpetuating violence or supporting desistance?**  
 Professor Fergus McNeill

*Chair: Professor Michael Daffern*

10.30am – 11.00am *Morning tea*

11.00am – 1.00pm **Parallel sessions 1A, 1B and 1C**

| Session 1A: Papers<br>Mental illness, trauma,<br>personality dysfunction,<br>substance misuse and violence  | Session 1B: Papers<br>Exploring youth violence  | Session 1C: Symposium<br>Issues in the evaluation and<br>treatment of stalking offenders   |
|---|---|--|
| <i>Salone Grollo</i>  | <i>Breakout 1</i>   | <i>Sala Veneziana</i>  |
| <i>Chair: Janet Ruffles</i>   | <i>Chair: Stephane Shepherd</i>   | <i>Chair: Michele Galletta</i>   |
| <b>11.00am</b><br>Prevalence of posttraumatic stress disorder among adolescents in juvenile detention and correctional facilities<br><i>Gabrielle Beaudry, Rongqin Yu, Niklas Långström, Seena Fazel</i>        | <b>11.00am</b><br>Systematic review of risk and needs assessment instruments assessing (re)offending in adolescents<br><i>Susanne Strand, Martin Lardén, Johan Glad, Helene Ybrandt, Pia Nykänen, Anna Attergren- Granath, Johanna Wiss, Agneta Brolund, Anna Ringborg, Gunilla Fahlström, Therese Åström</i> | <b>11.00am</b><br>Explaining the onset, persistence and desistance of stalking behaviour<br><i>Troy McEwan</i><br><br>Evaluating treatment outcomes for stalking and intimate partner violence offenders<br><i>Barry Rosenfeld</i> |
| <b>11.30am</b><br>Changing beliefs & reducing risk: An integrated substance use program for mentally disordered offenders<br><i>Daniel McFadden, Katrina Prior, Emma Barrett</i>                                | <b>11.30am</b><br>Themes in sentencing young adults charged with serious violent crime involving alcohol and other drugs<br><i>Siobhan Lawler, Emma Barrett, Lexine Stapinski, Maree Teesson</i>  | Strategies for the treatment and management of stalking behaviors<br><i>Michele Galletta</i>   |
| <b>12.00pm</b><br>Supporting magistrates dealing with offenders who have mental health issues<br><i>Ken Morrison</i>  | <b>12.00pm</b><br>Increased risk of violence-related death among young people exposed to the youth justice system<br><i>Melissa Willoughby, Matthew J. Spittal, Rohan Borschmann, Stuart Kinner</i>   |  |
| <b>12.30pm</b><br>Conditional release and post-order outcomes in individuals managed under the <i>Crimes (Mental Impairment and Unfitness to be Tried) Act 1997 (Vic)</i><br><i>Janet Ruffles, James Ogloff</i> |   |  |



## Monday 30 September 2019

1.00pm – 2.00pm Lunch

2.00pm – 3.00pm **Keynote address: Monitoring of risk of violence and patients' clinical characteristics: The 'VIORMED' prospective cohort study**  
 Professor Giovanni de Girolamo  
*Chair: Professor James Ogloff AM*

3.00pm – 3.30pm Afternoon tea

3.30pm – 5.00pm **Parallel sessions 2A, 2B and 2C**

| Session 2A: Symposium<br>Putting theory into practice:<br>Enhancing police responses to<br>family violence through structured<br>risk assessment and management   | Session 2B: Papers<br>Future directions  | Session 2C: Symposium<br>Violence across the lifespan   |
|---|--|---|
| <i>Salone Grollo</i>  | <i>Breakout 1</i>  | <i>Sala Veneziana</i>   |
| <i>Chair: Troy McEwan</i>   | <i>Chair: Rachael Fullam</i>   | <i>Chair: Michael Daffern</i>   |
| <b>3.30pm</b><br>Putting theory into practice: Enhancing police responses to family violence through structured risk assessment and management<br><i>Troy McEwan</i><br><br>Implementing and evaluating a structured professional judgement risk assessment tool for specialist family violence police<br><i>Melisa Wood</i><br><br>The challenges of implementing evidence-based practice in policing family violence<br><i>Kirei Blackley</i><br><br>Frontline police risk assessment of family violence using a quick actuarial instrument: Victoria Police and the VP-SAFvR<br><i>Benjamin Spivak</i> | <b>3.30pm</b><br>Cultural syndromes and violent offending: Associations between honour beliefs and extreme violence<br><i>Karl Roberts</i><br><br><b>3.50pm</b><br>Assessing a short term therapeutic psycho-educational intervention program for multicultural groups of prisoners<br><i>Arran Rose</i><br><br><b>4.10pm</b><br>Everyday sadism, subclinical psychopathy and empathy: Implications for antisociality<br><i>Eve Penford, Michael Rowlands</i><br><br><b>4.30pm</b><br>A systematic review and meta-analysis of the effects of judicial supervision on recidivism of criminal offenders<br><i>Michael Trood, Ben Spivak, James Ogloff</i> | <b>3.30pm</b><br>Youth offending in Singapore: Examining protective factors<br><i>Chi Meng Chu, Grace S. Chng, Dongdong Li, Xuexin Xu, Adam Oei, Kala Ruby.</i><br><br>The implementation and evaluation of functional family therapy in Singapore<br><i>Eric HOO, Daniel GAN, Chi Meng CHU.</i><br><br>The Dynamic Appraisal of Situational Aggression and the introduction of the Embedded Aggression Prevention Protocol<br><i>Tessa Maguire, Michael Daffern, Steven Bowe, Brian McKenna.</i><br><br>Precipitants to aggression among older adults in residential facilities<br><i>Michael Daffern, Terri Robborton</i> |

5.00pm – 6.30pm **Welcome Reception – Terrace, Monash Centre**





## Tuesday 1 October 2019

9.00am – 10.00am **Keynote address: Violence in youth: when we ask the hard questions, do we get the right answers?**

Judge Amanda Chambers

*Chair: Professor James Ogloff AM*

10.00am – 10.30am *Morning tea*

10.30 – 12.30pm **Parallel sessions 3A, 3B and 3C**

| <b>Session 3A: Papers</b><br>Mental health  | <b>Session 3B: Round table</b><br>Understanding trauma and its effects: Relationships between trauma and youth violence | <b>Session 3C: Symposium</b><br>Harmful traditional practices: Characteristics, prevention and protection       |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Salone Grollo</b>  | <b>Breakout 1</b>   | <b>Sala Veneziana</b>   |
| <i>Chair: Stefan Luebbers</i>   |   | <i>Chair: Karl Roberts</i>  |
| <b>10.30am</b><br>Treating mental illness while in prison<br><i>Margaret Nixon, Rachael Fullam</i>  | <b>10.30am</b><br><i>Chairs: Jamie Dickson, Kevin Richards</i>  | <b>10.30am</b><br>What are harmful traditional practices and what do we know about them?<br><i>Karl Roberts</i> |
| <b>11.00am</b><br>The correlates of unfitness to stand trial in Victoria, Australia<br><i>Grant Blake, James Ogloff</i>   |   | Female genital mutilation<br><i>Gerry Campbell, Neelam Sarkaria</i>   |
| <b>11.30am</b><br>Extending the General Aggression Model: Contributions of DSM-5 maladaptive personality facets and schema modes<br><i>Ashley L. Dunne, Stuart Lee, Michael Daffern</i>                                   |   | Breast ironing<br><i>Gerry Campbell, Neelam Sarkaria</i>  |
| <b>12.00pm</b><br>Construct and predictive validity of the Psychopathy Checklist: Screening Version in a violent offender population in Australia<br><i>Ryan Veal, Christine Critchley, Stefan Luebbers, James Ogloff</i> |   | Witchcraft<br><i>Gerry Campbell, Neelam Sarkaria</i>  |

12.30pm – 1.30pm *Lunch*



## Tuesday 1 October 2019

- 1.30pm - 2.30pm**     **Keynote address: French judicial procedure: balancing clinical and legal approaches to family violence matters**  
 Judge Alice Grunenwald  
*Chair: Professor Michael Daffern*
- 2.30pm - 3.00pm**     *Afternoon tea*
- 3.00pm - 5.00pm**     **Parallel sessions 4A, 4B and 4C**

| <b>Session 4A: Symposium</b><br>Legal Responses to children, young people, and mentally and cognitively impaired persons who perpetrate Family Violence: Doing more harm than good?  | <b>Session 4B: Papers</b><br>Family violence, Indigenous women & prison  | <b>Session 4C: Papers</b><br>Youth, family violence  |
|--|--|--|
| <i>Salone Grollo</i>   | <i>Breakout 1</i>  | <i>Sala Veneziana</i>  |
| <i>Chair: Her Honour Jelena Popovic</i>  | <i>Chair: Margaret Nixon</i>   | <i>Chair: Caleb Lloyd</i>  |
| <b>3.00pm</b><br>Violence towards parents across Victoria<br><i>Melanie Simmons, Troy McEwan</i><br>The Children's Court of Victoria's responses to adolescent family violence<br><i>Amanda Chambers</i><br>Legal responses to adolescent family violence: Doing more harm than good?<br><i>Amanda Chambers</i><br>Intervention orders imposed on the mentally ill and cognitively impaired persons: Safety belts or wrecking balls?<br><i>Jelena Popovic</i><br>Responding to abuse and violence between co-residents with cognitive disability in shared supported accommodation<br><i>Colleen Pearce, Eleanore Fritze</i> | <b>3.00pm</b><br>The role of prison-based think tanks in breaking the cycle of violence<br><i>Marg Liddell, Marietta Martinovic</i><br><b>3.30pm</b><br>Identifying and assessing violence in the context of family violence/ sexual assault – Entitled violence vs violence as a form of resistance<br><i>Abbey Newman</i><br><b>4.00pm</b><br>Legislative vortex: impact of family violence and child protection on indigenous Australians<br><i>Corina Martin</i> | <b>3.00pm</b><br>Pathways to violence: Examining the anatomy of radicalisation<br><i>William Bloss, Zachary Swehla</i><br><b>3.30pm</b><br>Making and unmaking monsters: Assembling the 'violent young offender'<br><i>Diana Johns</i><br><b>4.00pm</b><br>Whose violence? Young people or government?<br><i>Max Liddell, Marg Liddell</i><br><b>4.30pm</b><br>The academic achievement of adolescents exposed to family violence<br><i>Meu Supol, Lata Satyen, Matin Ghayour-Minaie, John W. Toumbourou</i> |

- 5.45pm (SHARP)**     **Bus to Conference Dinner**
- 7.00pm**     **Conference Dinner – Artimino**



## Wednesday 2 October 2019

9.00am – 10.30am **Parallel sessions 5A and 5B**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Session 5A: Papers</b><br><b>Police and community interfaces with vulnerable populations</b>   | <b>Session 5B: Round table</b><br><b>Dealing with systems failures in practice: How to work within finite legal systems and services with the 'too complex' client</b> |
| <i>Sala Grollo</i>  | <i>Sala Veneziana</i>  |
| <i>Chair: Melanie Simmons</i>   | <i>Chair: Melanie Simmons</i>  |
| <b>9.00am</b><br>Gender differences in risk factors for intimate partner abuse recidivism in a Victorian police sample<br><i>Julia Nazarewicz, Stefan Luebbers, Troy McEwan</i> | <b>9.00am</b><br><i>Chairs: Erica Contini, Ffiona Livingstone Clark</i>  |
| <b>9.30am</b><br>Measuring success in a frontline policing setting: Preliminary outcome evaluation data<br><i>Anne Sophie Pichler, Stefan Luebbers, James Ogloff</i>            |  |
| <b>10.00am</b><br>The extent and significance of young South-Sudanese justice involvement in Australia<br><i>Stephane Shepherd</i>  |  |

10.30am – 11.00am *Morning tea*

11.00am – 12.00pm **Keynote address: Evaluating change in violent offenders: linkages to risk assessment and management**  
**Professor Mark Olver**

*Chair: Professor Michael Daffern*

12.00pm – 1.00pm *Lunch*



## Wednesday 2 October 2019

1.00pm – 2.45pm **Parallel Sessions 6A and 6B**

| <b>Session 6A: Papers</b><br>Violence and homicide  | <b>Session 6B: Papers</b><br>Emerging themes   |
|---|--|
| <i>Salone Grollo</i>  | <i>Sala Veneziana</i>  |
| <i>Chair: Benjamin Spivak</i>   | <i>Chair: Anne Sophie Pichler</i>  |
| <b>1.00pm</b><br>New evidence for the effectiveness of violent offender treatment in correctional and forensic mental health settings: Impacts on institutional misconducts, recidivism, and possible 'change-levers'<br><i>Nina Papalia, Ben Spivak, Michael Daffern, James Ogloff</i> | <b>1.00pm</b><br>Development of a comprehensive and integrated program to address violence with youth offenders with cognitive impairment<br><i>Joseph Sakdalan, Sabine Visser</i> |
| <b>1.25pm</b><br>Developing and testing a program to treat aggressive scripts in an offender population<br><i>Fiona Morrison, Michael Daffern, Rachael Fullam, Kylie Thomson</i>  | <b>1.30pm</b><br>How do we address family violence in moderate and high risk offenders within correctional and forensic services<br><i>Sabine Visser, Joseph Sakdalan</i>          |
| <b>1.50pm</b><br>Transformational environment for violent offenders in Singapore Prison Service<br><i>Kwek Boon Siang</i>   | <b>2.45pm</b><br>What works? Police interventions in ex-partner stalking cases<br><i>Cleo Brandt</i>   |
| <b>2.15pm</b><br>Youth homicide in Australia: What do we know?<br><i>Melodee Faulkner</i>   |  |

2.45pm – 3.45pm **Keynote address: A systematic approach to reducing persistent violence and serious sexual offending: The Catalyst Consortium.**

Professor James Ogloff AM

*Chair: Professor Michael Daffern*

3.45pm – 4.30pm **Plenary panel and Conference close**



**Violence in youth: when we ask the hard questions, do we get the right answers?****Judge Amanda Chambers**

Children's Court of Victoria, Victoria, Australia

Violent offending by the young shocks the community and elicits calls to "get tough" on youth offenders. Headlines such as "Teen thugs receive kid glove justice" lead to demands for those who commit 'adult' offences to do 'adult' time. But when we ask the hard questions about violence in youth, do we get the right answers? Can a youth justice system apply a principled approach to respond more effectively to violent behaviour by the young in a way that recognises the complexity of the problem and is aligned to the human rights of the child as recognised by international instruments?

Whilst notions of accountability, deterrence and community safety are important, rehabilitation is never more important than it is for the young, not just for their benefit but for the benefit of the families and communities in which they live.

In Victoria, and internationally, apprehension rates for children have steadily decreased over the past decade. However, the data also tells a concerning story. In Victoria, as elsewhere, there is a small but significant number of recidivist offenders, many of whom are committing confrontational, violent offences. It is hard to find simple, straight-forward answer to why these youths are violent and why youth violence appears to be increasing. However, the characteristics of these young people point to the complexity of the problem – young, violent offenders who are themselves victims of abuse, trauma and neglect, exposed to family violence, excluded or disengaged from education, neuro-disabilities, drug and alcohol abuse and poor mental health. Most are male, most are aged around 16-17 years, but recent trends show a concerning increase violent offending by young women.

Recent amendments to the *Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 (Vic)* have introduced significant changes to the treatment of young offenders – particularly those who commit serious youth offences – by having their cases heard and determined in adult courts. Notions of just punishment, general deterrence and denunciation of offending become relevant in sentencing these youth. But when a multi-disciplinary, evidence-based approach is taken to the complex question of violent youth offending, do we get better answers? Are we more likely to achieve better outcomes to help reclaim these young lives?

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**Monitoring of risk of violence and patients' clinical characteristics: the 'viormed' prospective cohort study****Professor Giovanni de Girolamo**

St John of God Clinical Research Centre, Brescia, Italy

**AIMS:** The objective of the VIORMED study are twofold: (1) to compare the socio-demographic, clinical, and treatment-related characteristics of patients living in residential facilities and of outpatients with a lifetime history of serious violence with age-, sex- and diagnosis-matched controls with no history of violence; and (2) to identify the predictors of aggressive and violent behaviour during a one-year follow-up.

**METHODS:** This is a prospective cohort study, involving patients staying in 21 long-term residential facilities, or in outpatient treatment in 4 Departments of Mental Health, all located in Northern Italy. Patients with or without a lifetime history of serious violence were assessed with a comprehensive set of standardized assessment instruments (average time of assessment: 8 hours) covering psychopathology and psychosocial functioning (e.g., SCID-I and II, FPS, SLOF, BPRS, Insight Scale), aggressiveness and impulsivity (e.g., BDHI, STAXI 2, BIS-11), personality traits (e.g., MCMI-III), neuropsychology (e.g., WCST, GO-NOGO, IGT, BACS), emotion recognition



assessment (e.g., FEEL), and the Theory of Mind (e.g., IVAM). Patients were reassessed with a selected set of instruments at the one-year follow-up, and were evaluated twice a month with the Modified Overt Aggression Scale (MOAS) to monitor the occurrence of any aggressive and violent behaviour, for a total of 24 evaluation for each patient.

**RESULTS:** The sample includes 139 residential patients and 247 outpatients, for a total of 265 'cases' (violent) and 178 controls; most patients were of male gender. We will report detailed data about personality, impulsivity, neuropsychology and emotion recognition skills. With regard to the bimonthly monitoring of aggressive and violent behaviour, among residential patients there were very little differences between the two groups, limited to the first 2 months of monitoring, while outpatients with a history of violence did display statistically significant differences in aggressive and violent behaviour compared to controls. Verbal aggression was significantly associated with aggression against objects and physical aggression. Irrespective of any history of violence, outpatients with personality disorder as a primary diagnosis displayed more aggressive and violent behaviour than those with a primary diagnosis of schizophrenia during the 1-year follow-up. Patients with current episodes of substance or alcohol abuse were more violent than patients never abusing substances or abusing only in the past. Finally, patients with poor metacognition, as assessed with the IVAM, reported a history of violence more frequently than patients with good metacognition during the 1-year follow-up.

**CONCLUSION:** Patients with an history of serious violence staying in residential facilities, where treatment and clinical supervision are granted, do not show higher rates of aggressive and violent behaviour as compared to patients never violent; this is an important finding in a country (Italy) where all Forensic Mental Hospitals have been closed and small residential facilities have been set up for patients with an history of violence. However, this finding does not necessarily translate to patients living in the community, where treatment and clinical supervision are more difficult to grant: indeed, outpatients with an history of violence display more aggressive and violent behaviour as compared to matched patients with no history of violence. Appropriate preventive interventions are needed for these clinical groups.

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### **French judicial procedure: balancing clinical and legal approaches to family violence matters.**

Judge Alice Grunenwald

Juge des enfants, Le Havre, France

French *juges des enfants* decide matters involving both young offenders and the protection of children facing danger or difficulties in their families. In *assistance éducative*, the proceedings and decision process are informal, seeking consensus within the framework of possible compulsory interventions. It has been described as a 'clinical approach' as opposed to a 'legal approach'. The judge aims to protect the child along with the parents, looking for educational and therapeutic actions in open custody, even when family violence is present.

The French judicial system is giving increased attention to family violence, and prosecutions in this area have increased steadily over the few last decades. Civil and criminal law have both been modified several times, leading to more punitive responses. In this context, the *juge des enfants* has been criticized and accused of being too supportive of parents, and not protective enough of children, by trying to treat the sources of violence rather than punishing or protecting the child from his or her dangerous parents.

Now, when violence appears in a family, the offender is in most cases prosecuted and sentenced in criminal courts, whereas the *juge des enfants* has to make decisions about child protection. I will present several cases involving family violence and describe how clinical and legal approaches were balanced to combine criminal sanctions, protection of the child, but also understanding and treatment of underlying familial or personal difficulties that led to the violence, in order to ease and repair intra-family relationships. I will also speak about the priority of educational responses for young offenders, and the programs implemented to help them containing their impulsivity and violent reactions.



### **Perpetuating Violence or Supporting Desistance?**

**Professor Fergus McNeill**

University of Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom

In this paper, I explore the relationships between structural violence, inter-personal violence and symbolic violence. Drawing on evidence about desistance from crime (including violent crime), I argue that the structural violence created by social inequalities is implicated in the aetiology of violence, and that the symbolic violence of punishment is implicated in frustrating desistance from violence. It follows that to help young people to avoid violence and to desist from it requires attention to (distributive) social injustice, as well as a range of practice responses that provide the respect, recognition, representation and relationships that underpin human flourishing.

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### **A Systematic Approach to Reducing Persistent Violence and Serious Sexual Offending: The Catalyst Consortium**

**Professor James Ogloff AM**

Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, Swinburne University of Technology, Australia

The problem of violence is of national and international significance and requires innovative and transformational research and practice to enhance understanding and assessment, intervention, reintegration and prevention efforts. The consequences of failing to advance our work in this important area contributes to poor public policy development and incites anxiety and calls for retribution from the public. Indeed, a number of high profile, but anomalous cases, that have ended in serious offending, have altered the public and professional discourse regarding how we deal with violent and sexual offenders. This presentation will provide an overview of the Catalyst Consortium and our early work. The Catalyst Consortium establishes a partnership between leading researchers, clinical leaders, and correctional/forensic mental health organisations to systematically address persistent violence and sexual offending. The aim of the Catalyst Consortium is to enhance our understanding of the causal factors of violence, and to intervene effectively with people who engage in violence in a manner that will increase community safety.

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### **Evaluating Change in Violent Offenders: Linkages to Risk Assessment and Management**

**Professor Mark Olver**

University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada

The identification of high risk men to be targeted for treatment services and other risk management efforts has important policy, public safety, criminal justice, and health related implications. This keynote will review issues in theory, research, and clinical practice in the assessment and management of risk in violent offenders. Emphases will be placed on the treatment change literature and its practice-based considerations, particularly regarding the linkage of measuring treatment-related changes to changes in risk for violent recidivism. The incorporation of change information into violence risk assessments, with supporting data, will be discussed with implications for the adjustment of post-service risk appraisals to inform conditional release and supervision decisions.



## Prevalence of posttraumatic stress disorder among adolescents in juvenile detention and correctional facilities

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Adolescents account for approximately 5% of all individuals in detention and correctional facilities and present high rates of mental disorders (Fazel *et al.*, 2008; Colins *et al.*, 2010). Increased exposure to traumatic events augments the risk of developing posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) for incarcerated juvenile delinquents (Caufman *et al.*, 1998; Abram *et al.*, 2013). Nonetheless, no consensus exists regarding the prevalence of PTSD in detained adolescents. It is crucial these prevalence are known for guiding the provision of care in correctional facilities, especially considering that untreated PTSD imposes a strain on both individuals and the justice system (Kessler, 2000). We have conducted a systematic review and meta-analysis of the literature reporting on prevalence of PTSD in unselected samples of detained adolescents. In total, we included 21 studies originating from 13 different countries. They reported on 14,026 males and 2,094 females of whom the average age was 16 years (range 12-19 years). The pooled prevalence of PTSD was 8.6% (6.4%–10.8%) in males and 18.2% (13.1%–23.2%) in females. Results demonstrate that females exhibit higher prevalences of PTSD than males, which reflects the results of a recent meta-analysis focusing on adult prisoners (Baranyi *et al.*, 2018). Thus, the implementation of gender-specific clinical interventions is potentially beneficial in the light of our findings (Dixon *et al.*, 2005). These findings also stress the importance of treating not only individuals who have been diagnosed with PTSD, but also those who present significant subthreshold symptoms.

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## The correlates of unfitness to stand trial in Victoria, Australia

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Some violent offenders perform poorly in court due symptoms of mental illness or neurological impairment. To protect defendants from unfairness and prevent unreliable verdicts, the legal construct of fitness to stand trial was constructed in English common law. The concept now has global relevance and is the most common forensic mental health assessment in some jurisdictions. Fitness captures the notion that it is unfair to try a defendant in the usual manner if their mental processes are so disordered or impaired that they lack basic functional abilities to navigate legal proceedings (e.g., the ability to enter a plea). Understanding the correlates of fitness to stand trial is essential to undertaking efficient, evidence-based assessments. We retrospectively analysed 274 fitness reports pertaining to 115 defendants in Victoria, Australia. Approximately 70% of defendants were decidedly unfit to stand trial. Neurological conditions (e.g., intellectual disability, brain injury) were the strongest predictor of unfitness whereas psychosis was unrelated. Violent offenders were, on average, older than sex offenders with a large effect. Offence type (e.g., violent, sexual) was unrelated to fitness opinions. Psychiatrists authored the majority of reports (62.4%). Psychologists spent more time assessing the defendant, wrote longer reports, and reviewed more collateral materials. Assessment procedures were highly variable and many neuropsychological tests were arguably unrelated to the legal test. Malingering and effort were





overtly considered in only 19% of reports. Fitness evaluations could be improved with standardised interviews, consideration of legal precedent, and embedding feigned unfitness measures into a general assessment procedure.

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## Pathways to violence: Examining the anatomy of radicalization

**William Bloss<sup>1</sup> and Zachary Swehla<sup>2</sup>**

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Researchers have proffered explanations about radicalization pathways that lead to violent behavior (e.g., Leistedt, 2016; McCauley & Moskalenko, 2017; della Porta, 2018). The multi-faceted theories include structural, relational, and psycho-social aspects that focus on a progression toward pro-violence motives and actions. While these include group-related activities such as found with terrorists, gangs, or hooligans, the underlying mechanisms begin with an individual radicalization process that may result in violence and extremism. Using content analysis, this paper examines the characteristics and contributing factors involving individual radicalization that produces aggression and violent behavior. Among the drivers are structural, relational, and behavioral conditions, such as socio-economic, political, or social learning, that facilitate an individual embracing a culture of violence. In examining the anatomy of radicalization, the paper also explains specific processes, pathways, and indicators that signal risk factors which contribute to a trajectory toward violent behavior. The findings suggest that violence radicalization mechanisms are contextual and individualistic thus influenced by many factors to include behavioral construct, strength of push and pull drivers, socio-cultural conditions, and indoctrination efficacy.

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## What works? Police interventions in ex-partner stalking cases

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In 2016 the Dutch police began implementing a new approach to policing stalking in an attempt to move from reactive policing to a more preventative approach. This approach was developed after an internal review into a number of fatal ex-partner stalking cases identified shortcomings in how police handled these cases. These include: failure to recognise stalking, failure to focus on victim safety as well as crime prosecution, failure to effectively assess risk and prioritise cases, and failure to communicate effectively about stalking, both internally and with other agencies. Four police teams from two regional police forces trialed the new approach for three months. The pilot was evaluated and the new approach implemented nationwide, a process that is still ongoing. In 2018 the cases from the pilot teams were followed up in order to determine which interventions police used and how effective these were, more specifically, if there was a link between the level of concern (as determined with the SASH<sup>1</sup>) and the interventions police used. While it was not possible to determine which interventions were effective for the different levels of concern, this research did show that overall a two-pronged approach, consisting of victim focused and offender focused interventions was most effective. A further relevant finding was that in cases where the stalking hadn't stopped, a contributing factor appeared to be mental health problems on the part of the offender.

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<sup>1</sup>Screening Assessment for Stalking and Harassment (2015), McEwan, T.E., Strand, S., MacKenzie, R.D., James, D.V.



## Extending the General Aggression Model: Contributions of DSM-5 maladaptive personality facets and schema modes

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This study sought to determine whether the addition of DSM-5 personality facets and schema modes improved the prediction of aggression history over and above General Aggression Model (GAM) cognitive knowledge structures (aggressive script rehearsal and normative beliefs supportive of aggression) and anger. Participants were 208 incarcerated adult male prisoners who completed a battery of self-report psychological tests assessing the aforementioned constructs. Results indicated that aggression-related cognitive knowledge structures, anger, and various personality facets and schema modes were significantly associated with aggression. However, only anger, the personality facet *Risk Taking*, and the *Enraged Child* schema mode uniquely accounted for variance in multivariable modelling. This suggests that consideration of maladaptive personality facets, specifically risk taking, and schema modes characterised by intense anger and destructive coping behaviour, alongside established aggression-related cognitive and affective constructs, can (a) extend theoretical knowledge of the specific contents and processes involved in increasing aggression propensity, and (b) improve GAM's application in clinical settings, particularly in regards to assessment and treatment of violent offenders.

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## Youth homicide in Australia: what do we know?

Melodee Faulkner

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Utilising Australian National Homicide Monitoring Program data from 1989-2014 as well as Victorian Sentencing Data (2007) this report analyses the trends and issues with relation to youth homicide for both youth victims and offenders (aged under 25 years). Although youth homicide is a leading cause of child death in Australia and of serious concern to society, health and justice institutions, a paucity of research has been done in an Australian context to enable better predictive and sociological models to be developed to enable enhanced behavioural identification and prevention of this crime. Issues of poverty, mental illness, neurological deficits, psychological and sexual child abuse, temporal and relational factors are discussed. Australian youth and children are most at risk of homicide within residential settings, most commonly their own home, and by primary caregivers, relatives, friends or acquaintances. Stranger killings account for 8% of crimes of this typology with a further 13% of youth homicide remaining unsolved in addition to potential concealed homicides potentially distorting accurate analysis. Males are at greatest risk both as victims and offenders of homicides with indigenous victims and offenders a disproportionately high subgroup. Additionally, patterns of depression, suicidal ideation, drug and alcohol abuse, concurrent crime, established or emerging mental illness and poverty with ensuing lack of social support and resources means that a large number of these crimes are preventable and as such of significant concern for policy as a broader health issue. Possible intervention strategies for workplace and educational institutions, health professionals and caregivers are discussed.



## **Making and unmaking monsters: Assembling the ‘violent young offender’**

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Youth violence is conceived, experienced, lived through, and responded to in different ways, through different processes: visceral responses arising unbidden in the bodies of victims; boys acting out gendered performances of masculinity; fear rippling through communities beset by crime; imagined threats generated by salacious headlines; criminogenic needs assessed, recorded, targeted through correctional intervention. How do these multiple threads connect and intertwine to produce the figure of the “violent young offender”? And what does it mean if, in addressing violent behaviour, we only see or respond to one side of that figure?

Here I present findings from different projects that illuminate aspects of the multiple processes through which youth violence is embodied, performed, narrated, conceptualised, and understood. I draw illustrative case studies from a range of individual and collaborative research projects to explore the implications for interrupting cycles of violence in which young people can become enmeshed. I draw on studies in different settings: from the demonisation of African-background young people in Melbourne; young people’s ‘prolific’ offending in Wales; to responses to adolescent family violence. Using these examples, through an assemblage lens, I argue that the effectiveness of interventions to reduce or prevent youth violence will always be limited if we view the problem through a single lens, and that assemblage thinking and social-ecological approaches are more able to account for the multiple and interconnected factors that contribute to making and unmaking ‘monsters’ out of young people using violence.

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## **Te Rito o Te Harakeke: Ko te Whanau me nga Tamariki – Seeding & Scoping New Research for Families of Oranga Tamariki ; Te Rito Foundation.**

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Te Rito Foundation is the First Whanau Foundation of NZ empowering families of Oranga Tamariki “to flourish towards endless realistic possibilities”. Based on the Oranga Tamariki Act 2017 Section 18B that legislates the inability of parent individuals to care for their children taken into State care, Te Rito Foundation is the social services provider of the future to turn parents around for their children’s lives with social development.

NZ care and protection service’s recently came under severe public scrutiny resulting in findings that judicially and administratively the service failed its first people considerably.

Te Rito Foundation views that partnership is the key to bridging the divide of “them and us” in social services, whereby as a company of the community tribe, family and whanau, we can effectively provide the transformational leadership responsively to detonate the influence and impact of violences affecting our



children and families. Te Rito Foundation is for and about making a difference to the lives of families.

Te Rito Foundation's Research series for 2019 – 2020 includes:

"Te Rito o te Harakeke: Ko te Whanau me nga Tamariki (Part 1) – Seeding & Scoping New Research for Families of Oranga Tamariki"

- Family violence and child welfare: Addressing Domestic Violence for safer Better Whanau
- Gender and cultural effects: Totem Pole Theory: A Women's status in a family.

"Te Rito o te Harakeke: Nga Matua o Te Rito (Part 2) - Development Programme & Evaluation of "Horizons Programme" for Parents of Oranga Tamariki"

"Te Rito o te Harakeke: Te Harakeke me te Pepi Tamariki (Part 3) - Consultative and Qualitative Research Project for Te Rito Foundation & Oranga Tamariki Family Centre for Contact Care and Support Services".

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## **Transformational Environment for Violent Offenders in Singapore Prison Service**

**Boon Siang Kwek<sup>1</sup>**

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Traditionally, violent offenders in Singapore undergo a closed-group psychological intervention conducted by prisons psychologist during their incarceration. In 2019, we implemented a new intervention approach for violent offenders based on an open-group format within a Transformational Environment (TE). Theories and ideas from desistance, therapeutic communities, schema theory, and restorative process are referenced during the conceptualization process. This paper aims to share the "People, Programmes and Processes" of the TE and the core concepts of the open-group intervention. Challenges and learning points will also be discussed.

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## **Themes in sentencing young adults charged with serious violent crime involving alcohol and other drugs**

**Siobhan Lawler<sup>1</sup>, Emma Barrett<sup>1</sup>, Lexine Stapinski<sup>1</sup>, and Maree Teesson<sup>1</sup>**

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There is a clear association between substance use and violent offending but less is known about this relationship among young adults offenders (age 18-25) in particular. The aim of this study is two-fold: to outline the characteristics of serious violent crimes involving alcohol and other drugs committed by young adults and to describe how judges discuss rehabilitation as a consideration in sentencing this high-risk group. This research contributes to the literature by bridging law and social science through a mixed methods analysis of judges' sentencing remarks. A cross sectional analysis of n = 220 sentencing remarks from NSW higher courts between 2014 and 2017 was conducted. Substance use was identified as an offence characteristic in more than three quarters (77%) of violent offence cases. Among young adults sentenced for violent crimes involving substance use (n = 51) robbery and homicide were the most common offences, and alcohol and methamphetamine were the most commonly involved substances. Judges' reasons for sentencing were split into two themes, one emphasising offender agency and choice and another acknowledging the influence of drug dependence on





offending behaviour. Despite this divide, addressing substance-use dependence was seen as key in successful rehabilitation in most cases.

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## **The role of prison-based Think Tanks in breaking the cycle of violence**

**Marg Liddell<sup>1</sup> and Marietta Martinovic<sup>2</sup>**

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This paper relates to the research undertaken on the operation of prison-based Think Tanks in two prisons - Dame Phyllis Frost Correctional Centre (DPFC) and Marngoneet Correctional Centre (MCC) in Melbourne, Australia. These Think Tanks commenced operation at the completion of the Inside Out Prison Exchange Teaching program at DPFC, in 2015 and then MCC, in 2017. The Think Tanks comprise of a group of approximately 18 members including inside students (prisoners), outside students (RMIT University students) and RMIT academic staff. They meet on a bi-monthly basis and discuss current and topical issues as they relate to the criminal justice system, including the prison operation. In addition, they have produced more than two dozen reports which outline practical processes to reduce the likelihood of women or men returning to prison as well as strategies to improve their quality of life upon release. The researchers interviewed 32 past and current inside and outside students and analysed the influence the Think Tanks have had on them. Of interest, is many:

- inside students obtained a deeper understanding and awareness of the impact of their offending behavior, especially their violent behavior on their victims, their families and the wider community, and
- outside students developed a greater understanding of the complexity of the offending trajectory of prisoners and how this could have been interrupted.

This paper will provide information about the power of Think Tanks to change people's lives.

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## **Whose Violence? Young People or Government?**

**Max Liddell<sup>1</sup> and Marg Liddell<sup>2</sup>**

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While the conference concentrates on youth offenders, what if one turned the topic on its head? What if we asked a different question? What is it about governments, what they do or do not do, or what 'violence' they perpetrate on young people, which leads to their problematic behaviour? This paper uses Australia as a case example. In Australia we have a long history of residual responses to family and childhood issues, parsimoniousness, stereotyping of victims, and intervention strategies which are limited, and punitive. This paper peruses history briefly, with a particular focus on the contribution of strategies aimed at families and young children. Their failures contribute to the difficulties experienced by adolescents. There is ample Australian and international evidence supporting this contention. The paper points out the historical philosophies and actions which have continued to the present, and have led to the point where youth behaviour is arguably more difficult to manage. Further the history is either unknown, ignored, or misunderstood. The history has also been



conducted within a broader social policy context of residualism, reliance on individual responsibility, victim-blaming, and dysfunctional theories of childhood (and therefore of family life). As a result the lessons of history are not being learned. Knowledge of causes of the problems arising from this history therefore should influence policy and intervention. However are we are so conditioned to intervening late and in limited ways that history could, unless our philosophies change radically, continue to repeat itself?

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## Legislative Vortex - Impact of Family Violence and Child Protection on Indigenous Australians

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Family violence and abuse is causing damage to the cultures and fabric of Indigenous communities in Western Australia (WA). It is damaging our communities, our families, our women, our children and our men.

In WA, Indigenous people have been subjected to legislation, which has not been beneficial. When WA was granted "responsible government" in 1889, Britain refused to relinquish responsibility for "Aborigines" to the State due to concerns that Indigenous people would be neglected or worse by the State.

The *Aborigines Act 1905* (WA) established the office of "State Protector of Aborigines" for the purpose of the 'protection, control and segregation of Aboriginal people'. The legislation had a devastating impact on Indigenous communities in WA as it enabled the removal of anyone deemed "Aboriginal native" to a Reserve and any child deemed "Aboriginal native" to a State institution.

Current legislation such as the *Children and Community Services Act 2004* (WA) has resulted in the fracturing of Indigenous families. Current statistics shows that "Aboriginal children represent 53 per cent of all children in Out-of-Home-care" despite provisions within the legislation requiring "decisions about a child should be consistent with cultural, ethnic and religious values and traditions relevant to the child".

Current legislation fails to consider the intergenerational trauma that Indigenous people were subjected to since colonisation. If future generations of Indigenous people are not to suffer further, onus is on the State to deal with the following:

- (i) intergenerational trauma and
- (ii) the Indigenous placement principal for children at risk must be a paramount principal.



## Changing Beliefs and Reducing Risk: An Integrated Substance Use treatment programme for mentally disordered offenders

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**Introduction and aims:** Substance use disorders are prevalent among offenders, with two-thirds (66.5%) of Australian prisoners diagnosed with a substance use disorder within the last 12 months. Mentally disordered offenders are particularly likely to have comorbid substance use disorders. Derry et al (2008) reported that 77% of forensic inpatients in a unit surveyed had a history of substance use problems. This is of concern, given the strong association between comorbidity and violent offending.

Evidence from clinical trials and literature reviews provide strong empirical support for the efficacy of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) in treating of substance use disorders. Despite improvements in substance misuse treatment service provision over the past 13 years, strategies continue to not be reflective of best practice and there is limited implementation of integrated treatment programs that address comorbidity.

This study aims to evaluate the UK-based Substance Use Treatment Programme measuring feasibility, acceptability and preliminary efficacy of the programme.

**Methods:** The 12-session CBT-based SUTP will be completed weekly. It is underpinned by motivational interviewing and contains modules on assertiveness, support identification and decisional balancing. This pilot study aims to recruit 40 participants, and assess outcomes related to beliefs about substance use, strength of drug related locus of control, confidence in high risk substance misuse situations, motivation for entering treatment and current risk of violently reoffending.

**Results:** Pending.

**Discussion:** By offering an integrated treatment, the CBT-based SUTP has the potential to significantly reduce the risk of repeat violent offending for the inpatients of the high secure forensic hospital.

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## Developing and testing a program to treat aggressive scripts in an offender population

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Huesmann (2018) describes violence as “a contagious disease which can be caught simply through its observation”. Despite this, no treatment for a key cause of this disease – aggressive scripts, has been suggested or tested. Therefore, this research aimed to explore what a successful psychological treatment for aggressive scripts could consist of. This was achieved by investigating the modes through which theoretically similar concepts have been treated. Literature reviews on the treatment for violent fantasy, aggressive rumination,



aggressive thoughts and imagery, and poor emotional regulation, were undertaken. A group treatment manual incorporating aspects of these existing psychological treatment was developed. The end product consisted of seven, two-hour sessions, to be delivered in a prison environment, to individuals who met the inclusion criteria of endorsing aggressive scripts. A control group of emotion regulation group therapy (matched in dosage, environment, and facilitator delivery) was utilized as a comparison. 48 male participants commenced this study, all of whom were incarcerated at a remand facility in Melbourne, Australia. It was identified that while participation in either group led to significant improvements on several outcome measures, the aggressive scripts group appeared superior in improving psychological flexibility and general psychological wellbeing, and in reducing hostility, and aspects of aggressive script rehearsal and aggression. These results were observed at pre-post measures, and at several follow-up points. These findings suggest that aggressive scripts can be treated, and the potential for such therapeutic group to be integrated into larger violence treatment programs ought to be explored further.

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### **Supporting magistrates dealing with offenders who have mental health issues**

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For over 20 years Forensicare has provide a limited, often part-time, Court Liaison Services in seven Magistrates' Courts across Melbourne. In August 2018 this service was extended to provide full-time cover to eight courts in Melbourne on a full-time basis and, in association with regional public health providers, five regional courts. A major catalyst for the program was the positive evaluation of a pilot program of assisting Corrections Victoria with mental health screens of clients being assessed for Community Corrections Orders where the magistrate was considering a mental health treatment condition. The new service incorporating both the Court Liaison and Community Corrections Screening roles is called the Mental Health Advice and Response Service and is attracting positive feedback from both magistrates and community corrections services. Initial quantitative and qualitative data is provided for the urban courts being serviced directly by Forensicare.

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### **Gender differences in risk factors for intimate partner abuse recidivism in a Victorian police sample**

**Julia Nazarewicz<sup>1</sup>, Stefan Luebbers<sup>1</sup> and Troy McEwan<sup>1</sup>**

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Research on intimate partner violence (IPV) has historically focused on male perpetrators and their female victims (Moe, 2004). However, in recent decades a growing body of research has found that women also perpetrate abuse within intimate relationships (e.g., Desmarais, Reeves, Nicholls, Telford, & Fiebert, 2012), and are increasingly coming to police attention for IPV perpetration (e.g., McEwan, Shea, & Ogloff, 2018). However, there is a lack of understanding regarding whether women's IPV is associated with similar risk factors to that of men (Mackay, Bowen, Walker, & O'Doherty, 2018), which may hinder police responses to and management of family violence incidents. This research aims to identify risk factors available to police that may help to improve the prediction of repeated female-perpetrated intimate partner violence. To do this, data from family violence incidents recorded by Victoria Police between 2013 and 2014 will be analysed to identify risk factors for further police-reported family violence over the subsequent 12 months. Risk factors for males and females will be compared and implications and limitations discussed.



**Identifying and assessing violence in the context of family violence/sexual assault – Entitled violence vs violence as a form of resistance****Abbey Newman**

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Prison populations have risen – 40% over the last 5 years. Included in this increase is an 85% increase of women, Indigenous women accounting for much of that growth (ABS 2018).

Behind these figures one that is often ignored is current evidence suggesting that between 70 – 90% of women have been physically, sexually or emotionally abused as children or adults (ABS 2018, Prisoners in Australia. Lawrie 2003). Family violence and sexual assault is a dehumanising experience and in this context the use of violence is a form of resistance linked to reclaiming a connection to humanity.

“[...] Where women have been convicted of killing their current or former partner, [it is often] after enduring decades of abuse.” (Aljazeera 2019).

For individuals in prison populations who have used violence as a form of resistance it is important for practitioners to consider how their trauma has paved the path to incarceration.

For those who have used violence from a position of entitlement practitioners have the additional challenge of identifying and challenging behaviours that may have been socially sanctioned. This understanding guides appropriate informed intervention.

Working in the context of family violence/sexual assault practitioners need to understand the differences between entitled vs resistant violence, to then correctly identify the predominate aggressor, manage risk/safety and enlist appropriate interventions.

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**Treating mental illness while in prison****Margaret Nixon<sup>1</sup> and Rachael Fullam<sup>2</sup>**

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This talk will discuss the implementation of a high secure mental health service within a medium secure private prison setting. The goals of the service, challenges to the implementation and systemic barriers to the delivery of effective mental health service delivery in restrictive environments will be examined, and lessons learned will be discussed. The tension between health and justice systems, issues with information sharing, and the identification of obstacles to evidence based clinical practice in corrections settings will highlight opportunities to bridge gaps in service delivery, improving health and criminogenic outcomes for mentally ill violent offenders.

**New evidence for the effectiveness of violent offender treatment in correctional and forensic mental health settings: Impacts on institutional misconducts, recidivism, and possible 'change-levers'****Nina Papalia, Ben Spivak, Michael Daffern, and James Ogloff**

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Over recent years, we have seen a significant expansion in the development and delivery of offender behaviour programs around the world. These initiatives have occurred following extensive empirical support demonstrating that such programs can appreciably reduce an offender's propensity to commit further crime. Widely known as the 'what works' or risk-need-responsivity approach to offender rehabilitation, the most efficacious programs are implemented in ways that adhere to key, empirically derived service delivery principles. Although these broad principles provide a useful framework for deciding whether a given offender rehabilitation program might succeed, they offer little guidance on effective programming for specific types of problem behaviours. Where researchers have examined the efficacy of correctional interventions with particular subgroups of offenders, the focus has predominantly been on sexual offenders and domestic violence perpetrators. We currently know surprisingly little about 'what works' to bring about change among serious violent offenders, including those who experience mental disorder. This is despite the fact that violent offenders account for a substantial proportion – up to 70% – of prison populations, hospitalised offenders, and offenders under community supervision in developed nations. To help move this evidence-base forward, we conducted a comprehensive systematic review and meta-analysis of the best available research literature concerning the effectiveness of violent offender treatment across correctional and forensic mental health settings. In addition to the impacts on community recidivism, we examined institutional behaviour and potential 'change-levers' (e.g., trait anger, problem solving, etc.). A secondary objective was to consider what factors modify treatment effects. We present an overview of the findings and make suggestions for further progressing the evidence base.

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**Everyday sadism, subclinical psychopathy & empathy: implications for antisociality****Eve Penford<sup>1</sup> and Dr Michael Rowlands<sup>1</sup>**<sup>1</sup>Associated with Monash University

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Sadism is poorly understood in academic research, with a focus on sadism in either forensic or sexual contexts. More recently, researchers have investigated everyday sadism, a subclinical personality trait. Everyday sadists are intrinsically motivated, and respond to affective stimuli incongruent with societal norms. Contrary to the popular belief that sadists, like psychopaths, are low in empathy, there is increasing research suggesting a higher degree of cognitive empathy is present in everyday sadists than was first thought.

The current research investigates the relationships between everyday sadism, empathy, and psychopathy, and their impact on antisociality. 113 participants completed a survey measuring everyday sadism, empathy, psychopathy and antisociality. Hierarchical linear regression was performed on the data, finding a weak negative correlation between sadism and cognitive empathy, and strong positive correlations between sadism and the constructs of psychopathy and antisociality. While increased cognitive empathy is not significant in producing increased antisociality, antisociality is significantly higher when psychopathy is added to the model.

The results have implications for academic understanding of the relationship between everyday sadism and empathy. The ability of sadists to recognise distress suggests that the presence of empathy does not



automatically generate prosocial behaviour, and there may be additional cognitive processes which impact reactions to affective stimuli. Greater understanding of these processes may reveal the risk of future antisocial behaviours, and help to inform the development of more effective interventions.

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### **Findings from an enhanced youth outreach policing pilot program**

**Anne Sophie Pichler,<sup>1</sup> Stefan Luebbbers,<sup>1</sup> & Jim Ogloff<sup>1</sup>**

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The recent emphasis in the public discourse on youth offending has led to a renewed focus at the policy level on effective prevention and management of young offenders. Numerous programs exist for young offenders that seek to prevent them from entering or advancing further into the criminal justice system, but evaluations of the effectiveness of these programs are comparatively sparse. The current paper presents preliminary findings from a new policing model targeting young offenders and youth at risk of offending – the Embedded Youth Outreach Project (EYOP) – operating in Melbourne, Australia. Under the EYOP model, a police officer is paired with a Youth Support and Advocacy Service (YSAS) youth worker to provide an after-hours secondary response to young people (aged 10-25) coming into contact with police. The aim of this new model was to enhance Victoria Police's ability to support the complex needs of young people at high risk of antisocial or criminal behaviour, and/or victimisation. The effectiveness of the EYOP model and its implementation were evaluated using a range of qualitative and quantitative data, including Police held shift returns, YSAS held assessment and follow-up data, participant Law Enforcement Assistance Program (LEAP) data, and focus group data. Results and implications of this evaluation will be discussed, including barriers to the implementation of the model, and possible modifications which might strengthen initiatives similar to the EYOP.

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### **Cultural syndromes and violent offending: associations between honour beliefs and extreme violence**

**Karl Roberts**

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There has been much media interest in so-called honour based violence (HBV). In an attempt to challenge the many myths surrounding HBV this paper explores what is meant by honour, its history as a cultural syndrome and how honour related beliefs may be involved in the motivation for violence. It will demonstrate that honour itself has a long history and association with violent behavior and that such beliefs are not constrained to certain communities or religions as is often thought. The paper will also present results drawn from our studies of data drawn from the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS), a public health data set of violent deaths in the United States.



## Assessing a Short-Term Therapeutic Psycho-Educational Intervention Program for Multi-Cultural Groups of Prisoners

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The Australian prison population is reflecting Australian society and becoming increasingly culturally diverse. Past research has found that cross-cultural groups of prisoners in Australia experience high rates of mental health issues, yet there is little research examining the effects of therapeutic programs on improving the mental health of these groups. To address this gap in knowledge, this study recruited 70 prisoners from multi-cultural backgrounds to participate in three-week psycho-educational intervention groups (Cope-Well program). Prisoners from Indigenous, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) and English speaking backgrounds were recruited to these groups. An additional 50 prisoners from Indigenous, CALD and English speaking backgrounds were also recruited to be control participants in the study. All prisoners were recruited from Port Phillip Prison, a maximum security male prison in the state of Victoria, Australia. A week before starting the program and a week after completing the program, participants completed surveys containing demographic, current mental health and trauma symptoms and coping skill items. The control participants completed identical surveys in the same periods of time, without participating in the therapeutic groups. The aim of the study is to explore whether a generalised therapeutic program (such as the Cope-Well) can assist prisoners in reducing their mental health issues, irrespective of their cultural background. It is anticipated that the wellbeing and coping techniques of Indigenous, CALD and English speaking background prisoners will be improved by undertaking the Cope-Well program.

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## Conditional release and post-order outcomes in individuals managed under the *Crimes (Mental Impairment and Unfitness to be Tried) Act 1997 (Vic)*

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The decision to detain or release a person found not guilty by reason of mental impairment (NGRMI) or unfit to be tried (NGRMI acquittees) involves a complex and delicate balancing act that needs to take into account both the civil liberties of the acquittee and protection of the community. Information about the progress of NGRMI acquittees released into the community is important for informing this balancing act when making release decisions, as well as providing valuable information for policy development and service delivery. Despite this, little research is available on the community outcomes of people found NGRMI, both internationally and in the Australian context.

This paper will examine the community outcomes of NGRMI acquittees who have been placed on an order under the *Crimes (Mental Impairment and Unfitness to be Tried) Act 1997 (Vic)*, following conditional release and absolute discharge. Outcome measures include criminal charges, reincarcerations, and forensic rehospitalisation whilst on conditional release. The paper will provide insight into the pattern of reoffending and readmission of NGRMI acquittees whilst on conditional release and following absolute discharge, and the factors that may modify outcome. In so doing, valuable information regarding the effectiveness of the CMIA's treatment, supervisory and management framework for reducing reoffending amongst NGRMI acquittees in Victoria



and supporting successful transition to the community will be provided, as well as insight into the offending pathways and trajectories of NGRMI acquittees.

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## **Development of a Comprehensive and Integrated Program to Address Violence with Youth Offenders with Cognitive Impairment**

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There is paucity of research in the development, implementation and evaluation of offence-specific programs that address violence in youth offenders with cognitive impairment or intellectual disability. Most of the programs developed for this group can be considered 'watered-down' CBT programs developed for their mainstream counterparts. Furthermore, these programs which are largely CBT-based do not generally take into consideration the complexity of this client groups such as extensive traumatic backgrounds and vulnerabilities, personality issues, cognitive problems and problems with emotion regulation.

This paper focuses on the conceptualization and development of a violence prevention program for youth offenders with cognitive impairment or intellectual disability. This program addresses specific dynamic risk factors associated with violent offending in this population. This program incorporates the Risk Needs Responsivity (RNR) and Good Lives Model (GLM) rehabilitation approaches and the use of CBT, Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) and GLM reconceptualizations, transtheoretical model of change and a more targeted and systematic approach to the assessment and treatment of dynamic risk factors associated with violence in youth offenders.

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## **The extent and significance of young South-Sudanese justice involvement in Australia**

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The involvement in crime of some young Sudanese-born Victorians has received sustained public attention in recent years. The media coverage of these occurrences has been extensive, with some outlets criticized for sensationalist reporting and prejudiced undertones. During this time, a robust public debate arose in regards to the extent and significance of Sudanese involvement in crime in Victoria. Moreover, a number of hypotheses for the ostensible increasing justice-involvement of Sudanese young people emerged. These included a presumption that some level of justice over-representation was inevitable due to the demographics of Sudanese-born Victorians, which skew young and male (i.e., the demographic hypothesis). And that offending rates may be associated with heightened law enforcement responses following a high-profile criminal incident in March 2016 that received protracted media coverage and political commentary (i.e., the racial-profiling hypothesis). This paper sought to address these contentions by i) examining the offending rates of young and adult males across four cultural sub-groups (i.e., Sudanese-born, Indigenous, Australian-born, New Zealand-born) across several offending categories and ii) exploring the impact of a high-profile criminal incident in March 2016 and ensuing persistent media coverage on the offending rates of Sudanese-born Victorians relative to the other cultural sub-groups.





## Systematic review of risk and need's assessment instruments assessing (re)offending in adolescents

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This study aims to evaluate the ability of risk and needs assessment methods to predict recidivism in general criminality and violence among adolescence, who have committed criminal acts or belong to a risk group for this, and to evaluate the matching of the assessed risks with the needs in relation to interventions. This is a systematic literature review conducted by the Swedish agency for health technology assessment and assessment of social services (SBU). Research from 2000 to the present, which identified 6 962 empirical studies, 720 where read in full text by the research team of which 47 met the inclusion criteria and the methodological quality criteria. Meta-analysis where performed, as well as narrative analysis, where the predictive validity was examined using AUC values. A gender perspective were used examine the outcome for both boys and girls. The results show that there are several risk and need assessment methods available to use, although many of them were produced based on information from locally generated databases based on local conditions, which decreased transferability. Two methods, YLS/CMI (Hoge & Andrews, 2006) and SAVRY (Borum, Bartel & Forth, 2002), where identified as the two major methods used. Results will be discussed.

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## The academic achievement of adolescents exposed to family violence

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Although many children are exposed to family violence, the effects on academic achievement are poorly understood. The primary aim of the present study was to use a systematic search and review methodology to synthesize quantitative studies that investigated the effects of exposure to family violence on academic achievement amongst adolescents. Studies were sourced from nine online databases and the reference lists of relevant journal articles to identify peer-reviewed, English-language literature. We included studies where exposure to family violence was the independent variable and academic achievement was the dependent variable. We extracted data on sample characteristics, measures of exposure to family violence and academic achievements, statistical associations and details of control variables, and theoretical frameworks. Of the 13 included studies, which spanned three decades, eight identified significant direct effects of exposure to family violence on adolescents' academic achievement and another three identified significant indirect effects. The findings support that exposure to family violence is a contributor to poorer academic achievement among adolescents. Moderating and mediating mechanisms remain unclear. Implications for future research and policy and practice are discussed.



## **A systematic review and meta-analysis of the effects of judicial supervision on recidivism of criminal offenders**

**Michael Trood<sup>1</sup>, Ben Spivak<sup>1</sup>, and James Ogloff<sup>1</sup>**

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Judicial supervision, or the use of multiple status review hearings by judicial officers to monitor the pre-plea, post-plea or post-sentence progress of criminal offenders, is a key component of problem-oriented courts and court lists that target social issues intertwined with offending (such as mental illness, drug use, and domestic violence). Meta-analytic research investigating the effectiveness of interventions that utilize judicial supervision has found mixed results. Several quantitative studies of adult drug court participants and mental health court participants document general reductions in recidivism relative to controls, while the evidence is less definitive for juvenile drug court participants. Additionally, meta-analytic evidence from drug courts has documented associations between programmatic covariates, such as adhering to Bonta & Andrews's (2006) *RnR* principles or the frequency of status review hearings and reductions in reoffending. This presentation will relay the results of a recent systematic review and meta-analysis that synthesized extant recidivism outcomes from empirical research that compared judicially supervised offenders with non-supervised controls using repeated measures. Additionally, associations between programmatic covariates and reductions in offending will be discussed.

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## **Construct and predictive validity of the Psychopathy Checklist: Screening Version in a violent offender population in Australia**

**Ryan Veal<sup>1</sup> Christine Critchley<sup>2, 3</sup> Stefan Luebbers<sup>1</sup>, and James Ogloff<sup>1</sup>**

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Criminal psychopathy is considered a strong predictor of recidivism, and particularly of violent recidivism. The role of antisocial behaviour items as conceptualised by the Psychopathy Checklist (PCL) assessment instruments has been robustly debated in recent decades, and the factor structure that underpins the PCL measures has not been comprehensively validated in an Australian forensic setting. This study used structural equation modelling (SEM) analyses to examine both the construct and predictive validity of the Psychopathy Checklist: Screening Version (PCL:SV) in a sample of 192 Australian males in custody (aged between 18 and 67,  $M = 32.13$ ;  $SD = 8.68$ ) categorised as serious violent offenders. The PCL:SV was coded retrospectively from offender files, and recidivism information was extracted retrospectively from the Victoria Police database. One third (33.9%) of the sample met the suggested PCL:SV cut-score indicating additional psychopathy assessment. Construct analyses found support for the three-factor model of PCL psychopathy only, yet findings for the two- and four-factor PCL models are interpreted in consideration of the low variability of scores for the antisocial behaviour items within the present sample. Area under the curve (AUC) statistics, SEM analyses, and survival analyses were used to determine the predictive validity of various PCL:SV models and factors for subtypes of criminal reoffending (serious violent, intermediate violent, and general). Consistent with research on the PCL:SV, higher predictive accuracy was derived from the *social deviance* factor compared to the *interpersonal/affective* factor. These findings contribute to the construct and predictive validity of the PCL measures use in Australia.



## How do we address Family Violence in Moderate and High Risk Offenders within Correctional and Forensic Services?

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There is paucity of research in the development, implementation and evaluation of family violence programs. Furthermore, most of the existing programs were not specifically developed for offenders with complex presentations such as having extensive history of violence and general offending, personality disorder traits, problems with anger and emotional dysregulation and anti-social attitudes and orientation. Furthermore, mainstream family violence programs are largely based on the Duluth model which holds value in addressing some ideological beliefs and values that some perpetrators employ to legitimise the use of violence against women and children. Notwithstanding, it does not address family violence which occur within the context of same sex relationships, women who commit family violence and interactional issues within complex relationships.

The paper discusses the development of a family violence program for male offenders which takes into consideration the Risk Needs Responsivity (RNR) and Good Lives Model (GLM) rehabilitation approaches and the use of CBT, Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) and GLM reconceptualizations, transtheoretical model of change and a more targeted and systematic approach to the assessment and treatment of dynamic risk factors associated with family violence.

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## Increased risk of violence-related death among young people exposed to the youth justice system

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**Background:** Young people exposed to the youth justice system (YJS) have an increased risk of mortality. Little is known about the risk or opportunities for prevention of violence-related deaths (VRD) among these young people.

**Objective:** To examine VRD among young people exposed to the YJS in Queensland, Australia.

**Methods:** We probabilistically linked correctional and death records of all young people (aged <17 years, N=48,963) who had contact with the YJS from July 1993-February 2017 in Queensland, Australia. Crude mortality rates (CMRs) and standardised mortality ratios (SMRs), were calculated. We used Cox regression to identify predictors of VRD, stratified by sex and Indigenous status.

**Results:** Over the study period, 51 (3.5%) deaths resulted from violence-related causes. The VRD CMR was 8.1 deaths per 100,000 person-years (95%CI: 6.1-10.6). Risk of VRD in the cohort was 4.9 times higher than in the general population (95%CI: 3.7-6.4). Indigenous young people had the greatest elevation in risk of VRD with a mortality rate 10.8 times that of the general population (95% CI: 7.2-16.1). Modelling predictors of VRD is on-going and will be completed for presentation at the conference.

**Conclusion:** Young people exposed to the YJS are at increased risk of VRD in the community. Indigenous young



people are at an elevated in risk of these preventable deaths. Violence in this population is a public health issue that warrants urgent attention. Our findings highlight the need for violence prevention programs and interventions that target young people who have contact with the YJS.



### **Dealing with systems failures in practice: How to work within finite legal systems and services with the “too-complex” client**

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Young peoples' experiences of family violence and criminal activity rarely happen in a silo. With increasing frequency, these clients are presenting with multiple competing issues, both legal and social, and in more complex and varied scenarios.

Current laws are rarely, if ever, able to cope with increasing complexity of youth clients in the criminal justice system.

Similarly, where more and more services are offering specialised and targeted supports, their specialist nature can lead to the exclusion of clients with multiple issues or needs that cannot be accommodated.

So, what can you do when the current laws offer no scope for progress or resolution of your client's immediate issues? What do you do when the support services you need can't or won't work either with your client, or with each other? And what about when there are services and supports available, but your client cannot access them because of their age or gender?

This session will consider these difficulties through the use of two real life case studies:

- Hannah\*: a 17-year-old whose experiences of family violence, drug use, and mental health resulted in criminal charges and homelessness;
- David\*: a 14 year old transitioning (FTM) whose complex trauma history, and violent community offending and psychosis resulted in continued remand and an inability access appropriate support services.

Although based in the Victorian system, participants from all jurisdictions will benefit from this round table discussion aimed at sharing suggestions for practical solutions to existing problems, as well as ideas for law and policy reform.

\*Not their real names

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### **Understanding trauma and its effects: Relationships between trauma and youth violence**

**Jamie Dickson, Psy.D.<sup>1</sup> and Kevin Richards, Ph.D., ABPP<sup>1</sup>**

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A significant number of youth in the United States will be exposed to violence in their lifetimes. Youth may also be subjected to various types of maltreatment, and the violence and maltreatment exposure impacts on the child/adolescent in a variety of domains, both emotional and physical. These exposures can result in mental health issues, including externalizing behavior disorders. When looking at juvenile detainees in the United States, very high rates of traumatic experiences have been found. In our round table, we will discuss the issues above and reasons that exposure to trauma and violence can lead to delinquent and violent behavior in youth. We will also discuss how to assess and treat trauma in children and adolescents from both a psychological and a community standpoint.





### **Violence across the lifespan**

**Convenor: Michael Daffern**

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This symposium explores issues of violence at opposite ends of the lifespan, with two papers focused on youth and one on older adults. The first paper concerns risk and protective factors in Singaporean youth offenders and the second paper describes the application of Functional Family Therapy In Singapore. In this presentation the impact of participation in treatment on family functioning and breeches of community corrections orders is described. The last presentation describes the proximal processes and precipitants to aggression perpetrated by older adults in residential care. It considers whether contemporary violence risk assessments instruments capture these precipitants and processes.

#### **Paper 1: Youth Offending in Singapore: Examining Protective Factors**

**Chi Meng Chu, Grace S. Chng, Dongdong Li, Xuexin Xu, Adam Oei, & Kala Ruby**

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In criminology, there is a need to consider why some high-risk individuals can avoid engaging in delinquency or criminality - signaling the opportunity to investigate the relationship between strengths and criminality. The predominant approach to juvenile justice is the risk/needs-based approach, which focuses on a youth offender's problems and deficiencies and is top-down in nature. In contrast, the strengths-based approach focuses on the youth's assets and is collaborative in nature. Singapore's juvenile justice system has moved beyond focusing on the reduction of deficiencies, and seeks to build strengths to enable personal growth and sustained change as well.

This study utilized two datasets of Singaporean youth offenders from different time-points: dataset A comprised of 701 youth probation cases closed between 2013-2014, and dataset B comprised of 385 youth offenders charged in 2015. Protective factors, as measured by the SAPROF-YV, were examined in relation to outcomes such as probation completion, self-reported criminality and recidivism. Individual factors, motivational factors, cognitive factors, relational factors, and the external pedagogical climate were protective factors of interest.

We proposed a typology of risk and protective factors, and used empirical evidence to illustrate this model. A predictor could be labeled as a promotive factor, hazard factor, or mixed factor in a direct relationship, or a booster/buffering factor in an interactive relationship. The results showed that most SAPROF factors were found to be mixed protective factors, with some also being booster or/and buffering factors for each other. Implications for practice and future research are discussed.

#### **Paper 2: The Implementation and Evaluation of Functional Family Therapy in Singapore**

**Eric Hoo<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Gan<sup>1</sup>, and Chi Meng Chu<sup>1</sup>**

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Consistent with the international literature, local research has established that family functioning is predictive of recidivism rates among youth offenders. These findings highlight the importance of family-based services in the context of youth offender rehabilitation in Singapore. Evidence-based family interventions developed in the West, such as Functional Family Therapy (FFT), have been found to be effective in reducing rates of delinquent behaviour and youth recidivism. However, few studies have looked at whether evidence-based interventions (EBIs) can be successfully implemented in a different culture. Furthermore, no study has examined the effectiveness of FFT in Asia. This presentation provides an overview of the implementation of FFT in the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF), and summarises findings from an ongoing evaluation study that employs a randomised-controlled trial (RCT) design. Process data show that FFT was generally implemented in accordance with prescribed standards. Importantly, data on programme fidelity showed that therapists were competent in their delivery of the programme. Interim outcome data supported FFT's effectiveness in (i) improving psychosocial well-being and family functioning, and (ii) mitigating breach rates. Taken together, the findings showed that FFT was implemented well in Singapore, and supported the programme's utility in improving outcomes of youth probationers.

### **Paper 3: Precipitants to aggression among older adults in residential facilities**

**Tessa Maguire<sup>1,2</sup>, Michael Daffern<sup>1,2</sup>, Steven Bowe<sup>3</sup>, and Brian McKenna<sup>4</sup>**

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**Background:** Inpatient aggression is an issue of concern for staff, patients and organisations. Validated risk assessment instruments can be used to assess the risk of patients engaging in aggression. The Dynamic Appraisal of Situational Aggression (DASA) is a validated risk assessment instrument that has been designed to assess the risk of imminent inpatient aggression, and is most often used by nurses to appraise risk. Once assessment has been completed the next important step is the instigation of interventions designed to reduce risk, to date however there has been limited investigation into suitable nursing interventions designed to reduce risk, and no recommendations in regards to the DASA and suitable interventions for the assessed level of risk.

**Aim:** A retrospective file audit was conducted to gather information about the DASA and nursing interventions designed to prevent aggression. The results from the audit were used in addition to a literature review investigating the commonly used nursing interventions to develop a protocol to structure nursing interventions according to the DASA risk level. An electronic version of the DASA and the protocol were then tested in a quasi-experimental pre-and post intervention study.

**Results:** In the intervention phase of this study when nurses were being prompted to intervene according to the protocol, there was a reduction in verbal aggression and the use of PRN medication, a decrease in the rate of restrictive interventions per 1000 occupied beds days, and an increase in documented nursing interventions.

### **Paper 4: Precipitants to aggression among older adults in residential facilities**

**Michael Daffern<sup>1</sup> and Terri Robborton<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences, Swinburne University of Technology and Forensicare, Melbourne, Australia

Aggressive behavior by older adults living in residential facilities occurs commonly, and negatively impacts caregivers, other residents, and sometimes visitors. A precondition of aggression prevention efforts is accurate



identification of high-risk individuals and interactions. To this end, elucidation of early warning signs and specification of proximal causes, processes and high-risk interactions is critical. Structured risk assessment instruments have been shown to improve prediction of imminent aggression in inpatient mental health care settings, and these instruments have been applied to various other populations and settings; however, there is little evidence regarding their validity in older adult populations. This paper presents a review of literature that has sought to identify the proximal causes and processes associated with aggressive behavior in older adults; this includes premorbid personality, cognitive impairment, language impairment, social functioning, mental health, functional dependency, sensory impairments, and pain. Given that the proximate causes and processes leading to aggression in older adults seem to differ in subtle ways from acute mental health inpatients, further examination (and possible modification) of existing risk assessment instruments for use in older adults is warranted. This paper identifies six factors that may improve utility and predictive validity when applying extant risk assessment instruments with older adults in residential facilities: *confusion/disorientation, resistiveness to care, social disengagement, fear, symptoms of depression or psychosis, and uncontrolled pain or discomfort.*

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## Issues in the evaluation and treatment of stalking offenders

**Convenor: Michele Galietta<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Associate professor, Department of Psychology, John Jay College/City University of New York, NY

This symposium will present a collection of papers related to the classification, study, and treatment of stalking. The majority of research on stalking has contributed to knowledge about prevalence, classification types, and risk assessment approaches related to stalking. Far less research has focused on treatment interventions for individuals who stalk. This symposium will begin with a presentation by Dr. Rosenfeld on the ethical and methodological challenges inherent in conducting intervention research with the heterogeneous population of individuals who perpetrate stalking and interpersonal violence. His discussion will address definitional issues, classification of violence and renewed stalking, victim safety, the use of control conditions and appropriate comparison groups, as well as statistical methods for dealing with attrition. Dr. McEwan will present on factors related to the onset, persistence, and desistence of stalking behaviors. She will focus on contextual factors, often undertreated in the risk assessment literature, as well as personal factors, related to stalking behavior. Dr. Galietta will discuss theoretical and empirical research on psychological treatments for stalking, including incorporating risk assessment and management into treatment, and providing targeted treatment components aimed at reducing nomothetic and idiographic aspects of risk in individuals who engage in stalking behavior. Following the presentations, time will be allotted for interactive discussion with participants.

### Paper 1: Strategies for the treatment and management of stalking behaviors

**Michele Galietta<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Associate professor, Department of Psychology, John Jay College/City University of New York, NY

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Research on the phenomenon of stalking has increased significantly in the last 15 years. Despite this fact, research on treatment interventions for this population has lagged behind. Much of the available research on treatment is theoretical. Empirical research in the area has yet to indicate clear best practices. This paper will review the current research regarding treatment interventions to reduce stalking behaviors and associated violence. Dr. Galietta will present results of their recent randomized control trial comparing Dialectical Behavior Therapy with Anger Management Therapy for the treatment of stalkers. It will be argued that the issue of heterogeneity in this population makes providing treatment particularly challenging. Implications from the available data suggest that treatments might be most effective when tailored to particular patient subgroups.



It will be argued that providing targeted treatment components aimed at reducing specific nomothetic and idiographic aspects of risk in individuals who engage in stalking behavior is likely to achieve better outcomes than a “one size fits all” approach. Incorporating risk assessment and management as dynamic and active components of treatment, addressing relevant contextual as well as individual variables, and including specific skill based interventions geared at increasing emotion regulation and interpersonal skills are all strategies that appear promising. Examples of case formulations using targeted treatment components will illustrate these recommendations.

## **Paper 2: Explaining the onset, persistence and desistence of stalking behaviour**

**Troy McEwan<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Centre for Forensic and Behavioural Science, Swinburne University of Technology, Alphington, Australia

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Targeted persistence is the defining feature of stalking and differentiates it from most other forms of criminal behaviour (e.g., one-off acts of aggression). Most stalkers could avoid contact with the victim if they wanted to – it is usually their own thoughts, feelings and actions that maintain the connection in the face of the victim’s opposition. In this talk, Dr McEwan will discuss why some people may be more prone to beginning to stalk; the situational and personal factors that may contribute to the persistence of stalking; and the implications of this conceptualisation for psychological treatment and other interventions designed to stop stalking behaviour.

## **Paper 2: Evaluating Treatment Outcomes for Stalking and Intimate Partner Violence Offenders**

**Barry Rosenfeld<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Professor and Chair, Department of Psychology, Fordham University, Bronx NY

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Few clinical research areas are as complex as the evaluation of treatment “success” and these complexities are magnified in the context of offender treatment. This presentation will review methodological, ethical and measurement issues in the evaluation of treatment outcome for stalking and intimate partner violence (IPV) offenders. Stalking and IPV offenders represent a uniquely challenging subgroup, given the substantial heterogeneity in these populations, high rates of recidivism, and limited evidence for successful mental health treatments. Moreover, the evaluation of treatment programs that have been developed are fraught with challenges, due to the many methodological and pragmatic challenges that impact treatment outcome research more generally. With the even-growing interest in mental health interventions for stalking and IPV offenders, the need for rigorous research methodologies is paramount. This presentation will review essential ethical and methodological issues that should be considered in developing and evaluating treatment outcome research with stalking and IPV offenders. Ethical issues discussed include the appropriateness of no-treatment or wait-list control groups, management of potentially violent clients, and mandated reporting issues. Measurement issues discussed include the determination of treatment “success”, the reliability of outcome data, and ascertaining mechanisms of change. These and other considerations will be addressed in order to target these issues more directly for stalking and IPV research.



### **Putting theory into practice: Enhancing police responses to family violence through structured risk assessment and management**

**Convenor: Troy McEwan**

Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences, Swinburne University of Technology and Forensicare, Melbourne, Australia

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This symposium brings together police, clinical psychologists, and academics to discuss a recent large scale field evaluation of an evidence-based approach to assessing and managing family violence risks implemented by Victoria Police. The presentations will cover the experience of police and clinicians in implementing, training and maintaining the risk-led approach at frontline and specialist policing levels and empirical findings from a pre-post control study evaluating the effects on recidivism and rates of offending for frontline and specialist cases.

#### **Paper 1: Putting theory into practice: Enhancing police responses to family violence through structured risk assessment and management**

**Associate Professor Troy McEwan<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences, Swinburne University of Technology and Forensicare, Melbourne, Australia

Family violence has become a priority for numerous police services in the past two decades, however the overwhelming number of family violence reports has presented challenges to developing and implementing effective responses. Different approaches to case prioritization and risk management have been discussed in the literature and implemented in practice, but, despite considerable debate about their merits, few have been subject to research or evaluation. The Enhanced Police Responses to Family Violence (EPRFV) project involved a one year pilot program during which front-line and specialist police in two Victoria Police Divisions in metropolitan Melbourne used a combination of actuarial and structured risk assessment to triage family violence incidents for additional risk management. Cases assessed as being at high risk of future family violence with risk of severe harm received targeted risk management from specialist police family violence teams. A/Prof. McEwan will provide an overview of the project, discussing the challenges of effective and evidence-based risk assessment and management of family violence in a police environment.

#### **Paper 2: Frontline police risk assessment of family violence using a quick actuarial instrument: Victoria Police and the VP-SAFvR**

**Dr Benjamin Spivak<sup>1</sup> and Associate Professor Troy McEwan<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences, Swinburne University of Technology and Forensicare, Melbourne, Australia

Frontline police are often the first services to respond to an incident of family violence. However, given the volume of family violence incidents that police must respond to, effective police responses require a method of accurately discriminating between cases which require ongoing management and cases which do not. The Victoria Police Screening Assessment for Family violence Risk (VP-SAFvR) is an actuarial instrument designed to be used by frontline police members to refer incidents at risk of future family violence to specialized units (family violence teams) for assessment and management. This paper reports on a three part study that was conducted to assess: a) the interrater reliability of the instrument; b) discriminatory and predictive power; and c) police satisfaction with the use of the instrument. Overall, the studies suggest that the performance of the





instrument was comparable or better than predicted based on the development sample. However, surveys and qualitative interviews with police members suggest that there are a number of improvements in terms of design and practical implementation which may improve police satisfaction with the instrument.

### **Paper 3: Implementing and evaluating a structured professional judgement risk assessment tool for specialist family violence police**

**Dr Melisa Wood<sup>1</sup> and Dr Benjamin Spivak<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences, Swinburne University of Technology and Forensicare, Melbourne, Australia

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Preventing repeat family violence that results in physical harm or death is a priority for police services. However, police services are often not well trained or supported to make decisions about which cases present a high risk of physical family violence or what can be done to effectively reduce and manage risk in such cases. This paper reports on the experience and results of a one year field trial involving substantial changes to risk assessment and management in two policing divisions in Victoria. The trial involved specialist family violence policing divisions utilizing structured professional judgement to guide assessment and management of high risk family violence cases. Embedded in each team was a clinical forensic psychologist to train and consult police members on assessment and management, particularly in complex cases. The substantial shift involved in changing the police approach to family violence involved challenges in training, communication and maintenance of skills. Overall results of the field trial suggest that the model of assessment and management led to a reduction in severe family violence recidivism. Possible reasons for this reduction and the role of targeted police risk management strategies will be discussed.

### **Paper 4: The challenges of implementing evidence-based practice in policing family violence**

**Senior Sergeant Kirei Blackley<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Family Violence Command, Victoria Police, Australia

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Police resources and training in identifying and managing family violence cases that are of high risk of future violence has historically been inadequate. In Victoria, a series of high profile family violence-related homicides led to legitimate questions about the efficacy of police risk assessment and management of family violence, and calls for improvement from the 2016 Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence. In 2015, Victoria Police entered into a partnership with the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Forensicare to re-develop family violence risk assessment and management practices and conduct a large scale evaluation to provide an evidence based approach to police risk assessment and management of family violence. This presentation explores the police perspective on engaging in evidence-based reform including the challenges of training, cultural change, conducting independent evaluation, and the benefits of this work.



## **Legal Responses to children, young people, and mentally and cognitively impaired persons who perpetrate Family Violence: Doing more harm than good?**

**Convenor: Her Honour Jelena Popovic<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Magistrates Court of Victoria

Responding to family violence perpetrated by adolescents and individuals with a cognitive impairment can be complex, particularly as these individuals may have a limited capacity to regulate their behaviour or anticipate consequences. Traditional responses to family violence, which were designed to address adult male perpetrated intimate partner violence, may expose these vulnerable perpetrators to the justice system, rather than offering the necessary support to facilitate behavioural change. This symposium presents four papers, which explore the complexities of adolescent violence in the family home and violence between co-residents with cognitive disability in group homes, as well as how the legal system responds to those affected by this violence.

### **Paper 1: Violence towards parents across Victoria**

**Melanie Simmons<sup>1</sup> and Troy McEwan<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, Swinburne University of Technology; Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health (Forensicare)

Young people who abuse their parents can create great uncertainty for Police and service providers who are tasked with intervening and managing their behaviour as few services are equipped to work with this population. This paper presents data from a cohort of every unique child-to-parent family violence incident recorded by Victoria Police from 1 July 2013 – 31 June 2014 ( $N = 6742$ ) to understand the characteristics of young people who abuse their parents and the risk management strategies used by Police to manage their violence. This paper particularly focuses on the use of Family Violence Intervention Orders to manage a young person's violent behaviour and explores whether these orders were associated with a reduction in incidents of family violence over the subsequent 12 months.

### **Paper 2: The Children's Court of Victoria's responses to adolescent family violence**

**Judge Amanda Chambers<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Children's Court of Victoria

The use of violence by adolescents in the home is often referred to as a "hidden problem".

Light was shed on the issue by the Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence which devoted a chapter in its report to a consideration of adolescent violence in the home. The Royal Commission noted that this is a distinct form of family violence that exists across all communities and geographic areas. Its complexities are clear, yet the impact of adolescent violence is equally devastating for parents, siblings and other family members.

Most devastating of all is the stigma and shame often associated with this form of violence, and unfair assumptions often made about the parent's ability to parent the child coupled with the shock and distress that is caused when their child uses violence against them. For many families, there is the complicating need to parent – guide and support – both the adolescent perpetrator and other siblings who are exposed to the violence.

It is widely acknowledged that the current legal mechanisms to address this behavior – based on the protections afforded through family violence intervention orders – are a blunt instrument to deal with the complex situation that confronts families and places the child at risk of entering the criminal justice system. The Children's Court of Victoria acknowledges these limitations and recognizes that the vulnerability of perpetrators of adolescent family violence is often best addressed using therapeutic, restorative justice responses. To that end, the discussion will focus on other court-based initiatives including the therapeutic treatment order available where adolescents



are engaged in sexually abusive behaviours within a family context, the Family Violence service implemented to give effect to a key recommendation of the Royal Commission, group conferencing, the Jesuit Social Service pilot program “RESTORE”, being a restorative family group conferencing pilot aimed at working with adolescents and families to restore relationships and to address risk, and finally, the need for evidence-based programs to be established to underpin this work, such as those modelled on the Step Up program in the United States.

### **Paper 3: Legal responses to adolescent family violence: Doing more harm than good?**

**Judge Amanda Chambers<sup>1</sup> & Elena Campbell<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Children’s Court of Victoria

<sup>2</sup>Centre for Innovative Justice, RMIT University, Melbourne, Australia

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Communities rightly call for a strong legal response to domestic and family violence. Yet this response – originally designed to address adult intimate partner violence – can have disastrous consequences for children using violence, as well as for families experiencing it.

Through analysis of 385 legal case files and qualitative research with over 150 practitioners across three states, the Centre for Innovative Justice’s PIPA Project unpacks what currently occurs when families living with adolescent family violence seek or receive justice system intervention. In doing so it highlights how system activity can propel children into contact with the law who may be victims of family violence themselves, or who may be living with significant disability, with the research identifying a significant proportion of children with autism spectrum disorder amongst protection order respondents in its sample. Alarming, it also identified how system responses can sometimes be used to perpetuate abuse against children – resulting in a system inadvertently colluding in family violence, rather than addressing it.

The PIPA Project explores how attempts to hold perpetrators accountable should not fail to identify where risk really lies and should ensure that these attempts are not simply about managing risks to the system. Equally, it signals that blunt or punitive legal responses can render victims less willing to disclose or seek assistance, and children more vulnerable to criminalisation. Acknowledging and responding to the complexity, diversity, and vulnerability of perpetrators of adolescent family violence is therefore essential in any adequate and effective legal or service system response.

### **Paper 4: Intervention orders imposed on the mentally ill and cognitively impaired persons: Safety belts or wrecking balls?**

**Magistrate Jelena Popovic<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Magistrates Court of Victoria

As part of their duties, Magistrates are making increasingly greater numbers of civil determinations with respect to applications for Intervention Orders, both on an interim and final basis. The interim orders are often made without notice to the Respondent and remain in place until the final hearing. Magistrates also preside over criminal hearings and bail applications arising from breaches of Intervention Orders.

With reference to case studies, this paper will examine the complex issues which arise when a magistrate is required to make decisions relating to cognitively and mentally impaired adult Respondents to Intervention Order Applications and adult accused who have been charged with breaching offences. The paper will raise questions around the efficacy of the imposition of Intervention Orders regarding the safety of affected persons and addressing behaviour change in respondents. It will discuss the criminalisation through breach proceedings, incarceration and bail response of the mentally and cognitively impaired.



The paper will argue that the current response of imposing Intervention Orders is not meeting the safety needs of affected persons. There is a need for alternative responses where a perpetrator of violence is significantly impaired to enhance the safety of persons affected by inappropriate behaviour. Alternative responses are also required to reduce the number of the mentally ill and cognitively impaired in custody. The alternate responses would not only enhance safety, but the redirection of funds would better serve the community by reducing the costs associated with incarceration.

### **Paper 5: Responding to abuse and violence between co-residents with cognitive disability in shared supported accommodation**

**Colleen Pearce<sup>1</sup> and Eleanore Fritze<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Office of the Public Advocate, Melbourne, Australia

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Following deinstitutionalisation, many people with cognitive disability moved into shared supported accommodation. Perhaps unsurprisingly, tensions may develop between co-residents and some residents engage in abusive or violent conduct which may be generalised or directed towards a particular co-resident. Despite the risk - or even occurrence - of harm, there is a culture among some disability services and police officers of accepting abuse of, and by, people with disability as inevitable, which inhibits reporting and responsive action. Even where the service and police are concerned, many do not know how to respond to the situation effectively, leading to negative consequences for both victim and perpetrator. Intervention orders are inconsistently applied and are blunt instruments to effect behaviour change in the absence of proper supports. Physically separating co-residents is complicated by the dearth of suitable housing to which either can be moved at short notice, and responses involving supports and alternative accommodation are now more complex under the NDIS. While acknowledging that co-residents may be in family-like relationships which fall under the jurisdiction of the *Family Violence Prevention Act 2008* (Vic), the Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence paid scant attention to this issue or, indeed, to the broader issues surrounding people with disability who engage in family violence. Drawing on the experiences of clients, staff and volunteer community visitors of the Office of the Public Advocate, this paper will explore the challenges of responding to abuse and violence between co-residents in shared supported accommodation and seek to identify legal, policy and practical solutions.

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### **Harmful Traditional Practices: characteristics, prevention and protection**

**Convenor: Karl Roberts**

Professor of Policing and Criminal Justice, University of Western Sydney, Sydney, Australia

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Harmful traditional practices are forms of violence, which have been committed primarily (but not exclusively) against women and girls in certain communities and societies for so long that they are considered, or presented by perpetrators, as part of accepted cultural practice. These practices include so-called Honour Based Violence (HBV), Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Forced Marriage, Dowry violence, Breast Ironing and Belief in Witchcraft. Most of these practices involve violence and abuse directed towards the victim. These practices are relatively common, it is estimated that in the United Kingdom there are 12 'honour' killings, 1400 known cases of forced marriages and about 1,000 cases of breast ironing per year. It is also estimated that there are no local authority areas with no cases of female genital mutilation (FGM). They also cause significant harm to victims. Often involving members of various diaspora communities, harmful traditional practices can present many challenges for authorities including prevention, investigation, offender management and protection and support of victims. Given the prevalence of these practices, and their association with violence and harm it is perhaps timely to ex-



plore what is known about these practices and the challenges they present for Western criminal justice systems. This symposium therefore aims to introduce delegates to the concept of Harmful Traditional Practices, their prevalence, common behavioural and motivational themes, the impact of these practices on victims, and will examine how these violent practices may be prevented. We select three examples of harmful traditional practices to explore in detail, these are FGM, breast ironing and witchcraft. The symposium will be organised into four papers.

### **Paper 1: What are harmful traditional practices and what do we know about them?**

#### **Karl Roberts**

Professor of Policing and Criminal Justice, University of Western Sydney, Sydney, Australia

This paper will consider

- definitions of what are harmful traditional practices
- challenges in defining these practices
- the prevalence of these practices
- challenges in researching these practices

### **Paper 2: Female Genital Mutilation**

#### **Karl Roberts<sup>1</sup> Gerry Campbell<sup>2</sup> and Neelam Sarkaria<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Professor of Policing and Criminal Justice, University of Western Sydney, Sydney, Australia

<sup>2</sup>Independent Consultant

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This paper will explore

- What is FGM, typical offence characteristics
- Characteristics of perpetrators and affected communities
- The legal context of FGM
- Investigating and preventing FGM

### **Paper 3: Breast Ironing**

#### **Karl Roberts<sup>1</sup> Gerry Campbell<sup>2</sup> and Neelam Sarkaria<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Professor of Policing and Criminal Justice, University of Western Sydney, Sydney, Australia

<sup>2</sup>Independent Consultant

<sup>3</sup>Independent Consultant

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This paper will explore

- What is breast ironing, typical offence characteristics?
- Characteristics of perpetrators and affected communities
- The legal context of breast ironing
- Investigating and preventing breast ironing

### **Paper 4: Witchcraft**





**Karl Roberts<sup>1</sup> Gerry Campbell<sup>2</sup> and Neelam Sarkaria<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Professor of Policing and Criminal Justice, University of Western Sydney, Sydney, Australia

<sup>2</sup>Independent Consultant

<sup>3</sup>Independent Consultant

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This paper will explore

- History of witchcraft in Western Democracies
- Contemporary examples of witchcraft, affected communities
- Associations between witchcraft and violent offending
- Legal, investigative issues
- Prevention of witchcraft



### **Gabrielle Beaudry**

Gabrielle Beaudry is a Master's student at the Department of Psychiatry of the University of Oxford in the Forensic Psychiatry Group under the supervision of Professor Seena Fazel and Dr Rongqin Yu. She will be starting a PhD in the same research group in October 2019. Her research is funded by the *Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé* (FRQS). Prior to starting at Oxford, she completed an undergraduate degree in Psychology at the Université de Sherbrooke (Québec, Canada). Her research focuses on mental illness, violent reoffending and violence risk assessment in adolescents.

### **Kirei Blackley**

SSGT Kirei Blackley has a 20 year policing career working across operational, investigative and crime scene investigation roles. In 2012 she joined the prosecutions division, working as a specialist prosecutor and manager of sexual offence prosecutions team and at the Research and Training Unit, developing, facilitating and managing prosecution training. Kirei is currently a member of the Policy, Projects and Regional Engagement Team - Family Violence Command as a policy officer working on whole of organisation reform as a result of the Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence, in particular managing changes to frontline and investigative family violence response. She has Graduate Certificate in Police Prosecutions and a Bachelor of Laws from Victoria University.

### **Grant Blake**

Mr Blake is a Clinical Psychologist at ForensicClinic Consulting (Tasmania, Australia) and a PhD researcher at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science (Melbourne, Australia). Mr Blake works with clients experiencing a variety of clinical and forensic issues. His special interests are in trauma, sexual and non-sexual violence, psycho-legal assessment, and personality disorders. Mr Blake regularly provides written and oral evidence to the courts on a broad range of family and criminal law matters. Mr Blake's doctoral research aims to develop and validate a standardised forensic mental health assessment for fitness to stand trial in Australia.

### **William P. Bloss**

Dr. William P. Bloss is Professor and Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice at East Carolina University, USA. He earned Ph.D., M.A., and B.S. degrees in Criminal Justice and Criminology. Before joining academia, he served as a police academy director, instructor, and officer. Bloss received an FDD *Academic Fellowship in Terrorism Studies* at Tel Aviv University, Israel and his research focuses on transnational crime/terrorism, police practices, and privacy issues in criminal justice. He has authored numerous academic publications including books on transnational crime/terrorism and privacy rights. Professor Bloss is actively involved in teaching, research, government consulting, and editorial advising.

### **Cleo Brandt**

Cleo Brandt is an investigative psychologist who has worked for the Netherlands National Police since 2005. Her areas of expertise include equivocal sexual assault allegations, (sexual) homicide cases and threat assessment and management of stalking cases. She is one of the translators of the Stalking Risk Profile (SRP) and the Screening Assessment for Stalking and Harassment (SASH), and co-author of a practical handbook on stalking for police, prosecutors and victims. She provides workshops and training about stalking to police, victim advocates, lawyers, judges, and mental health professionals.

### **Elena Campbell**

Former lawyer, political staffer and speechwriter, Elena Campbell has worked in legal and social policy for twenty years. Her expertise includes equal opportunity, human rights and responses to gendered violence, particularly within the legal system. Now Associate Director at the Centre for Innovative Justice at RMIT University, Elena leads a research program focussing on perpetration of family violence, as well as on improving legal responses to family violence which move away from system activity as their primary objective. Elena's research also focusses on the pathways from family violence victimisation which lead to women and children's criminalisation.



### **Gerry Campbell**

Gerry recently retired as a Detective Chief Superintendent with over 30 years' experience as a police officer working in the Metropolitan Police, London. He held lead responsibility in London for engaging with London's diverse communities and for the police service response to tackling all forms of hate crime and honour based abuse and harmful practices. Prior to this he was the OCU Commander for the pan London Taskforce with responsibility for the 24/7 policing of Public Protest, Public Safety operations, countering Terrorism and other major incidents. DCS Campbell was also responsible for the policing of the river Thames, which flows through the heart of London. He managed a workforce of 1350 police officers and police staff (non-warranted) members. Between 2012 and 2015 Prior DCS Campbell was the Commander of Islington Borough, an inner North London borough with a population of over 206,000 people with the second highest child poverty rate in the UK, servicing 2 prisons and infamous Arsenal Football Club. He was the National Police Chiefs' Council's (NPCC) Deputy National Lead for Honour Based Abuse, Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation. He authored the NPCC's most recent Policing Strategy to tackle HBA in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (2015 - 2018) and its accompanying delivery plan.

### **Amanda Chambers**

Judge Chambers was appointed a Judge of the County Court of Victoria and President of the Children's Court of Victoria on 9 June 2015.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Chambers had been a magistrate of the Magistrates' Court of Victoria for over eight years, having been the supervising magistrate of the Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal and, for the three years prior to becoming President of the Children's Court as supervising magistrate for the Sexual Offences List.

Judge Chambers also served as a part-time Commissioner of the Victorian Law Reform Commission between 2008-2012 sitting on references including a review of Jury Directions, the Sex Offender Registration regime, guardianship and administration law, and protection applications in the Children's Court.

Prior to her appointment as a magistrate, Judge Chambers was a solicitor practicing in employment and industrial relations law, also specialising in human rights and equal opportunity litigation.

### **Chi Meng Chu**

Chi Meng is the Senior Deputy Director and the Senior Principal Clinical and Forensic Psychologist with the Centre for Research on Rehabilitation and Protection, and the Central Youth Guidance Office within the Ministry of Social and Family Development, Singapore. He is also concurrently an Adjunct Associate Professor with the Department of Psychology, National University of Singapore.

### **Erica Contini**

Erica is an LIV Accredited Specialist in Children's Law and Deputy Managing Lawyer, Victoria Legal Aid's Child Protection Team. She practices in the Children's Court of Victoria representing children and adults in criminal, child protection and intervention order proceedings. She is a Teaching Associate at Monash University lecturing in Constitutional Law, Criminal Law and Procedure, Australian Legal Reasoning and Methods, and Children's Law in Action, a practice-based unit she developed focusing on representing children. Erica has a JD from American University Washington College of Law, LLM (Human Rights) from Monash University, and BSc (Neuroscience) and BA (Political Science) from the University of Rochester.



### **Michael Daffern**

Michael Daffern is a clinical psychologist by training. He has worked in prisons and in general and forensic mental health services in both Australia and the United Kingdom since 1992. Currently, he is Professor of Clinical Forensic Psychology with the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science at Swinburne University of Technology.

### **Giovanni de Girolamo**

Giovanni de Girolamo is the former Scientific Director of the St John of God Clinical Research Centre (IRCCS) in Brescia, Italy and current Head of the Unit of Psychiatric Epidemiology and Evaluation.

He is Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry at the Department of Psychology, Catholic University, Milan, and at the Residency Program in Psychiatry, University of Milan Bicocca. He has a very distinguished career and is a highly prolific research. His is leading research on mental illness and violence.

### **Jamie Dickson**

Jamie Dickson earned her Psy.D. in 2008. During her graduate school career, she obtained experience working in psychiatric hospitals with forensic patients and in a residential treatment facility for children and adolescents with severe emotional/behavioral disorders. Following completion of her degree, she continued working in the residential facility conducting evaluations and providing therapeutic services. Dr. Dickson has extensive training and experience in trauma treatment with children and adolescents. For the last six years, Dr. Dickson has been in private practice conducting forensic psychological evaluations with youth and adults, and she has handled numerous cases with juvenile defendants.

### **Ashley Dunne**

Dr Ashley Dunne is an early career research fellow and clinical and forensic psychologist. Her research interests focus on aggression and violence, personality disorder, schema therapy, and therapeutic and rehabilitative approaches for offenders. She has been involved in a range of research projects, including: examining the role of personality disorder traits and psychological constructs to the aggressive behaviour of offenders and the evaluation of group intervention programs for high risk violent offenders. Currently, she is developing a short-term schema therapy informed violence intervention program for adult offenders. In her clinical capacity, Ashley works in a high-secure therapeutic environment for offenders with severe mental illness and complex and challenging behaviour.

### **Melodee Faulkner**

Melodee Faulkner is a Phd candidate at Swinburne University of Technology and holds a Bachelor of Science (Hons) from Monash University and Bachelor of Music Performance (VCA) Melbourne University. She is a former Senior Project Manager in Technology at a major bank with expertise in database management and integration-al systems upgrades as well as green fields defence systems experience.

### **Rachael Fullam**

Dr Rachael Fullam is the Research Manager for the Catalyst Consortium and for the Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health (Forensicare). Dr Fullam provides oversight and supervision as required to all research projects involving Forensicare services. Her current research interests include mental illness and violence, advance directives for mental health treatment, and intervention evaluation in the forensic mental health setting.

### **Michele Galletta**

Michele Galletta is Associate Professor of Psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York where she served as Director of the Clinical Psychology Ph.D. Program from 2005-2013. Dr. Galletta



is a researcher and clinician specializing in the application, adaptation and dissemination of empirically-supported treatments to forensic and correctional settings. Her areas of clinical expertise include the assessment and treatment of interpersonal violence, self-harm, and suicide across the lifespan. Dr. Galietta has trained and consulted internationally on the adaptation and application of dialectical behavior therapy, risk assessment, complex needs case formulation, and risk management planning.

### **Alice Grunenwald**

Judge Alice Grunenwald is a juge des enfants in France since 2001 deciding cases about child welfare concerns and children in conflict with the law. She is a member of the French Association of Juvenile and Family Judges and Vice Président of the European group of the International Association of Juvenile and Family Judges.

In her work she regularly responds to cases involving family violence in child welfare, and contributes to policy and programme responses to protect children, reduce family violence and improve family outcomes.

### **Eric Hoo**

Eric Hoo is a Principal Clinical Psychologist with the Clinical and Forensic Psychology Service within the Ministry of Social and Family Development, Singapore. He oversees the Centre of Family Excellence, which focuses on addressing rehabilitation and protection of children and youths through family systems. Eric's interests focuses on treatment of youth offenders and in programme evaluation.

### **Diana Johns**

Diana Johns is Senior Lecturer in Criminology at the University of Melbourne. Her research interests include post-prison reintegration, restorative and therapeutic justice, and the experience of young people and 'vulnerable' groups involved with the justice system. Diana spent 2015 in Wales doing postdoctoral research on young people's prolific offending for the Youth Justice Board (YJB Cymru). Her current research is focused on: African-Australian young people's experience of criminalisation; restorative responses to adolescent family violence; use of apps in justice settings; and co-production of criminal justice knowledge. Her first book, *Being and Becoming an Ex-Prisoner*, was published by Routledge in 2018.

### **Raewyn Kapa**

Raewyn is a graduate of the University of Auckland, New Zealand and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Anthropology and Maaori Studies. Raewyn advances issues for Maori from an anthropologist perspective and steeped tikanga kaupapa Maori worldviews in politics, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, law and kaupapa Mana Wahine. Raewyn formed *Te Rito Foundation in 2018* to reclaim Maori methodologies and to apply legal principles effectively in the sector of care and protection for the parent families of their children. Raewyn is a Mum of three sons.

### **Toko Kopu**

Toko Kopu is Director of Whanau Development and Chairman of the Te Rito Foundation Board. He is also a facilitator of the controversial program, *MAN Up*, New Zealand. Toko is a key role model of transformational change and leadership for men of gang affiliated, violent and crime backgrounds to break the cycle of abuse and live real actual change. Toko is married to his wife, Freda and has one daughter.

### **Boon Siang Kwek**

Boon Siang Kwek is a Principal Psychologist at the Singapore Prison Service. He also holds the appointment of Senior Assistant Director / Psychological Services Branch, leading a team of psychologists to conduct psychological risk assessments and intervention for sexual and violent offenders. He has postgraduate training in Counselling Psychology and is currently a PhD candidate at National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.



### **Siobhan Lawler**

Ms Siobhan Lawler is a PhD candidate and research assistant at the Matilda Centre, University of Sydney.

### **Marg Liddell**

Associate Professor Marg Liddell is a criminologist whose teaching specialties include working with young people and adults in the criminal justice system who exhibit challenging behaviors. She is an experienced child protection and adult criminal justice worker. As an experienced academic she specialises in teaching skills for students aiming to work in criminal justice. Her research has focused on the experience of minority groups in the justice system (Sudanese and Pacific Islanders), the impact of use of on-line child abuse material on the women partners of such users, the gender of money and family violence and teaching practices in prisons.

### **Max Liddell**

Professor Max Liddell is a social worker experienced in working with families, children and adolescents, in counselling, in residential care for children, and in support of abusive parents. He is an experienced manager, lobbyist, consultant and researcher, focusing on the family and child fields. His academic experience includes Head of Department of Social Work, Monash University.

His current experience includes assisting a Registered Training Organisation with higher education challenges, and he is writing a book (with Marg Liddell) on the history of child welfare in Australia and the reasons why we keep repeating past mistakes.

### **Ffiona Livingstone Clark**

Ffiona is a barrister practising in child protection and crime, appearing for both prosecution and defence. Prior to the Bar, Ffiona worked as a solicitor advocate for the Child Protection Litigation office at the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services, and at Victoria Legal Aid. Ffiona has a LLB from Bond University (Qld), a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice from The Australian National University (ACT), and LLM (Criminal Practice) from the University of Wollongong (NSW). A native of Scotland, in her previous life she practised as a Residential Social Worker, specialising in children and young people.

### **Stefan Luebbbers**

Dr Stefan Luebbbers is a senior lecturer at Swinburne University of Technology and a clinical forensic psychologist at the Victorian Children's Court Clinic. He has held a range of roles in academia, research, and clinical services for 15-years. His clinical work and research focuses on three important areas: 1) understanding the individual, parent-child and contextual characteristics that contribute to the occurrence of youth violence and childhood maltreatment; 2) improving methods for assessing risks and needs in the areas of youth offending and child protection; 3) developing and evaluating interventions to reduce or prevent the future occurrence of these significant social harms.

### **Tess Maguire**

Tess Maguire is a Clinical Nurse Consultant at Forensicare, the state-wide service in Victoria for Forensic mental health. She also has an adjunct position at Swinburne University of Technology as Lecturer of Forensic Mental Health Nursing, for the Centre of Forensic Behavioural Science. This presentation will discuss her thesis for her PhD titled, enhancing risk assessment and nursing interventions to reduce aggression and the use of restrictive interventions. The aim of this research is to determine the impact of structured and systematic risk assessment, and aggression prevention strategies in mental health nursing practice.





### **Corina Martin**

I am a Mulgyin Jaru/Kitja and Gooniyandi woman born and raised in Broome Western Australia. I grew up with my mum and my grandparents who were my role models, my grandparents were part of the stolen generation. My formal qualifications include a Bachelor of Marketing and the Media as well as a Bachelor of Laws. I gained my admittance to the Supreme Court of WA as a barrister and solicitor in 2006. I am currently the CEO of the Aboriginal Family Law Service (WA).

### **Troy McEwan**

Assoc. Prof. Troy McEwan is a researcher at Swinburne University of Technology and a clinical forensic psychologist at Forensicare. Her research focuses on improving understanding, assessment, and treatment of stalking, intimate partner and family violence, and deliberate firesetting. Troy has worked in both inpatient and community forensic mental health settings since 2008 and currently works at the Problem Behaviour Program in Melbourne. She is currently the President of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Psychiatry, Psychology and Law.

### **Daniel McFadden**

Daniel McFadden is a Social Worker in the Forensic Hospital of New South Wales, Australia. He is a registered Social Worker in both Ireland and Australia. Mr McFadden has spent his career in the assessment and management of risk related behaviours, initially in a child protection context and more recently in the area of Forensic Mental Health. Mr McFadden is currently completing a Master of Philosophy at the University of Sydney. His research interests include dual diagnosis, violent offending, gender and criminal justice. Mr McFadden received a NSW Higher Education and Training Institute (HETI) Mental Health Research Award in 2019.

### **Fergus McNeill**

Fergus McNeill is Professor of Criminology and Social Work at the University of Glasgow where he works in the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research and in Sociology. Prior to becoming an academic in 1998, Fergus worked for a number of years in residential drug rehabilitation and as a criminal justice social worker.

His many research projects and publications have examined institutions, cultures and practices of punishment and rehabilitation – and questions about their reform. He recently led a pioneering ESRC funded project, 'Discovering Desistance', which developed dialogue between academics, practitioners and ex-offenders about how criminal justice can better support people to leave crime behind and influenced policy and practice development in many countries. Between 2012 and 2016, he chaired an EU funded research network on 'Offender Supervision in Europe' which involved about 80 researchers from across 23 jurisdictions.

As well as researching, teaching and writing, Fergus has been involved in providing consultancy advice and support to governments and criminal justice organizations in many jurisdictions around the world. Between 2011-2014, he was appointed by the Cabinet Secretary as Chair of the Scottish Advisory Panel on Offender Rehabilitation. He is a Trustee, Council or Board Member of several charities including Faith in Communities Scotland, the Scottish Association for the Study of Offending and Vox Liminis. He also served recently as a member of the Poverty Truth Commission and was Chair of the Howard League for Penal Reform's Research Advisory Group.

### **Fiona Morrison**

Fiona Morrison is in the final year of her Doctor of Psychology (Clinical and Forensic) program at Swinburne University, and is a provisionally registered psychologist. Her thesis has involved developing, running, and testing a group treatment program for offenders. Ms Morrison has also undertaken several psychology placements, in both clinical and forensic settings, in Victoria.



### **Ken Morrison**

Ken Morrison is a social worker who has a career including community development, care of care of adolescents removed from their families, child protection, school social work and, adult mental health. Outside social work he has worked in information technology establishing one of the early Internet providers and as Executive Officer of a substantial professional industry association. He has worked in community case management of people with major mental illnesses then as Forensic Clinical Specialist for a major public mental health service, completing a Master of Social Work (Forensic Studies) before joining Forensicare's Mental Health Advice and Response Service.

### **Julia Nazarewicz**

Ms Julia Nazarewicz is a Doctor of Psychology (Clinical/Forensic) candidate at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia. The current research forms part of her doctoral thesis, which sets out to investigate Australian women identified as perpetrators of intimate partner violence by police. Ms Nazarewicz has previously completed a Bachelor of Arts, with Honours, at Monash University, and has a research background working on projects on various problematic criminal behaviours, including family violence, stalking and arson.

### **Abbey Newman**

Abbey Newman is a registered Accredited Family Violence Social Worker, working in the family violence sector for over 15 years.

Working across the spectrum of family violence services including; crisis intervention, group work (with victim survivors and perpetrators), ten years within the justice system, whole of family work, policy, training and prevention.

Abbey lectures at RMIT University on the subject, "Working with violence and abuse," for both masters and undergraduate social work students.

She is a qualified Men's Behaviour Change Facilitator, co-convenes the AASW Family Violence Practice Group, provides consultation on sector developments sector and provides expert witness evidence.

### **Margaret Nixon**

Dr Margaret Nixon is a Lecturer at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science (CFBS) at Swinburne University of Technology. Dr Nixon is a Key Investigator as part of the Catalyst Consortium, and her particular research interests include offenders with cognitive impairment, disability, effective interventions in prison settings, the victim-offender overlap, and the post sentence management of offenders.

### **James R. P. Ogloff**

Trained as a lawyer and psychologist, James R. P. Ogloff, J.D., Ph.D., is Foundation Professor and Director of the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science at Swinburne University. He is also Executive Director of Psychological Services and Research at Forensicare, the statewide forensic mental health service in Victoria, Australia. Professor Ogloff was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia 2015 for significant service to education and to the law as a forensic psychologist, as an academic, researcher and practitioner. Professor Ogloff has extensive academic and clinical experience working across youth justice, corrections and forensic mental health. He has published 17 books more than 280 scholarly articles and book chapters. He has served as Editor of the International Journal of Forensic Mental Health, as Associate Editor of Law and Human Behavior, and he is an Associate Editor of Criminal Justice and Behavior, and an International Editor of Behavioral Sciences and the Law. Most recently, he was awarded the 2018 American Psychology-Law Society Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology and Law.



### **Mark Olver**

Mark Olver is a Professor and Registered Doctoral Psychologist at the University of Saskatchewan, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, where he is involved in program administration, graduate and undergraduate teaching, research, and clinical training. Prior to his academic appointment, Mark worked as a clinical psychologist in various capacities, including providing assessment, treatment, and consultation services to young offenders in the Saskatoon Health Region and with adult federal offenders in the Correctional Service of Canada. He has published over 100 journal articles and book chapters and his research interests include offender risk assessment and treatment, young offenders, psychopathy, and the evaluation of therapeutic change. He is co-developer of the Violence Risk Scale-Sexual Offense version (VRS-SO) and Violence Risk Scale-Youth Sexual Offense Version (VRS-YSO), and he provides training and consultation services internationally in the assessment and treatment of sexual, violent, and psychopathic offenders.

### **Nina Papalia**

Nina Papalia received her Doctor of Psychology (Clinical/Forensic) from Swinburne University of Technology in 2017. She is a Catalyst research fellow with the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science at Swinburne. Catalyst is an Australian consortium for research excellence committed to reducing persistent violence and sexual offending. Her research interests include: understanding and alleviating the adverse effects of childhood maltreatment; the victimization and offending overlap; management of serious sexual and violent offenders; and offender change and desistance. Nina is also a registered clinical and forensic psychologist with the Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health (Forensicare), where she provides psychological assessment and treatment services to imprisoned male offenders with complex mental health needs and challenging behaviors.

### **Colleen Pearce**

Colleen Pearce was appointed as Victoria's Public Advocate in 2007. She is the guardian of last resort for Victorian adults with disability and is a fearless advocate for the rights of people with a disability and a mental illness. She has more than 30 years' experience managing community and health services in the government and non-government sectors.

### **Eve Penford**

Eve Penford is a 4<sup>th</sup> year student at Monash University, and a graduate of Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne. Her interests lie in forensic psychology research; particularly understanding precursors to and trajectories of offending behaviour, psychopathic and sadistic personalities, and violent and sexual offending.

### **Anne Sophie Pichler**

Dr Pichler is a post-doctoral research fellow with the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science. She has conducted research work in the areas of child sexual abuse (e.g. investigative interviewing, evidence, alternative measures for vulnerable complainants), jury decision-making, and family violence risk assessment. She has worked on a number of research projects including a large interdisciplinary project involving justice outcomes for alleged victims of child sexual abuse. She has experience with both qualitative and quantitative data analysis.

### **Jelena Popovic**

Jelena has been a magistrate in Victoria since 1989. Her main areas of interest have been the Koori Court and the Magistrates' Court's response to persons with drug and alcohol, mental health, cognitive impairment and homelessness issues, particularly those presenting with multiple co-morbidities.



### **Kevin Richards**

Kevin Richards is a Board Certified Forensic Psychologist. He has been in practice since 1991 and has worked in both public and private sector settings providing evaluation and consultation services on a range of issues related to Forensic Psychology. Dr. Richards has also been active in teaching and training graduate students and interns. He formed Forensic Specialty Group, which is a multi-provider Forensic evaluation and consultation practice specializing in adult criminal and juvenile delinquency cases in 2007. Dr. Richards' current focus is on consultation and expert witness services regarding criminal matters with the United States military.

### **Karl Roberts**

Karl Roberts is a Chartered Forensic Psychologist and Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society. His research focuses upon violent crime, vulnerability and police investigative processes with a particular focus upon honour based violence, investigative interviewing and stalking behavior.

### **Arran Rose**

Arran Rose is a Doctor of Psychology (Clinical/Forensic) candidate at Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia. The current research forms part of his doctoral thesis, which sets out to investigate wellbeing, distress and coping in multi-cultural groups of prisoners. Mr Rose has previously completed Honours in psychology at Deakin University, and has experience working and conducting research with people from disadvantaged and marginalised backgrounds.

### **Barry Rosenfeld**

Dr. Barry Rosenfeld, Professor of Psychology at Fordham University in New York is a forensic psychologist specializing in violence risk assessment, stalking, and interpersonal violence. He is an expert in methodological issues related to treatment outcome studies, particularly in forensic and correctional contexts. His research has been funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the US National Institute of Justice, and the US National Institute of Mental Health, among others. Dr. Rosenfeld is currently President of The International Association of Forensic Mental health Services (IAFMHS).

### **Janet Ruffles**

Dr Janet Ruffles is a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, Swinburne University of Technology. She is trained as both a lawyer and clinical forensic psychologist, and has worked in both capacities within the forensic mental health sector. Her research interests include the interface between criminal justice and mental health, with particular focus on laws related to the management of mentally ill offenders, including those found unfit to be tried or not guilty by reason of mental impairment.

### **Joseph Allan Sakdalan**

Dr Sakdalan is an NZ and Australian registered clinical psychologist and clinical neuropsychologist who have more than 20-years-experience working with complex clients with mental health issues, cognitive problems, developmental disorders, and offending behaviours. Dr Sakdalan's involvement was pivotal in the development, implementation and evaluation of offence-specific and offence-related group programs and risk assessment and management systems being implemented by the Forensic Intellectual Disability Service, Mason Clinic in Auckland, New Zealand. In addition, he has developed a suite of offence-related and offence-specific treatment group-based programs (e.g. sexual offending, family violence, general offending, treatment readiness, substance abuse) for forensic and correctional services locally and internationally. He has also presented in local and international conferences in his specialty areas.



### **Neelam Sarkaria**

Neelam Sarkaria is a barrister, and former senior policy official and works as an independent criminal justice consultant with specific expertise in gender-based violence with expertise of Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). She holds an Honorary Lectureship in English Law at Aberdeen University and provides expert input to New Buckinghamshire University, UCL, St George's University and Notre Dame (London). She has developed and delivered Harmful Traditional Practices training for prosecutors, law enforcement, health, education and social care professionals in the UK and internationally on behalf of UNODC. She is an expert adviser to UN Women on prosecution and gender-based violence.

Neelam is a Tribunal Judge in the Social Entitlement Chamber, sits on professional conduct hearings for the British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy and British Psychoanalytical Council and is a Non-Executive Director. She is the current Vice-President of the Association of Women Barristers. Neelam works with a range of NGOs and is a trustee for the Vavengers and art-based charity focusing on eradicating FGM, a Community Ambassador for the Sharan Project, a charity committed to supporting South Asian women in the UK who suffer abandonment as a result of forced marriage and honour-based violence and a member of the Expert Advisory Panel for the Ending Domestic Violence Global Foundation. Neelam also mentors NGOs in Kenya.

### **Rosemary Sheehan**

Professor Rosemary Sheehan AM B.Soc.Stud (Syd), MSW (LaT), PhD (Monash), works in the Department of Social Work at Monash University, teaching mental health in the postgraduate social work program, and co-ordinating the Higher Degrees by Research program. She was for 17 years a Dispute Resolution Convener in the Children's Court of Victoria, dealing with disputes between families and the child protection service. Her published research covers child welfare and the law, family violence, mental health, judicial and corrections responses to offenders, with particular reference to women offenders and ageing offenders.

### **Stephane Shepherd**

Dr Stephane Shepherd is an ARC DECRA Fellow and Senior Lecturer at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science (SUT). He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Criminology), a Masters degree and he completed his PhD in Forensic Psychology at Monash University in 2013. His research interests include: youth violence, violence risk assessment, risk and protective factors for offending across gender and ethnicity, and cross-cultural mental health. Stephane was awarded the 2015 Inaugural Fulbright Scholarship in Cultural Competence, the 2016 International Association of Forensic Mental Health Services Young Scholar of the year, and the 2018 American Psychology-Law Society Saleem Shah award for early career excellence.

### **Melanie Simmons**

Dr Melanie Simmons is a research fellow with the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Catalyst Consortium. Her research interests broadly focus on family violence and assessing the risk of violent, sexual, and general offending behaviour. Melanie's doctoral thesis investigated child-to-parent abuse in Australia. Two of the publications from her thesis have won awards, including the Australian Psychological Society's Maconochie Prize which recognises outstanding forensic psychology research by students. Melanie is also a psychologist with Forensicare working at Thomas Embling Hospital.

### **Ben Spivak**

Dr Benjamin Spivak is a lecturer at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences, Swinburne University of Technology. He has published papers and co-written technical reports on the topics of legal decision-making, risk assessment for domestic violence, diversion of justice involved youth, and disparities in justice and health outcomes for indigenous and non-indigenous forensic populations. His current research interests relate to statistics and methodology particularly as applied to forecasting criminal behaviour.





### **Susanne Strand**

Susanne Strand is an Associate Professor of Criminology. She researches risks of violence in different contexts, with the applied criminology as the academic base. The focus of her research is risk assessment and risk management for general violence; intimate partner violence, stalking, and honor based violence, where the research to a large extent is conducted in collaboration with practitioners. Her research has shown that the use of structured checklists for assessing risk of violence is an effective method to use for the police, the correctional setting and the forensic psychiatric care while working with management of risk for violence.

### **Meu Supol**

Meu Supol, BPsych(Hons), is a PhD candidate in the School of Psychology at Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia. She has researched women's experience and knowledge of intimate partner violence among culturally and linguistically diverse communities and its effects on their resilience and help-seeking behaviour. Meu's post-graduate research project focuses on adolescents' exposure to family violence and its effects on their academic achievement and interventions to reduce the effects.

### **Michael Trood**

Michael is currently a PhD Candidate at Swinburne University's Centre for Forensic Behavioral Science. His research broadly examines the role that judicial supervision plays in problem-solving courts and court lists. Specifically, he is interested in which problem-solving court clients benefit most from judicial supervision, in addition to which judicial supervision practices associate with the most desirable outcomes.

### **Ryan Veal**

Ryan is a provisional psychologist and Doctor of Psychology (Clinical and Forensic Psychology) candidate at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, within the School of Health Sciences at Swinburne University of Technology in Australia. Ryan has an interest in the area of personality assessment relative to violent behaviour and recidivism. Ryan is trained in—and has utilized in clinical settings—standardized risk-assessment instruments, including the Psychopathy Checklist measures. He is the current student representative on the Victorian branch of the Australian Psychological Society (APS) Forensic College committee.

### **Sabine Visser**

Sabine Visser is a senior clinical psychologist that has 25 years of experience. She obtained her master's degree in Clinical Psychology and has been registered as a clinical psychologist and clinical neuropsychologist with the New Zealand Psychology Board since 1991. She has been employed by the Regional Forensic Psychiatry Service since 1992 and has a very busy private practice as well. She has presented papers and workshops internationally in the areas of suggestibility, assessment and treatment of sexual offenders, fitness to stand trial, the use of psychometrics and effort testing, DBT for those with intellectual disabilities to name a few. She is experienced in risk assessments has served as an expert witness in a number of cases involving human rights especially for those with an intellectual disability.

### **Melissa Willoughby**

Melissa Willoughby is a PhD candidate at the University of Melbourne supported by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). Her research interests center around the intersection of health and criminology. Her current research examines violence-related deaths among people exposed to the criminal justice system in Australia and internationally. She is supervised by Professor Stuart Kinner, Dr Rohan Borschmann and Associate Professor Matt Spittal. Melissa is currently working as a research assistant in the Justice Health Group at Murdoch Children's Research Institute. She successfully completed an Honours degree in Justice and Criminology at RMIT University.





### **Melisa Wood**

Dr Melisa Wood is a senior clinical and forensic psychologist with the Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health. She is experienced in working with both victims and perpetrators of family violence and provided consultation to Victoria Police Family Violence Teams in relation to risk assessment and management between 2015 and 2018. She currently works in the Victorian Fixed Threat Assessment Centre, a joint Victoria Police and Forensicare unit.