



Australian Government

Australian Institute of Criminology



13th Australasian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

10-13 November Melbourne, Australia

Protecting children: new solutions to old problems

Call for Abstracts





# Invitation

I am delighted to invite you to attend the 13th Australasian Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect with the theme of Protecting Children: New solutions to old problems to reflect the need to innovate and to enhance responses to key policy and practice issues across the sectors involved in preventing and managing child abuse and neglect. Organised by the Australian Institute of Criminology, the Conference will be held in Melbourne, Australia from the 10th to 14th of November 2013.

The Scientific Program of the Conference is being designed to meet the specific needs of the Australasian child protection sector. The Program will incorporate presentations across a diverse range of areas including child protection service responses, policing and the courts, health and welfare therapeutic interventions, and emerging issues in child abuse and neglect, and child protection policy and practice reform. Invited keynote presenters will highlight the latest developments and directions, be they practice or policy-related and the first day of the Conference will provide opportunities to attend



Master Class training workshops with expert practitioners from a range of fields.

The event will be suitable for anyone with an interest in protecting children—from those who have recently joined the field to experienced practitioners looking for refinements and to hear about the latest in policy, professional practice and research. A Call for Abstracts will be issued shortly. I hope to see you in Melbourne in November.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Adam Tomison'.

**Dr Adam Tomison**

Director, Australian Institute of Criminology

Executive Councilor, International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

Board Director, National Association for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

White Ribbon Ambassador





# Scientific Program Committee

**Dr Adam Tomison** (Chair), Director, Australian Institute of Criminology

**Hayley Boxall** Research Analyst, Australian Institute of Criminology

**A/Prof Leah Bromfield** Deputy Director, Australian Centre for Child Protection, University of South Australia

**Prof Marie Connolly** Chair & Head of Social Work, University of Melbourne

**Dr Alex Dordevic** Director, Centre for Human Services Research and Evaluation, Department of Human Services Victoria

**Sue Foley** Consultant and Senior Social Worker, Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney & ISPCAN Councillor

**Prof Morag McArthur** Director, Institute for Child Protection Studies, Australian Catholic University

**Sarah Macgregor** Senior Research Analyst, Australian Institute of Criminology

**Mary McKinnon** Director, Statutory Services and Forensic Design, Department of Human Services Victoria

**Dr Sue Packer** Paediatrician Child at Risk Unit, Canberra Hospital & NAPCAN Board Director

**Prof Martine Powell** Psychology, Deakin University

**Dr David Plater** Lawyer, SA Attorney-General's Department and Lecturer in Law, University of South Australia

**Julian Pocock** Director, Public Policy, Berry St Victoria

**Dr Jeremy Prichard** Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Law University of Tasmania and Director Australian Clearinghouse for Youth Studies

**Dr Shanti Raman** Community Paediatrician-Child Protection, Sydney & SWS Local Health District & Senior Lecturer University of New South Wales

**Dr Danny Sullivan** Assistant Clinical Director, Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health (Forensicare); Adjunct Senior lecturer, Monash University

**Dr Stephanie Taplin** Deputy Director, Institute for Child Protection Studies, ACU

**Patrick Tidmarsh** Forensic Interview Advisor with the Sexual Offences Child Abuse Investigation Team (SOCIT), Victoria Police

## Who should attend?

The conference will be relevant and valuable for a diverse range of professionals and practitioners involved in:

- Alcohol and drug issues
- Child protection and out of home care
- Child trafficking/exploitation
- Community development
- Domestic and family violence
- Early childhood and child care
- Education
- Family violence
- Health and medicine
- Indigenous or culturally and linguistically diverse organisations
- The courts and law
- Law enforcement
- Crime prevention
- Youth justice
- Mental health
- Policy and government
- Social justice
- Therapy—including psychology, psychiatry, social work and counselling
- Youth development

# Call for abstracts

The Scientific Program Committee invites submission of abstracts for oral papers, symposia, workshops or poster presentations, on topics that align with the conference theme of *Protecting children: New solutions to old problems*.

Abstracts are welcome from researchers, practitioners and early career researchers (students). Submissions can be made on the following topic areas, but are not limited to:

## **Prevention and early intervention approaches—for example:**

- Early childhood development
- Community-based prevention and strengthening families
- Working with Indigenous and/or culturally and linguistically diverse communities

## **Child protection systems—for example:**

- Redesign and reform in child protection systems
- Children's disclosure and reporting of child maltreatment
- Investigation and case management practices
- Children in out of home care
- The role of reviews
  - Child death reviews
  - System reviews and public inquiries

## **Technology and child maltreatment—for example:**

- Online sex offending and child exploitation—the changing nature of offending
- The rise of social media—the good and the bad
- Policing responses to online sex offending

## **Health and medical responses—for example:**

- Assessment, diagnosis and treatment
- Mental health
- The misuse of alcohol and other drugs

## **Criminal justice responses—for example:**

- Forensic interviewing
- Court processes in relation to child abuse and neglect
- Pathways from child maltreatment to criminal behaviour

## **Child rights and engagement—for example:**

- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Children and youth perspectives

## **Professional practice—for example:**

- Innovative approaches to improve interprofessional communication
- Vicarious trauma among professionals
- Working with children, young people and families

## **Types of Presentation**

**Oral paper presentations** will be allocated 20 minute papers (plus 5 min question time) in concurrent sessions of 3–4 papers.

**Symposia** will be allocated 75–100 minutes and should be composed of 3 to 5 papers on a related theme.

**Workshops** will be allocated 75–100 minutes and should provide an interactive education or training session on elements of policy, program or service delivery or approaches to working directly with children, families and/or communities.

**Posters** will be displayed in the main break out area. Time will be allocated during breaks for authors to discuss their work with interested attendees.

## **Early Career Researchers sessions**

There will be a limited number of sessions specifically for presentations by early career researchers (students) and a limited number of discounted student registrations





available. Authors should identify as early career researchers on the abstract submission form.

### Early Career Researchers prize

The Australian Institute of Criminology will be offering a prize of complimentary registration to the authors of the two most outstanding abstracts submitted by early career researchers. To be eligible for this prize, ensure that you select the Early Career Researchers option, when submitting your abstract.

Authors can indicate their preference for oral paper, symposia, workshop, poster presentation and/or 'early career researcher' on the online abstract submission form. All submitted abstracts will be blind peer-reviewed. The Scientific Program Committee reserves the right to decide the format of presentations and in which stream they will be presented on the basis of time and space available.

## Abstract submission instructions

Abstracts are to be submitted via the Conference website (<https://www.etches.com/eselect/acan2013>). Abstracts should be a maximum of 250 words.

Submissions should also include a concise title and the full names and contact details of the authors. The lead author/presenter should be listed first as the key contact. Any additional authors should be listed in the space provided and be clearly identified if they will be co-presenting at the conference.

A brief personal biography (approximately 100 words) from the presenting author/s should also be included which can be used to introduce speakers at the conference.

Please do not include any acknowledgments, figures or references in the abstract.

The abstract will be published in the final conference program and full papers may be selected for publication in conference proceedings.

Authors of accepted papers are expected to register and attend the conference. All expenses associated with attendance are to be covered by the presenter.

## Important dates

Abstract submissions close: Friday 19 July 2013

Abstract notification to authors: Friday 23 August 2013

Early registration deadline: Friday 20 September 2013

# Destination

## Melbourne, Victoria

Voted many times over as one of the world's most liveable cities, Melbourne (the capital of the State of Victoria) is celebrated for its friendly locals, efficient services, fine wine and dining, and world-class facilities.

Melbourne boasts comprehensive transport systems, ultra-modern venues, and extensive accommodation for any event. Recognised as a major centre for research and development in the medical, science, technology, business and financial industries, Melbourne provides the perfect setting for today's meetings, incentive travel programs, conventions and exhibitions.

A 60 to 90 minute drive will take you to a world away in regional Victoria—enjoy spectacular scenery and wildlife, take your pick from 100 local vineyards, rest and relax at an award-winning day spa, or tee-off at a world-class golf course.

Cosmopolitan Melbourne is a city on show and has everything you need to make your visit a fantastic experience from both a business and leisure perspective.

For further information about Melbourne visit

[www.thatsmelbourne.com.au](http://www.thatsmelbourne.com.au)

## Conference venue—Pullman Melbourne Albert Park

The Pullman Melbourne Albert Park is ideally located on Queens Road overlooking Albert Park Lake and the renowned Formula 1 Australian Grand Prix track. The hotel is in close proximity to the Melbourne CBD and vibrant St Kilda giving you access to an array of dining and leisure options.



# Sponsors

## Conference supporter



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