



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE CONFERENCE



Thursday, 9 November 2023

The University of Sydney Law School

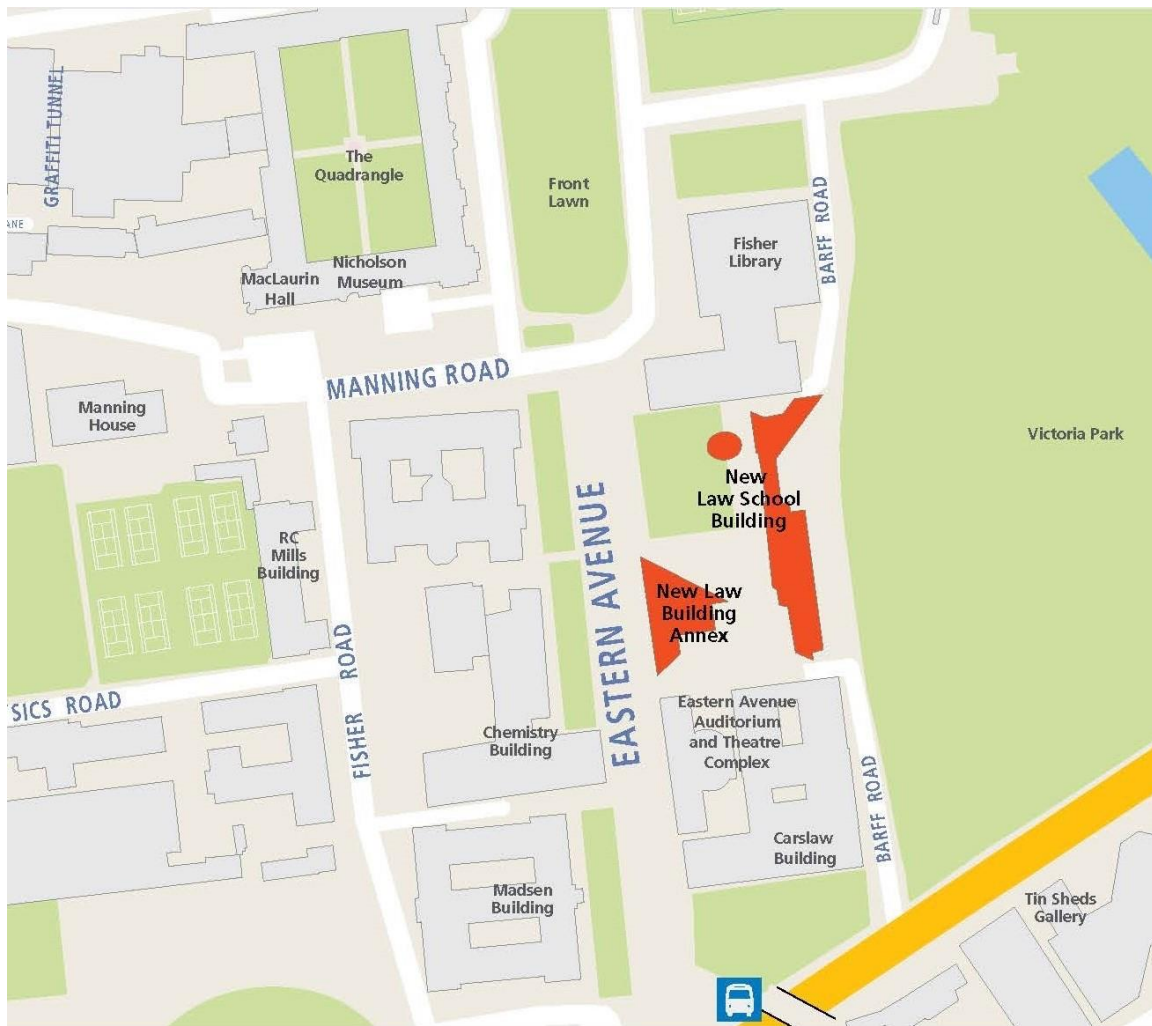
A one-day conference of academic researchers and community professionals who are working to improve our understanding of and response to Domestic and Family Violence.

#USYDDFV



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge and pay respect to the traditional owners of the land, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation. It is upon their ancestral lands that the University of Sydney is built.



Follow directional signage to the Law School Building and Annex

MAP and LOCATION

[Sydney Law School \(F10\)](#)
[New Law School Building](#)
[Eastern Avenue, Camperdown](#)
[The University of Sydney, Camperdown](#)

GETTING TO CAMPUS

[Get directions](#)
[Getting to campus](#)

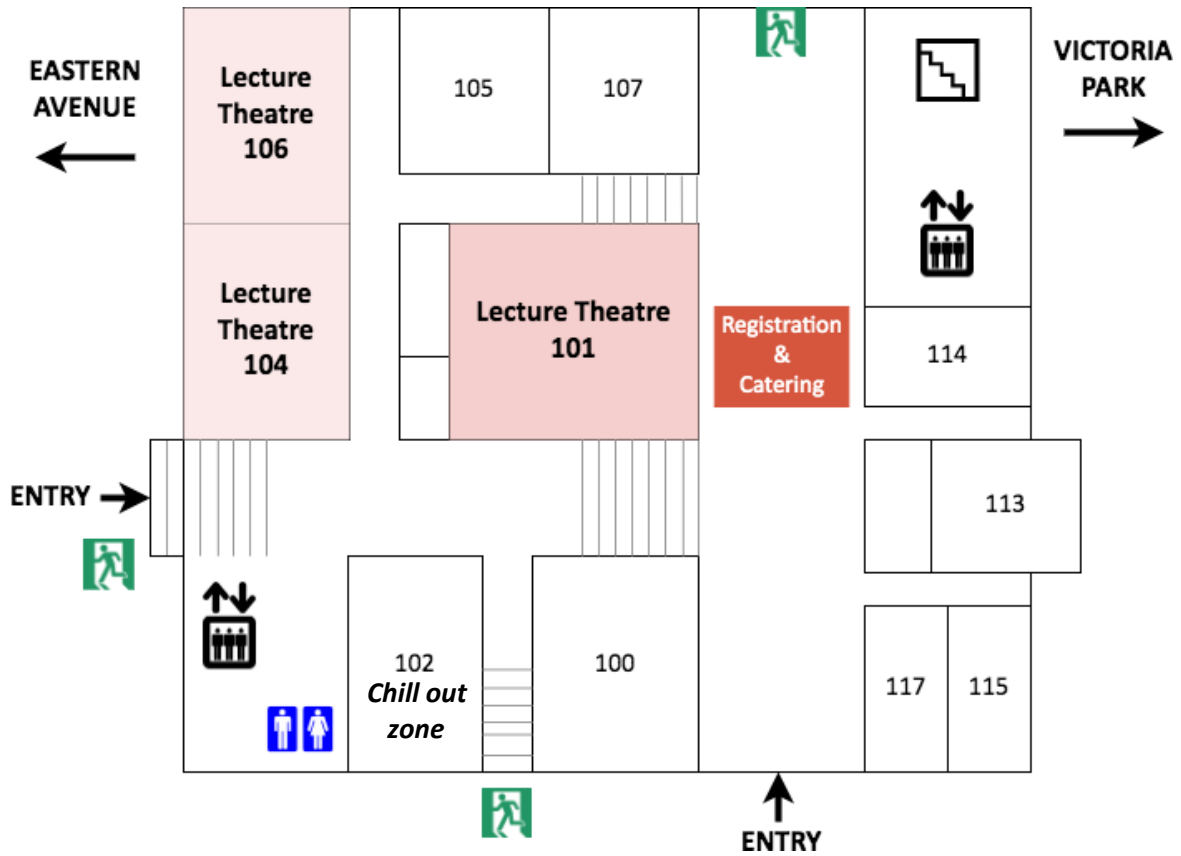
PARKING

We have some parking options for drivers, but we also promote more environmentally friendly ways of getting to campus, such as cycling and using public transport. *Note, there is no parking available at the Law School*



**GENERAL INFORMATION
AND HOUSE KEEPING**

Level 1, Law Building Annex (F10A) Venue Map



Please note that the Eastern Avenue street level main entrance is on Level 2. You will need to take the stairs or elevator down to Level 1.



GENERAL INFORMATION AND HOUSE KEEPING

WELCOME TO THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY!

This conference is hosted by the Sydney Institute of Criminology, and is supported by the University of Sydney Law School; the School of Psychology; the Women at Sydney Network; Diversity and Inclusion; and Social Work and Policy Studies.

REGISTRATION DESK

The registration desk is located on Level 1 of the New Law School Building (F10A). Staff will register delegates from 8:30-9:00 am. Staff and volunteers will be available throughout the conference to assist with any queries.

CONFERENCE ROOM FACILITIES

The conference rooms are equipped with AV facilities including laptop and projectors for PowerPoint presentations, and internet access. Should there be specific requirements for presentations, please inform AV staff dedicated to each of the conference rooms. Microsoft PowerPoint presentations are the preferred format.

BREAKS

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will take place on Level 1, New Law Building Annex (F10A), outside of Lecture Theatre 101.

MOBILE PHONES

As a courtesy to your fellow delegates and speakers, please ensure that your phone is switched off or on silent during all Conference sessions.

PRESENTATION TIME LIMITS

Each presentation can be an absolute **maximum of 15 minutes** (including questions and setting up/changing to the next speaker). Please be respectful to your fellow speakers and conference delegates by staying on time.



GENERAL INFORMATION AND HOUSE KEEPING

CONTENT NOTE

- The content we will talk through today may be confronting. It may be uncomfortable or trigger some emotional responses that are unexpected.
- Even if you have not directly experienced trauma, it is important to look out for your own emotional and mental wellbeing.
- If you feel like you need to take a break during the conference, Law Annex Seminar Room 102 will be available for you to have a quiet moment.
- Counsellors will also be available if you would like to have a private chat.

LOOKING AFTER YOURSELF

USYD Support Services

Safer Communities Office
(Mon-Fri, 8.30pm-5.30pm) 8627 6808 or
safer-communities.officer@sydney.edu.au

EAP - Benestar
1300 360 364 (available 24/7)
[Counselling, coaching and support - Intranet - The University of Sydney](#)

External Support Services

1800 RESPECT
(24/7) 1800 737 732 or
www.1800respect.org.au

Lifeline
(24/7) 13 11 14

NSW Sexual Violence Helpline
(24/7) 1800 385 578 or <https://fullstop.org.au/>

RPA Sexual Assault Service
9515 9040 (Mon-Fri, 8.30am-5pm)
After hours on 9515 6111



8:30–9am	Arrival and morning tea
9–9:15am	Acknowledgement of Country Professor Simon Bronitt (Head & Dean of Sydney Law School) Welcome and Conference Logistics A/Prof Helen Paterson
9:15–10:30am	Session 1 (Lecture Theatre 101)
	A/Prof Helen Paterson This is what happened ... I think?: Indicators of uncertainty in repeated event witnesses Ms Tara Hunter Unlocking Pathways to Healing: Addressing Complex Trauma from Domestic, Family, and Sexual Violence Mr. Harrison James From Survivor to Advocate: Transforming Trauma into Action A/Prof Ghena Krayem In their own words – The experiences of Covid 19 Lockdown for victim/survivors of domestic, family and sexualised violence from CALD communities in Western Sydney Ms Annabelle Daniel OAM Criminalising Coercive Control - Professional & Lived Expertise Perspectives <u>Chair:</u> Helen Paterson (University of Sydney)
10:30–10:45am	Morning tea break
10:45–11:45am	Session 2
Stream A (Lecture Theatre 104)	Professor Tom Denson Perceptions of treatments for domestic violence offenders Miss Iana Wong Interpersonal emotion regulation as a mediator between insecure attachment and perpetration and victimization of intimate partner violence (IPV) Kayla Greenstien MDMA Couples Therapy: Considerations for coercive control in screening and ongoing safety Ms Cathy Zervos Elevating Survivor Voices in Men's Behaviour Change <u>Chair:</u> Professor Tom Denson (UNSW Sydney)
Stream B (Lecture Theatre 106)	Professor Susan Heward-Belle “Until we shift the responsibility to where it needs to be, women’s and children’s trauma will never end”: Practitioner perspectives on increasing perpetrator accountability to facilitate healing and recovery Ms Tara Hunter Addressing Vicarious Trauma in Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Practice: Strategies and Insights



Stream B (Lecture Theatre 106)	Ms Kate Thomas Risk considerations in NSW Apprehended Domestic Violence Order court processes: What and whose considerations count? Mr Adam Teperski (Presented by Stewart Boiteux) The long and short of it: The impact of Apprehended Domestic Violence Order duration on offending and breaches <u>Chair:</u> Professor Susan Heward-Belle (USyd)
11:45am–12pm	Break
12–1:15pm	16 Days of Activism Keynote and Panel Discussion (Lecture Theatre 101) Tarang Chawla , Commissioner, Victorian Multicultural Commission Zakia Hossain , Associate Professor, the University of Sydney Rachael Knowles , Digital Editor and Journalist, National Indigenous Television (NITV), Survivors Hub Genavieve Sakr , Programs Manager, Lou’s Place <u>Chair:</u> Dr Rachel Killean, The University of Sydney Law School
1:15–1:45pm	Lunch
1:45–2:30pm	Session 3
Stream A (Lecture Theatre 104)	Dr Hayley Cullen The impact of misinformation presented during jury deliberation on juror memory and decision-making in sexual assault trials Dr Faye Nitschke Stereotypes in the jury room: Understanding supports to help jurors make accurate decisions in criminal trials for sexual violence Dr Celine Van Golde (Presented by Dr Hayley Cullen) The Effect of Deviations on Memory Accuracy and Memory Blindness <u>Chair:</u> Dr Hayley Cullen (Macquarie Uni)
Stream B (Lecture Theatre 106)	Dr Eleanor Cowan Remembering Iulia Maiana: case-studies in domestic abuse (including coercive control) from the ancient Roman world Mr Ghaith Krayem, Ms Nemat Kharboutli and Ms Maha Abdo Bridging Faith and Culture: Preventing Family and Domestic Violence in Minority Communities Mr Nurwanto Nurwanto Family, School or Peers?: Risk Factors of Students' Involvement in Violence in Contemporary Indonesia <u>Chair:</u> Dr Eleanor Cowan (USyd)
2:30–2:45pm	Afternoon Tea Break

2:45–3:45pm	Session 4 (Lecture Theatre 101)
	<p>Sergeant Darren Pearce and A/Sgt Beau Riley Adopting new technology & legislative reform to improve court experiences for victim survivors of D&FV.</p> <p>Ms Tiffany Lewin Embedding financial safety by design – the role of Banks to minimise harm and prevent financial abuse.</p> <p>Dr Tim Warton Safe Space - YJNSW Response to the adolescent experience of DFV</p> <p>Ms Nadja Kirsch Systemic review of NSW Police Force responses to domestic and family violence incidents</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Chair:</u> Susan Heward-Belle (USyd)</p>
3:45–4:30pm	Discussion (Lecture Theatre 101)
	<p>Topic: Working together to improve our understanding of and response to Domestic and Family Violence</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><u>Chairs:</u> A/Prof Ghena Krayem (USyd) A/Prof: Helen Paterson (USyd)</p>
4:30–5pm	Drinks

Session 1

Associate Professor Helen Paterson

This is what happened ... I think?: Indicators of uncertainty in repeated event witnesses

Eyewitness testimony can provide critical leads in investigations, and it can be extremely persuasive in court. However, inconsistencies or inaccuracies in eyewitness accounts can undermine the perceived credibility of the witness and the value of the evidence. This is particularly problematic when witnesses are required to recall details of crimes that occur over a number of recurring episodes, which is characteristic of many Domestic and Family Violence cases.

In this presentation I will describe empirical research on the memory and credibility of repeated event witnesses. Such research shows that witnesses of repeated events may find it difficult to particularize details of one event and they may confuse one instance with another. Even more concerning is that the narratives provided by genuine witnesses recalling a repeated event may be perceived as less credible than that of both single-event witnesses and liars. I will conclude my presentation with ways to improve the accounts/perceptions of repeated event witnesses.

Bio: Helen Paterson is an Associate Professor in Forensic Psychology at the University of Sydney. She investigates ways in which psychological research and theory can help witnesses and victims of crime. Her research predominantly focuses on best practice techniques to collect accurate and complete accounts from eyewitnesses, while preserving their psychological wellbeing.

Co-author: Annie Wang, Tiana Carnemolla and Sarah Deck

Ms. Tara Hunter

Unlocking Pathways to Healing: Addressing Complex Trauma from Domestic, Family, and Sexual Violence

"Complex trauma resulting from domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV) is a significant national concern. While complex trauma can affect individuals of all ages and diverse backgrounds, it predominantly affects women and children. Complex trauma is correlated with substantial adverse physical, psychosocial, and mental health outcomes. Survivors living with complex trauma often need to actively engage with various services, including mental health, welfare, DFSV, and the criminal justice system. The intricate relationship between trauma and the ongoing needs of survivors necessitates collaborative efforts across various service sectors to deliver effective care and enhance overall wellbeing. However, many gaps exist among these services, resulting in significant deficiencies in service delivery and adverse consequences for survivors.

Full Stop Australia (FSA) will introduce a case study analysis in this presentation that explores the FSA integrated approach. This approach covers the entire care continuum, starting from the initial disclosure or crisis stage and extending to intensive work with individuals facing complex trauma. Within this continuum, we address safety, stabilisation, psychosocial education, as well as complex trauma management and recovery. Our approach is adaptable, featuring therapeutic plans, client-driven goal setting, and a range of multi-modal support options. "

Bio: Tara Hunter is the Director of Counselling and Client Services at Full Stop Australia (formerly Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia). Tara is an accredited Mental Health Social Worker with additional qualifications in Workplace Training and Assessment and Family Dispute Resolution. Tara has over 20 years' experience working in the NGO and health sectors, including managing a NSW Health hospital-based sexual assault service that provides a 24/7 response for sexual assault survivors. Tara has expertise in leading service and clinical responses to gender-based violence, focusing on client-centred care and creating service systems that support clients and the workers who deliver their care.

Co-author: Brianna Pike

Mr. Harrison James

From Survivor to Advocate: Transforming Trauma into Action

"Harrison James, a survivor of child sexual abuse, takes you on an inspiring journey of personal transformation and advocacy in his keynote speech at Sydney University. In this compelling talk, Harrison shares his story of resilience, healing, and how he leveraged his experience to drive significant change.

As a survivor, Harrison confronted the trauma of his past and emerged stronger than ever. He will recount the struggles he faced in his journey toward healing and how he found the strength to turn his experience into a force for change.

At the heart of his presentation is the 'Your Reference Ain't Relevant' campaign, an initiative Harrison co-founded to address a critical issue in Australia's legal system. He will describe the origins of the campaign, its goals, and the challenges faced along the way. Harrison will highlight the campaign's achievements, including its success in the New South Wales legislative council.

Through his story and the campaign's impact, Harrison will emphasize the importance of survivor-led initiatives and the need for reforms in the justice system. His keynote will inspire the audience to believe in the power of personal stories and to recognize the potential for change that lies within each of us.

Join us for this unforgettable keynote address that demonstrates the incredible resilience of the human spirit and the potential to drive positive change, even in the face of adversity. Harrison's story is a testament to the idea that survivors can become powerful advocates, and his campaign serves as a beacon of hope for a more just and compassionate society."

Bio: Harrison James is a survivor, award-winning activist, and co-founder of the 'Your Reference Ain't Relevant' campaign. His transformative journey from victim to champion of change has inspired countless individuals. Harrison's personal experiences have fueled his commitment to reforming Australia's legal system to better serve survivors of child sexual abuse. Through his activism, he has successfully driven legislative changes and raised awareness about survivor-led initiatives. Harrison's story showcases the power of resilience and determination in the pursuit of justice and healing. He continues to inspire others with his unwavering dedication to making the world a safer place for all.

A/Prof Ghena Krayem

In their own words – The experiences of Covid 19 Lockdown for victim/survivors of domestic, family and sexualised violence from CALD communities in Western Sydney

The recent pandemic and associated lockdowns had a devastating impact on the most vulnerable members of our society. This paper will explore the lived experience of victim/survivors of DFSV from CALD (culturally and linguistically diverse) communities in Western Sydney. It is based on interview data collected in 2023 as part of a James Martin Policy Challenge Grant looking at the impact of covid 19 on the delivery of family violence services in Western Sydney. Using the words of the research participants themselves we hope to share their challenges and acts of resilience in the face of crisis. In particular we draw on this empirical data to reflect on what we can learn to do better when faced with other crises in the future to ensure that vulnerable members of our society are not left behind.

Bio: Dr Ghena Krayem is an Associate Professor at Sydney Law School, University of Sydney, Australia. She has researched and published in many areas to do with Islam in Australia, particularly focusing on Muslim women and Islamic family law. She has authored and co-authored several books *Islamic Family Law in Australia: to Recognise or Not to Recognise* (2014); *Accommodating Muslims under Common Law* (2016); *Understanding Shariah Processes – Women’s experiences of family disputes* (2021) and *Muslim Women and Agency in the Australian Context* (2021). Ghena’s recent research focus is on family violence, and is looking at the impact of Covid 19 on service delivery in the family violence sector.

Co-authors: Amira Aftab, Balawyn Jones

Ms Annabelle Daniel OAM

Criminalising Coercive Control - Professional & Lived Expertise Perspectives

As Chair of the Lived Expertise Reference Group for the NSW Coercive Control Implementation Taskforce, I work with advocates to provide input to the Taskforce to inform the 'bringing to life' of Coercive Control laws in NSW, which will take effect in 2024. I wish to facilitate a panel discussion with these advocates around their experiences, and how Coercive Control legislation would have made a difference for them, navigating abusive relationship.

Bio: Annabelle Daniel is the Chief Executive of Women's Community Shelters and the Chair of Domestic Violence NSW, the peak body for domestic and family violence services in the state. She is a Statutory Member of the NSW Coercive Control Implementation Taskforce, and Chairs the Lived Expertise Reference Group and the Domestic and Family Violence Sector Reference Group.

Session 2 (Stream A)

Professor Tom Denson

Perceptions of treatments for domestic violence offenders

Many treatments for violent offenders are largely ineffective in reducing recidivism. In two studies, we examined perceptions of three types of rehabilitation for a homicide case involving domestic violence. The three types of rehabilitation were incarceration, neurobiological treatments, and psychological therapies. In general, participants considered psychological treatments as more ethical and were more supportive of therapy than incarceration and neurobiological treatments. However, when asked about the domestic violence offender specifically, participants endorsed incarceration over the other two treatments. Confidence that the treatments would work for the offender was uniformly low across the three treatments. Participants viewed incarceration as the strongest form of mind control followed by neurobiological treatments and psychological therapies. Participants did not feel that any of the treatments deprived society of retribution. Some individual differences also impacted the outcomes. Conservatives and those who did not believe people can change their moral character were less supportive of any treatment.

Bio: Tom Denson is a professor of social psychology at the University of New South Wales. His research program focuses on the many instantiations, causes, correlates, and consequences of anger and aggressive behavior.

Miss Iana Wong

Interpersonal emotion regulation as a mediator between insecure attachment and perpetration and victimization of intimate partner violence (IPV)

Insecure attachment is the lack of security in emotional connectedness. Greater attachment insecurity was found related to higher levels of perpetration and victimisation of intimate partner violence (IPV). Emotion regulation (ER), which is the use of different strategies to modify feelings, has been proposed as a mediator (i.e., a factor that explains the association) between insecure attachment and IPV. However, existing studies have exclusively focused on the intrapersonal aspect of ER, which is the strategies utilized in solitude. Interpersonal ER involves using social interaction to regulate feelings in oneself and one's partner. The present study examined the mediating role of interpersonal ER and compared it with intrapersonal ER. Data were collected from 554 participants (42.7% male) who were in a relationship. Results showed that individuals high in attachment anxiety and avoidance were related to reduced use of interpersonal ER. The reduced use of interpersonal ER was then related to the perpetration and victimization of IPV. In addition, the mediating role of interpersonal ER was stronger than intrapersonal ER, especially among avoidant individuals. The findings imply that interventions that maximize insecure individuals' use of interpersonal ER may potentially help reduce IPV perpetration and victimization.

Bio: Iana is a PhD candidate at the School of Psychology of UNSW. She is interested in understanding the causes of intimate partner violence and ways to reduce the violence.

Kayla Greenstien

MDMA Couples Therapy: Considerations for coercive control in screening and ongoing safety

Colloquially known as 'the love drug,' 3,4-Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA) was legally used in couples therapy until its prohibition in 1985. A resurgence of research and the recent down-scheduling of MDMA in Australia for the treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) have reignited interest in MDMA couples therapy. However, both historical and contemporary research on MDMA couples therapy fail to adequately address the prevalence of intimate partner violence (IPV) and the role of coercive control in relation to MDMA as a suggestibility-enhancing drug. A 2020 study of MDMA for couples, where one person had PTSD, only screened for serious physical or sexual violence, neglecting to consider coercive control as a key predictor of harm. Ensuring patient safety requires consideration of MDMA's subjective effects on suggestibility, empathy, and induced feelings of love particularly in relation to coercive control dynamics within relationships. Additionally, therapeutic practices inherent to MDMA therapy, including a focus on encouraging patients to 'surrender' and 'let go,' should be considered in the context of unbalanced power dynamics within the relationship. As MDMA couples therapy gains traction, a more comprehensive focus on IPV is necessary to ensure safety.

Bio: Kayla Greenstien is a PhD candidate in the School of Psychology at the University of Sydney. Her research focuses on touch, consent and abuse in psychedelic and MDMA therapy. Prior to starting a PhD, Kayla worked for five years in front-line sexual assault and domestic abuse intervention services. She is passionate about bringing more focus to the importance of lived-experience and ethical practice in research and teaching.

Ms Cathy Zervos

Elevating Survivor Voices in Men's Behaviour Change

Managing risk and safety planning are core elements of work with men who use violence and those impacted by violence and coercive control. CatholicCare Broken Bay Men's Behaviour Change Program is pioneering a way of working that aims to safely elevate survivor voices in the behaviour change process, while supporting men to hear the lived experiences of their partner. Whilst this work is not suitable for all families, this presentation will offer insights into the process of selecting families, safety planning and risk management, and some of the limitations and benefits families have shared with us about their experience of this process.

Bio:

Cathy Zervos is the Practice Manager, Men & Families at CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay. She is a relationship counsellor and has 18 years' practice experience in working with individuals, couples and families. Cathy's main work has been responding to families experiencing domestic and family violence, with a specialisation in groupwork with men who have used violence. Cathy provides clinical supervision to Child Protection Counselling Services, Men's Behaviour Change facilitation teams and individual counsellors and group facilitators. She has worked with the Education Centre Against Violence, developing and delivering training in responding to male family violence and family safety work. Cathy currently manages a Counselling Team that delivers men's behaviour change and family safety work on the Central Coast and in Northern Sydney.

Session 2 (Stream B)

Professor Susan Heward-Belle

“Until we shift the responsibility to where it needs to be, women’s and children’s trauma will never end”: Practitioner perspectives on increasing perpetrator accountability to facilitate healing and recovery

Research about women’s and children’s healing and recovery from domestic violence has largely examined individual characteristics of survivors. This approach has resulted in healing and recovery being narrowly conceptualized and centred on psychological, emotional and behavioural factors that promote resilience. Less emphasis has been placed on investigating the ingredients of institutional responses that foster or impede healing and recovery. This paper examines the perspectives of 82 Australian practitioners working with perpetrators and/or survivors of domestic violence who participated in a participatory action research study. The study was designed to centre perpetrator accountability as a key feature of a coordinated community-based response to promote survivor safety, healing and recovery. The research team generated four key themes from the qualitative data analysis to theorize how practitioners’ conceptualized perpetrator accountability. The study also found that many practitioners perceived that perpetrator accountability was not well defined nor understood within their workplaces. One third of participants indicated that their workplaces either had no policies or they were unaware of any policies to guide institutional responses towards perpetrator accountability. The findings have implications that can inform improvements in service design. Participants made key policy and practice recommendations and initiated place-based activities to promote perpetrator accountability. Reorienting the system towards increasing perpetrator accountability was seen as a key step in redesigning sexist systems that continue to hold women responsible for domestic violence and the associated harms to children.

Bio: Susan is a Professor of Social Work at the University of Sydney and is a recognised leader in domestic and family violence research. Sue has almost 30 years’ experience in the domestic violence and child protection fields and has conducted many studies in these areas. Her PhD research examined the fathering experiences and practices of domestically violent men. She has a particular interest in advancing gender equitable and socially just approaches to practice that counter mother blaming.

Co-authors: Yvonne Hughes

Ms Tara Hunter

Addressing Vicarious Trauma in Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Practice: Strategies and Insights

"Every day, Domestic, Family, and Sexual Violence (DFSV) practitioners navigate the challenging terrain of trauma as part of their vital work, increasing the risks of vicarious trauma (VT). VT isn't just a buzzword; it's a silent intruder that can haunt practitioners with flashbacks, disrupt their sleep, strain relationships, and cause them to withdraw from or avoid professional and social interactions. The organisational implications are equally serious, with VT potentially causing absenteeism spikes, productivity dips, a surge in Workcover claims, and workplace conflicts.

Full Stop Australia (FSA) has developed a comprehensive vicarious trauma management program that addresses these challenges at all levels of the organisation. Success indicators include reduced absenteeism, fewer Workcover claims, and positive workplace wellbeing survey results. FSA collaborates with external agencies to provide training and tailored workplace solutions to manage VT impacts.

This presentation delves into the distinct risks and impacts of VT faced by DFSV practitioners. It explores FSA's innovative frameworks, interventions, and tools to foster vicarious resilience and manage VT's effects. Join us as we shine a spotlight on the real challenges faced by DFSV practitioners and delve into the strategies that can help safeguard wellbeing. "

Bio: Tara Hunter is the Director of Counselling and Client Services at Full Stop Australia (formerly Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia). Tara is an accredited Mental Health Social Worker with additional qualifications in Workplace Training and Assessment and Family Dispute Resolution. Tara has over 20 years' experience working in the NGO and health sectors, including managing a NSW Health hospital-based sexual assault service that provides a 24/7 response for sexual assault survivors. Tara has expertise in leading service and clinical responses to gender-based violence, focusing on client-centred care and creating service systems that support clients and the workers who deliver their care.

Ms Kate Thomas

Risk considerations in NSW Apprehended Domestic Violence Order court processes: What and whose considerations count?

This paper will report on emerging qualitative findings from interviews conducted with magistrates, lawyers, and court support workers during my doctoral research, about their consideration of 'risk' in the Apprehended Domestic Violence Order (ADVO) process in NSW. Specifically, the paper will discuss key legislative, policy and procedural constraints and enablers that influence different court actors' consideration of 'risk' in ADVO proceedings, and the consequent practices they adopt through the court process to address risks of domestic and family violence for the person in need of protection. As part of this analysis, the paper identifies ways in which these formal frameworks and practices operate to enable or inhibit the perspectives and priorities of the person in need of protection to be heard, given weight, and responded to throughout the ADVO court process.

Bio: Kate is a doctoral researcher with the UTS Faculty of Law. Her doctoral research, "Domestic violence protection orders and civil procedure: Assessing risk and enhancing safety", is examining how risk of domestic and family violence is considered in the making of NSW Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders, based on interviews with magistrates, lawyers and court support workers. Kate has a substantial research background examining domestic and family violence, including previous roles at Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety, the Monash Gender and Family Violence Prevention Centre and University of Queensland.

Mr Adam Teperski (Presented by Stewart Boiteux)

The long and short of it: The impact of Apprehended Domestic Violence Order duration on offending and breaches

Apprehended Domestic Violence Orders (ADVOs) are widely acknowledged for their crucial role in safeguarding domestic violence (DV) victims. However, until now, no research has explored whether extending the duration of ADVOs can effectively deter DV offenses. This presentation presents findings from a study that evaluates the impact of setting the duration of an ADVO at 24 rather than 12 months on victim safety. Leveraging a longitudinal dataset encompassing 13,717 defendants placed under ADVOs between January 2016 and April 2018, we applied a matching technique to ensure comparability between groups subjected to varying ADVO lengths. Subsequently, we conducted an event study analysis to investigate differences in offending over the additional ADVO period and beyond. Our analysis indicates that while fewer DV offences occur over the additional ADVO period, individuals on longer orders accrue more ADVO breaches. This raises questions for policymakers around optimising the protective benefits of ADVOs while addressing potential effects of the scheme on net-widening, including for Aboriginal individuals.

Bio: Adam Teperski is a dedicated researcher with a profound commitment to advancing our understanding of crime policies and their real-world impact. Currently employed at the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics, Adam's work currently revolves around the rigorous evaluation of domestic violence and drug diversion policies and initiatives. Adam holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from Macquarie University and a Master's of Economic Analysis from the University of Sydney. In addition to his research role, he is actively engaged as a sessional academic in the School of Economics at the University of Sydney where he imparts his expertise by teaching microeconomics.

Co-authors: Stewart Boiteux



Lunchtime Event: 16 Days of Activism Panel Discussion

This event is co-hosted by Diversity and Inclusion, Safer Communities and Women at Sydney.

[16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#) is an international campaign coordinated by the Center for Women's Global Leadership (UN). It was established in response to the horrific reality that one in 3 women globally has experienced physical violence since the age of 15, and one in 5 has experienced sexual violence. The campaign runs annually from 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December, Human Rights Day.

Event Details:

You are invited to a lunchtime event that will give you a chance to hear from advocates, academics and survivors of gender-based violence, as they discuss what more can be done to prevent violence against women and girls in line with this year's theme: *UNITE! Invest to prevent violence against women and girls.*

[Tarang Chawla, Commissioner, Victorian Multicultural Commission](#), will present a keynote speech followed by a panel discussion.

The panel discussion will be facilitated by [Dr Rachel Killlean](#), Senior Lecturer from The University of Sydney Law School and will feature:

- [Tarang Chawla](#), Commissioner, Victorian Multicultural Commission
- [Zakia Hossain](#), Associate Professor, the University of Sydney
- [Rachael Knowles](#), Digital Editor and Journalist, National Indigenous Television (NITV), Survivors Hub

Date: Wednesday 9 November 2023

Time: 12 noon – 1:15 pm (followed by lunch)

Where: [New Law Building \(F10\), Level 1, Lecture Theatre 101, Eastern Ave, Camperdown NSW 2006](#)

Please note that this is an **in-person** event only. This event will **not be recorded** for the safety of all attendees.

If you feel like you need to take a break, Law Annex Seminar Room 102 will be available for you to have a quiet moment. Counsellors from the Safer Communities team will also be available in this space if you would like to have a private chat.

Tarang Chowla (Commissioner, Victorian Multicultural Commission)

Tarang Chowla is a recovering lawyer, storyteller, campaigner and activist. Tarang works to end violence against women and children, and is the co-founder of Not One More Niki, named in memory of his sister Nikita who was murdered in 2015. Tarang is the Commissioner of the Victorian Multicultural Commission, a sessional academic at Monash University and a non-executive director of the Australian Republic Movement and the Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust. Tarang produced and hosted 'There's No Place Like Home', an award-winning podcast about domestic abuse and is a former Young Australian of the Year Finalist. His work has appeared across all major Australian media outlets.

Dr Rachel Killean, Senior Lecturer, The University of Sydney

Dr Rachel Killean is a Senior Lecturer at Sydney Law School and an Honorary Senior Lecturer at the Queen's University Belfast School of Law. Dr Killean's research centres responses to violence, with a focus on transitional justice, victims' rights, sexual and gender-based violence, and harms perpetrated against the natural world. She has published on legal representation for sexual assault complainants, the unintended harms of criminalising coercive control, and feminist victimological approaches to technology-assisted sexual violence. Her co-edited volume, 'Sexual Violence on Trial: Local and Comparative Perspectives' (Routledge, 2021), was the first to use Northern Ireland as a case study for exploring the challenges of prosecuting serious sexual offences.

Sayeda Zakia Hossain, Associate Professor, the University of Sydney

Associate Professor Syeda Zakia Hossain is a demographer and health sociologist, who is a recipient of several international awards. She has more than 32 years of teaching and research experience in the areas of women's health, empowering women and improving health and well-being, particularly women from socially disadvantaged groups (internationally) and women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds living in Australia. Her current research (ARC Discovery project) is on migrant and refugee young women's reproductive health, in which she is one of the Chief investigators. She also leads the Living in Harmony project and presents her work at the NSW Police and several community forums to raise awareness of family and domestic violence. She also leads research projects on raising awareness of breast and cervical cancer among migrant women in Sydney and Ras AL Khaimah, UAE. Professor Hossain published more than 48 peer-reviewed journal articles and 12 book chapters. And supervised 16 PhD students' completion. She is a co-chair of the Mosaic network at the University of Sydney, and a member of the NSW Police Multicultural Advisory Committee (PMAC), Community Migrant Resource Centre and Metro Assist, Sydney.

**Rachael Knowles, Digital Editor and Journalist, National Indigenous Television (NITV),
Survivors Hub**

Born and raised in central-west NSW, Rachael is a graduate of the University of Wollongong and is a digital editor/journalist with NITV. She has lived experience of domestic violence from a relationship at 19 and sexual assault, a date rape at 24. She lives with tricuspid atresia, a congenital heart defect (CHD) and had a Fontan bypass at 2. The 26-year-old is the co-host of From the Heart, a podcast by HeartKids, a charity supporting children and families impacted by CHD. She is an Australian and New Zealand Fontan Advocacy Committee (ANZFAC) member, a member of Full Stop Australia's National Survivor Advocate Program and is a proud participant and volunteer with The Survivor Hub (TSH). TSH is a self-determined charity, operated by survivors for survivors. It aims to empower, inform and connect people impacted by sexual assault. This means providing safe, inclusive peer-support 'Meet-Ups'.

Session 3 (Stream A)

Dr Hayley Cullen

The impact of misinformation presented during jury deliberation on juror memory and decision-making in sexual assault trials

Jurors may introduce inaccurate beliefs about how sexual violence is perpetrated (i.e., rape myths) during deliberation in sexual assault trials. We conducted two experiments on how different forms of misinformation impact mock-juror memory and decision-making. Participants read a transcript of an alleged sexual assault. In Study 1 (N = 275), participants encountered either consistent pro-prosecution misinformation, consistent pro-defence misinformation, or contradictory misinformation (pro-prosecution and pro-defence). In Study 2 (N = 339), we manipulated whether participants received a judicial instruction about misinformation exposure before being exposed to either pro-prosecution or pro-defence misinformation. Participants in both studies completed legal decision-making variables before and after deliberation, and their memory of the trial was assessed. In Study 1, misinformation type did not influence decision-making, but pro-prosecution misinformation was more likely to be mistaken as trial evidence than pro-defence or contradictory misinformation. In Study 2, pro-defence misinformation was more likely to be mistaken as trial evidence than pro-prosecution misinformation, and rape myths moderated this. Furthermore, exposure to pro-defence misinformation slanted legal decision-making towards the defence's case. The judicial instruction did not influence memory or decision-making. These findings suggest that misinformation in deliberations may distort memory and bias decision-making, highlighting the need to develop effective safeguards.

Bio: Dr Hayley Cullen is a Lecturer in the School of Psychological Sciences at Macquarie University. Her research focuses on the role of cognitive processes - such as attention, memory, and decision-making - in legal contexts. Specifically, she conducts cutting-edge research exploring the factors that affect eyewitness attention and memory, and juror memory and decision-making. She is passionate about using psychological research to develop evidence-based legal practices, with the goal to prevent wrongful convictions and improve victims' access to justice.

Co-authors: Natali Dilevski, Faye Nitschke, Gianni Ribeiro, Shobanah Brind, Nikita Woolley

Dr Faye Nitschke

Stereotypes in the jury room: Understanding supports to help jurors make accurate decisions in criminal trials for sexual violence

Intimate partner violence involves incidents of sexual violence, however, sexual violence within relationships and the reactions of complainants to sexual violence are not well understood by the community. These mistaken beliefs, which form a stereotype about complainants, can cause prospective jurors to unfairly doubt complainants of sexual violence. Recently, there has been a move to introduce educational instructions into criminal trial benchbooks. These instructions can be given by the judge to the jury to help the jury understand the evidence given by the complainant. We report on a policy review in which we examined the types of educational judicial instructions which can be given in sexual violence cases to help jurors understand the complainant's evidence in several Commonwealth countries, including Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom and New Zealand. Results suggested that there are a variety of educational instructions available for judges to provide to the jury, however, limited research evidence about the potential efficacy of these instructions in supporting the jury to make accurate decisions about the complainant's evidence in a sexual assault trial. We will discuss the importance of using evidence-based practice to support juries to make accurate decisions in criminal trials.

Bio: Faye Nitschke investigates effective ways to improve interpersonal and structural responses to anti-social behaviour, specifically gendered violence, using psychology. In her recent research, she has focused on investigating criminal justice system responses to victims of sexual and domestic violence and community responses to perpetrators of sexual harassment. Her current research work draws on person perception and social-cognition approaches to judgement and decision-making.

Co-authors: Jayda Sharman

Dr Celine Van Golde (Presented by Dr Hayley Cullen)

The Effect of Deviations on Memory Accuracy and Memory Blindness

When witnesses provide a statement to police, this gets written down by an officer, after which the witness has the opportunity to read over the written statement and correct any mistakes that might be included. However, research has found that people often do not notice any mistakes in their written statement; this is called memory blindness. No one, till now, has investigated if people who experience repeated similar events (such as incidences of DFV), suffer from memory blindness as well. Moreover, it is unknown if deviations to what typically occurs can protect victim-survivors against memory blindness. This pre-registered study had 113 young adults view four videos depicting a domestic violence encounter across two study sessions, where approximately half of the participants witnessed a deviation to how the third domestic violence encounter usually occurred. Participants recalled the third event that they viewed 24-hours later. Participants were also assessed on their memory blindness. The deviation event strengthened memory accuracy. Interestingly, we found that memory blindness was dependent on specific manipulations. In light of these novel findings, domestic violence victim-survivors, may find that focusing on the unique aspects of a repeated instance could help with their memory reports and allow them to detect accidental errors in their witness statements.

Bio: Hayley Cullen is a Lecturer in the School of Psychological science at Macquarie University, Sydney. She is passionate about conducting innovative psycho-legal research that has the potential to improve legal procedures and prevent miscarriages of justice from occurring. She is also passionate about conducting research that can improve victims' access to justice.

Co-authors: Hayley Cullen (presenting), Natali Dilevski, Rickii Lotsaris

Session 3 (Stream B)

Dr Eleanor Cowan

Remembering Iulia Maiana: case-studies in domestic abuse (including coercive control) from the ancient Roman world

Iulia Maiana was killed by the hand of her most cruel husband after living with him for twenty-eight years and having given birth to two children. At the time of her murder, her son and her daughter were in their late teens. Her epitaph, set up by her brother, Iulius Maior, and her son, Ingenuinius Ianuarius, dates to the third century CE and comes from Lugdanum (Lyon). The inscription (CIL 13.2182 = ILS 8512) is occasionally cited in passing as evidence of an instance of domestic intimate partner homicide (femicide/uxoricide) from the Roman world (Parkin and Pomeroy 2007, 99; Carucci 2018, 57-73). This paper takes Iulia Maiana's murder as a starting point and then surveys other instances of domestic abuse (including coercive control) from the ancient Roman world. My aim is to offer glimpses of the lived-experience of victims in the Roman world and to explore a range of Roman responses (legal and non-legal) to domestic abuse.

Bio: Dr Eleanor Cowan is a Roman historian in the Discipline of Classics and Ancient History at the University of Sydney. She currently co-leads a research project examining domestic violence and vulnerability in the Roman world with Prof. Tim Parkin at the University of Melbourne.

Mr Ghaith Krayem, Ms Nemat Kharboutli and Ms Maha Abdo

Bridging Faith and Culture - Preventing Family and Domestic Violence in Minority Communities

The presentation explores the MWA methodology of engagement which aligns with the "Web Model of Domestic Violence and Abuse,". This emphasises a victim-centred approach, recognising the role of faith, social support, demographics, and cultural norms in shaping individuals' experiences. It highlights the protective elements of religion within faith communities and the negative impact of conflating cultural norms with faith principles.

The presentation introduces two essential models for engaging with minority faith communities that promote cultural sensitivity, collaboration, and non-judgmental support, recognising the importance of respecting faith-based identities. Bridging the gap between host and home cultures is discussed as a means of increasing awareness, understanding, and collaboration among community members and mainstream sector organisations.

The presentation concludes by showcasing the Saving FACE project as a practical application of this methodology including a faith-based framework to support activities across the whole spectrum of the FD&SV sector when working with the Muslim community and faith communities generally.

By implementing the principles presented, stakeholders can foster an inclusive environment that actively prevents FD&SV within minority faith communities. This collaborative effort will contribute to eradicating domestic violence and promoting safety, well-being, and equality for all individuals, regardless of their cultural or religious background.

Bio: Ghaith Krayem oversees major community projects for Muslim Women Australia and most recently has developed and implemented the Saving Face program. Saving Face is a primary prevention initiative working with men in the Muslim community to address the drivers of violence. This has included an innovative approach to the role Fatih has to play in tackling this important issue.

Co- authors: Mr Ghaith Krayem with Ms Nemat Kharboutli

Mr Nurwanto Nurwanto

Family, School or Peers?: Risk Factors of Students' Involvement in Violence in Contemporary Indonesia

This article presents the extent of family, school, and peers has become the risk factors for students to participate in school violence. This article is part of my PhD thesis looking at how four urban schools in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, dealt with students who were involved in violence and how the schools promoted pedagogy for peace. This study utilises Galtung's (1990) theory on 'violence triangle' through which direct (eg physical, verbal) violence influences or is influenced by cultural or structural roots. Additionally, there is urgency for family and schools to apply a pedagogy of love through which loving, caring, and just relationships are practiced. Through interviews especially with school leaders and educators, this study revealed risk factors of students' involvement in inter-personal or inter-school violence (eg student gangs), namely lack of care and attention from parents/family, insufficient supervision at school, and violence exposure from peers or alumni. In the Yogyakarta context, policy makers and the central and local governments have produced regulations in line with, for instance, family resilience and child protection. This article contributes to fill a gap of empirical studies on the relationship between family, school, and peers as risk factors of student violence.

Bio: Nurwanto is a PhD candidate in the School of Education at Western Sydney University, Australia. His thesis on school violence and pedagogy for peace in contemporary Indonesia has been submitted and is currently under examination/marketing. He has worked as a lecturer at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

Session 4

Sergeant Darren Pearce

Adopting new technology & legislative reform to improve court experiences for victim survivors of D&FV

In 2015 NSW fundamentally changed the way that evidence of people experiencing D&FV was received by the courts, with the introduction of DVEC recordings. The ensuing 8 years have seen further legislative reforms in how victims give evidence. Despite these reforms, considerable barriers remain for witnesses to attend court and tell their story.

Police Prosecutors in the Western Courts have been trialing novel solutions to address these challenges. These include using technology to remotely conference witnesses and show them their DVEC, victims giving evidence remotely from the WDVCAS office, the use of AI to prepare transcripts & captions for DVEC, audio processing to reduce the disparity in the volume of speech between DVEC participants, and improved case management tools. This allows for earlier allocation of hearings to prosecutors, for the prosecutor to engage with the victim, and for victims to give evidence from a location where they are safe and supported. These ideas show what is possible: that the experience of victims giving evidence at court can be less traumatic and we can achieve improved outcomes for victims and the community.

Bio: Sgt Darren Pearce joined the NSW Police Force in 2000, spending 4 years as a GD's officer. He qualified as a Police Prosecutor in 2005 and worked in various Local & Children's Court across metropolitan & rural NSW. In 2015 he transferred to Bathurst as a Western Courts Team Leader.

Senior Constable Beau Riley Joined NSW police in 2003. Starting in Orange General duties for 4 years transferring to Walgett in 2007. In 2014 transferred to NSW Prosecutors working in all courts in Central and Western NSW.

Co-authors: A/Sgt Beau Riley

Ms Tiffany Lewin

Embedding financial safety by design – the role of Banks to minimise harm and prevent financial abuse.

We know that victim survivors of financial abuse reach out to their banks for assistance and support - sometimes before contacting other frontline services. It is therefore critical that banks design their products and service delivery with this in mind. This presentation will outline insights gained through our customers, interviews with customers with lived experience and will outline Westpac's framework response to preventing the misuse of our products for abuse.

This presentation by Westpac aims to highlight the role that banks can play in addressing financial abuse and present a blueprint for how other banks and corporates can follow. This presentation seeks to achieve the following outcomes:

1. Highlight the role that banking and corporate sector can play in the response to domestic violence and financial abuse; and
2. Understand support Westpac provides victim/survivors of domestic violence and financial abuse; and
3. Understand Westpac's response to perpetrators of financial abuse including increased understanding of two case studies where Westpac took steps to address perpetrator behaviour.

Bio: Tiffany is a passionate advocate of women's safety and has personal lived experience as a victim survivor which provides additional context to her work at Westpac. Her role leading Customer Excellence spans servicing customers directly, governing how Westpac Group provide services in moments that matter, and leveraging insights gathered from AI, analytics, and community engagement to drive better outcomes for customers. Her team, acting as fairness advisors, are responsible for influencing product and service design, support for customers in vulnerable circumstances, safety by design and ensuring community expectations are included in decision making.

Dr Tim Warton

Safe Space - YJNSW Response to the adolescent experience of DFV

The newly developed Youth Justice intervention program 'Safe Space' is in the latter stages of an initial pilot across NSW. The program is an initiative of the Youth Justice DFV Strategy due to a dearth of suitable interventions available to meet the needs of young people, their families and communities involved with Youth Justice systems. Safe Space requires a high degree of practitioner skill and hinges on a meaningful, safe relationship between the Youth Justice practitioner and young person – a safe space for the young person to promote safe spaces in their homes and relationships.

Safe Space allows for the duality of young people's simultaneous experiences as victims and users of violence, includes family work where appropriate and safe and utilises treatment modalities from Narrative Therapy, CBT, DBT and psycho-educational approaches. Promisingly, referral to the program does not require a young person to go before the Court for DFV offences – we are in an essential and rare position to detect exposure or use of violence, physical or otherwise and intervene before official judicial action. It is intended that this truly early intervention approach will work to prevent future victims of DFV and foster safer homes and relationships.

Bio: Tim is the Senior Manager of Practice and Implementation at Youth Justice NSW, is an Honorary Research Fellow at the School of Education and Social Work at the University of Sydney and has a private practice predominantly working with adult DFV users and young adults with harmful sexualised behaviour. Tim has a passion for the pursuit of excellence in Youth Justice practice to ensure the best possible outcomes for young people and their families across the state and has research interests in criminal identity development and acceleration desistance among justice effected young people.

Co-authors: Kris Bustaman

Ms Nadja Kirsch

Systemic review of NSW Police Force responses to domestic and family violence incidents

Police are the first responders to most domestic and family violence incidents in New South Wales. The NSW Police Force (NSWPF) attended 182,121 domestic violence related incidents in 2022, or about 500 per day. The numbers continue to rise. The NSWPF estimate 40% of police work involves responding to domestic violence.

The Law Enforcement Conduct Commission (LECC) is the independent NSW Police watchdog. In July 2023 we reported about systemic issues we identified from complaints about police responses to domestic and family violence. While there are many barriers to people making complaints about police responses to domestic and family violence, complaints data nevertheless provides a valuable source of information about misconduct or inappropriate police practices. We reviewed 470 complaints that the NSWPF finalised between July 2017 and July 2021.

This presentation will discuss the key findings of the LECC's review including how the NSWPF responded to serving officers who had engaged in domestic and family violence and the extent of inadequate investigations being conducted into reports of domestic and family violence incidents. We will also discuss our recommendations to the NSWPF to strengthen its domestic violence procedures and investigations.

Bio: Ms Kirsch has more than 25 years of experience working in law enforcement oversight agencies. Ms Kirsch has postgraduate degrees in criminology and public policy. She has published several research papers which focussed on conflicts of interest, secondary employment, workplace bullying, harassment and sexual harassment in the NSW Police Force.



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Thursday, 9 November 2023
The University of Sydney Law School