

QCDFVRe@der

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Director's Report

Greetings to all our readers! No doubt many of you will be working hard in the final days of 2016 finishing business which is due for completion or making plans for services over the holiday period. The provision of services out of hours is an ongoing challenge for frontline domestic and family violence and sexual assault services, and this time of year can bring particular stresses to victims/ survivors who are trying to do the best they can for their children, often under extraordinary situations. They are likely to need extra support over the coming weeks and possibly months. In smaller towns where staffing resources are limited, services may be even more stretched. This is a service conundrum, for it is so important that frontline staff everywhere look after themselves and spend time with their families to 're-charge the batteries'. So our thoughts go out to clients of services that will be open throughout the holiday period and to the staff who will be willingly on hand to assist.

The beginning of this quarter (October) seems far away now and it was marked by worldwide debates concerning the US election and the ascendancy of President-elect Trump. Like many others in the domestic and family violence field we wait to see what effect the new President's personal views have on his policies and essential services for women.

Meanwhile, this period in QCDFVR has seen the research team forming relationships with service providers in the three integrated response trial sites of Logan/Beenleigh, Mt Isa and Cherbourg. We have been helped along the way by supportive community organisations and Departmental staff who convey their determination and excitement in participating in trials that build on their existing relationships. We have very much appreciated these new connections and have already learned much from the communities concerned. I am greatly looking forward to my first visit to Cherbourg in the New Year and connecting up with the community members who continue to play such an important part in responding to domestic and family violence.

As per our current Service Agreement, we held our second Community of Practice in this quarter with the growing number of domestic and family violence specialists who are now working in the Family and Child Connect (FaCC) and Intensive Family Support (IFS) Services. It was great to see the enthusiasm of the group and their interest in learning as much as they can about the latest research related to their roles. We're looking forward to our next session which will be in early February and over the course of the coming year we will be drawing on a great team of practitioners and experts keen to contribute.

Attending the Queensland Domestic Violence Services Network (QDVSN) meeting was a highlight in early October. This network offers much appreciated support for specialist domestic and family violence



services' managers across Queensland. Around the time of this meeting we also had a series of visits in Brisbane with the Deputy Commissioner of QPS Brett Pointing, with the Queensland Injury Surveillance Unit and with Minister Fentiman. It is always refreshing to catch up with a Minister who is clearly dedicated to addressing violence against women and children and whose advocacy has been critical to response investment.

October was also Sexual Violence Awareness Month and our very own Dr Andrew Frost presented a seminar on 'Of Monsters and Men'. Andrew challenged the audience to consider the impact of various community and legal responses to perpetrators of sexual offending and how these can contribute to driving offenders to become more covert. This is a challenge for the justice system in terms of balancing rehabilitation goals with community safety. On a side note, Andrew will be moving to Brisbane in February 2017 and I know he is looking forward to linking with domestic and family violence services "on the ground".

In November I was invited to the Queensland Sexual Assault Network (QSAN) meeting where I had the opportunity to meet with many service providers for the first time and to talk about the extent of the QCDFVR's current role. The Queensland Violence against Women Prevention Plan has designated QCDFVR to support the sexual assault sector in terms of services' capacity and capability. We are delighted that this has come about and that we have the opportunity to work with this sector in putting forward an action plan for Minister Fentiman and the Department to consider.

During this period we have been planning for the expansion of our educational offerings in 2017 and have recruited two new staff to the team. We welcome Dr Marika Guggisberg who has been appointed to a part-time lecturing position in Perth from February 2017. In the future we'll ask Marika to tell us more about her research and teaching. We look forward to working with you, Marika. Judy Pidcock also joins the team, as a vocational teacher

and educator. Judy is based in Rockhampton and is involved with community responses to domestic and family violence in her community. Building on her extensive links with practitioners across Queensland, Judy will be assisting with the provision of vocational education and training in domestic and family violence across the state. The support of Associate Professor Moira Williamson, Professor Leone Hinton and the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Futures at CQUniversity has been instrumental in enabling us to develop and deliver further training and education options to students and workers across sectors.

While on the subject of staff - in October we welcomed Margaret Roche to our team in a part-time Administration Officer position. Margaret has been working with us on a casual basis for some time in a financial role and she brings these skills with her to the position.

Space will not allow me in this letter to describe the breadth of skills which QCDFVR staff bring to their work. In this Re@der you will get a glimpse of some of our projects and how we are progressing with them. We have a growing number of research higher degree students keen to be associated with QDFVR and academics who are interested in supporting gender-based violence research. If you have an interest in working with us in research, please get in touch as we are frequently in need of collaborators via our website, www.noviolence.org.au.

I am looking forward to our first 'Not Now, Not Ever' Gendered Violence Research Symposium to be held on 23rd and 24th February. I am sure there will be many linkages made at this event and much sharing of knowledge and interests. Our Fulbright Scholar Associate Professor Hillary Haldane, and Gael Strack and Bob Smock, the experts in strangulation training from San Diego, will be presenting and there will be researchers from across the state and further afield bringing their research and practice knowledge. Registrations will be opening for this event shortly and I look forward to seeing you there.

As always I would like to thank our wonderful and hard-working team for all they've done over the past year:

- Dr Anne Butcher (Senior Postdoctoral Research Fellow)
- Dr Heather Lovatt and Dr Liane McDermott (Senior Research Officers)
- Dr Nicola Cheyne (Research Officer)
- Dr Silke Meyer (Lecturer)
- Dr Andrew Frost (Senior Lecturer)
- Judy Pidcock (VET Teacher)
- Petrina Frankham (Multimedia Officer)

- Patrice Zarzecki (Contracts Resource Officer)
- Colleen Gunning (Coordinator, Education)
- Margaret Roche and Jan Willis (Administration Officers)

We're looking forward to engaging with you all in the year to come to collectively work towards eliminating violence. Our thanks also to the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services and to CQUniversity: Associate Professor Jennie Barr (Deputy Dean of Research, School of Nursing and Midwifery), Professor Grant Stanley and the CQUniversity Division of Research for their ongoing support.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Re@der. I mentioned earlier that Andrew Frost's recent presentation had a focus on sexual offenders, as does his text on the following pages. Our researchers in Brisbane, Liane and Nicola, present an update on their work with the Queensland Police Service and longstanding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reference Group member Mr Charles Passi has written about Indigenous Spirituality. On a related note, we introduce the team who is helping with planning for 2017 Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Prevention Forum, and our new staff Judy and Margaret. Finally you can read more about future events and 'meet' the Queensland Injury Surveillance Unit - Dr Ruth Barker will be joining us in February at the Not Now, Not Ever Research Symposium.

I can't think of a better way to finish this Director's report for 2016 than to draw your attention to the text box below. As we come to the festive season and the New Year I wish you all the very best and hope that in 2017 we can fulfil our aspirations for communities free from violence.

Annabel Taylor

COVER

It was memorable to attend the Roundtable-Violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander woman in an urban setting: What are the on-the-ground solutions on the 25 November 2016. Professor Marcia Langton presented a powerful speech concerning the need to be action focussed and clear about what is needed. At this event the 'no more' video that has been produced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people was launched. You can view this by video [here](#). I am sure we all stand with the children and young people in the video to say 'NO MORE'.

Thank you to Sharon Broadley, Public Relations, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service Brisbane for inviting us to this wonderful event and for generously sharing the image which is our cover for this edition.

Curable beasts?

By Dr Andrew Frost

Sexual abuse is an especially pernicious form of violence. Lives of individuals are devastated. The social fabric of families and communities is damaged, often over generations. The cost to society is considerable and painful.

A perplexing thing about sexual abuse is how many incidents go undetected, sometimes over a period of years, in everyday contexts such as school, church and home. This is remarkable given the degree of public attention sexual abuse gets and our extreme vigilance around it. The media tells us of trusted institutions and respected community members who have used their position and influence to manipulate victims into subjugation and silence. Such revelations are shocking, not merely because of the abhorrence we hold for such betrayal, but because we failed to anticipate or to detect the abuse being perpetrated among us.

Sexual offending is widely held to be one of the worst kinds of violation, perhaps because it exploits and disturbs our cherished image of intimacy, and – in the case of child victimisation – our beliefs in the sanctity of childhood. Sexual abusers are, therefore, typically considered the worst kind of offenders. Alongside this widespread public concern, considerable academic effort goes into understanding and explaining sexual abuse. So, how do we account for our apparent blindness and subsequent failure to prevent it?

I suggest the key to understanding this paradox lies in the fact that we fail to grasp the idea that sexual abuse is a social matter – a community health issue. Many children are whisked away from school in the afternoon by their parents, their routines and safe cars apparently providing insulation from the host of hinted-at risks “out there”. Once home, children typically connect themselves to the online world that has become their playground. We are increasingly retreating from the proximity of physical community.

One of the risks we are seeking to avoid in this retreat from the world “out there” is the child molester. We are mesmerised and terrified

by his Hannibal-Lecter world, simultaneously captivated by the infamous deeds, to whose perpetrators we ascribe the identity of ‘the Beast’. He is the reason we hold our children so closely. The media world is sent into a spin with his activities. The Beast becomes sexual abuse personified. Regrettably, as a consequence, we fail to recognise the vast majority of offenders. When uncle, father, politician or teacher “X” is suspected of being an abuse risk, our reflex response is: “No. Sexual offenders are monsters. I know X. He is not a monster. Therefore, he cannot be a sex offender”. The vast majority of offenders are known to those they victimise. We know this but we don’t ‘get it’. Somehow we still expect offenders to jump out from behind a hedge with a bag of lollies. This misperception blinds us.

Another problem with this characterisation of sex offenders – as barely human, incurable beasts – is that, in our shunning of them, we paradoxically create the circumstances in which re-offending is more likely to occur. My best understanding of these offenders, after 12 years of working with them and 18 years of studying their habits and practices, is that they are more like you and me than they are the general criminal population. I realise this is disturbing, but sex offenders are human beings who are out to meet their needs for belonging, intimacy, competency – like you and I. The problem for them (and the rest of us) is they typically feel unable to achieve these things through adult relationships based on respect and concern. Their capacity to recognise the feelings, rights and needs of those they abuse is severely compromised. Why? Perhaps 60 per cent of them have been sexually exploited themselves. Most of the remainder have experienced some other form of abuse. **This is not to excuse**, but it does, I think, help make sense of otherwise nonsensical behaviour.

It’s widely believed that sexual abusers cannot be cured. This is correct. But they are incurable not because there is no hope, but because there is no illness. While we refer to the behaviour as “sick”, this is a misnomer. In accepting that sexual abuse is a public health issue, we are less likely to see sexual

abuse purely as the result of a sick mind and more likely to consider the context and circumstances that give rise to it. Applied psychology has taught us a great deal about the thinking, feeling and covert behaviour of those who abuse. However, this doesn't help us much to see it when it's happening.

My studies have led me to conclude that there are at least five contextual elements common to most abuse: relationships that are based on power; concealment; grooming; blame-shifting; and collusion. Schools, churches, residential homes and, yes, families, among other contexts, can give rise to these circumstances where their structures and practices facilitate them.

The sexual offender needs to be held accountable for the sake of public wellbeing. The best way to achieve this is that he or she needs to accept the bulk of this responsibility. Each year, dozens of offenders engage with and complete sex offender rehabilitation programs that are based, largely, on socialising forms of therapy. Researchers strongly believe these programs are effective in reducing re-offending, and if we are serious about rehabilitation, we need to support such programs. Shunning, name-calling or attacking their graduates – however justified it might feel – is not helpful in addressing the issue of sexual offending. These actions are likely to kick-start the kind of response that drive such persons underground, where they might well change their identity and re-emerge in a needy and agitated state. These are the very psychological and social circumstances under which they are more likely to re-offend.

Promising results are also emerging from a community-based enterprise called “circles of support”. A 2009 Canadian study showed sex offenders in these groups had an 83 per cent reduction in offending compared to a control group, and similar models have also been operating in the United States, the United Kingdom and New Zealand. In some of these overseas programs, volunteers also include child sex abuse victims.

The Circles of Support and Accountability or COSA model involves a group of three to five trained volunteers who provide emotional support as well as assisting with medical services, housing and employment. These volunteers collaborate with formal services to monitor and support program graduates

and their families in establishing functional, non-abusive lifestyles. In Australia, the program is being trialled for the first time in South Australia, however, a small number of religious organisations offer similar support groups throughout the country in secret.

We might be reluctant to accept notions of sex offender recovery and rehabilitation because to do so is to admit sexual offenders are like “us”. Nevertheless, if we are serious about addressing the social problem of sexual abuse we would do well to consider shifting from a position of repudiation and dismissal to one based on a positive community response. As unpalatable as this prospect might appear, by failing to embrace it, we blind ourselves to the problem and contribute to the creation of ‘Beasts’.

Reference:

Controversial paedophile support program to launch in South Australia in a national first
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-03-18/controversial-paedophile-support-program-launches-in-australia/6330022>



Senior Lecturer Dr Andrew Frost was a speaker at the recent SPEAQ Forum in Brisbane. Congratulations to the SPEAQ network on a very successful event!

In the lead up to the launch of the Graduate Certificate in Facilitating Men's Behaviour Change, Andrew consulted with practitioners and other stakeholders at this forum.

If you are interested in postgraduate study in this area, units are available in Term 1 2017.

The term commences on the 6th March and you can find out more by phoning CQUniversity on 132 786.

Police education and training in domestic and family violence: a snapshot of findings from the literature

By Dr Liane McDermott and Dr Nicola Cheyne

Police training in domestic and family violence (DFV) is vital to enable officers to respond effectively to DFV situations, to enhance the safety of victims and their children, and to hold offenders accountable. In our recent scoping review of the Australian and international literature, a number of key areas for improving police training in DFV were highlighted. These are summarised as follows.

Dynamics of DFV

Police officers need to be aware of the multiple types of abuse, both physical and non-physical, given each type is equally representative of DFV. Special attention is also required to forms of DFV which are associated with an increased risk of further violence and death, namely sexual assault, strangulation and physical violence causing traumatic brain injury. Another important aspect is the gendered nature of DFV. As police training in various jurisdictions is increasingly being focused upon coercive control, DFV as a pattern of offending needs to be incorporated so that officers can better understand how abuse can trap victims in their relationships. This would help police officers in recognising DFV even in the absence of physical violence. Training in the identification of the primary aggressor is also important and will assist police in distinguishing between offensive and defensive injuries. In addition, DFV training needs to incorporate an understanding that victims display a range of feelings and behaviours, none of which detract from the fact that they are victims of DFV; and that perpetrators may be quite manipulative and skilled at presenting themselves as the victim to police.

Communication and interpersonal skills

While communication and interpersonal skills may be part of broader police training, communication skills particularly relevant for responding to DFV include being empathic, understanding, non-judgemental and reassuring. Displaying sensitivity, conducting victim interviews in a quiet location and keeping victims informed were highlighted as key areas for improvement.

Cultural awareness

Police officers need to be offered Indigenous cultural awareness training, particularly around the characteristics of Indigenous DFV,

challenges in reporting, the history of police and Indigenous relations, and the importance of avoiding discrimination. Ongoing cultural awareness training is also required for officers at all stages of their careers to enable them to better serve CALD communities. This may involve general training about being sensitive to alternative viewpoints rather than specific training around different cultures. The need for training regarding when to engage interpreters to assist in interviewing victims and perpetrators was also highlighted.

Vulnerable Victim Groups

A number of areas to improve DFV training in relation to vulnerable victim groups were identified. These include specific training around the importance of speaking to children and how to do this in a sensitive manner; an understanding of the challenges faced by victims in rural areas; knowledge of the barriers faced by people with a disability in accessing police; and the unique challenges facing older victims in reporting their abuse. Further sensitivity training was also identified to support LGBTI victims, so that these victims can be encouraged to report DFV.

Risk Assessment

Risk assessment is vital for identifying victims at most risk of future harm and for police officers to determine how to respond to DFV. The need for more effective training in conducting risk assessments was identified, particularly in training officers to better understand both the overt and covert factors that heighten risk of further violence or death.

Referral Sources and Integration of Services

While victim and/or perpetrator referrals may be embedded in an interagency approach, training is still required to support collaboration with referral agencies. In addition to knowledge about the relevant services available for victims, their children and perpetrators, as well as the specific protocols in their jurisdiction, police training in communicating and consulting effectively with referral agencies is required.

Reference:

Cheyne N & McDermott L (2016) Scoping report for the Queensland Police Service: Police Education and Training in Domestic and Family Violence: National and International Trends and Best Practice. Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research, CQUniversity.

Welcome . . .



Judy Pidcock: VET Teacher

Judy Pidcock has been teaching in the Vocational educational training space for over twenty years.

As well as teaching Judy has worked extensively in the community sector. Judy's career has involved working in the areas of sexual assault, domestic violence and youth work specifically with young women.

Judy has a passion for training in the Community Services area, and regularly works in industry to keep up-to-date with current trends. She particularly likes working with students to develop a professional framework which assists them in linking theory with best practice.

Margaret Roche: Administration Officer

Margaret started with QCDFVR in October 2016 as a part time Administration Officer.

She has worked in a number of administrative roles at Mackay Regional Council. More recently, Margaret's career has been in the media, working for the Seven Network and Bright Light Marketing. She is studying accounting through CQUniversity.

Her role at the Centre is to provide administrative support to the Centre's staff.



2017 Indigenous Family Violence Prevention Working Group



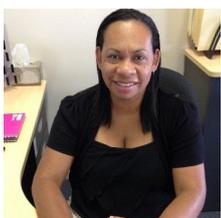
Shirley Slann

QCDFVR Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Reference Group



Charles Passi

QCDFVR Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Reference Group



Wynetta Dewis

General Manager
Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service



Maj-Lis Dalton

Senior Police Liaison Officer
Queensland Police Service



Joseph Oui

Community Counsellor
Royal Flying Doctor Service
Queensland



Carle Williams

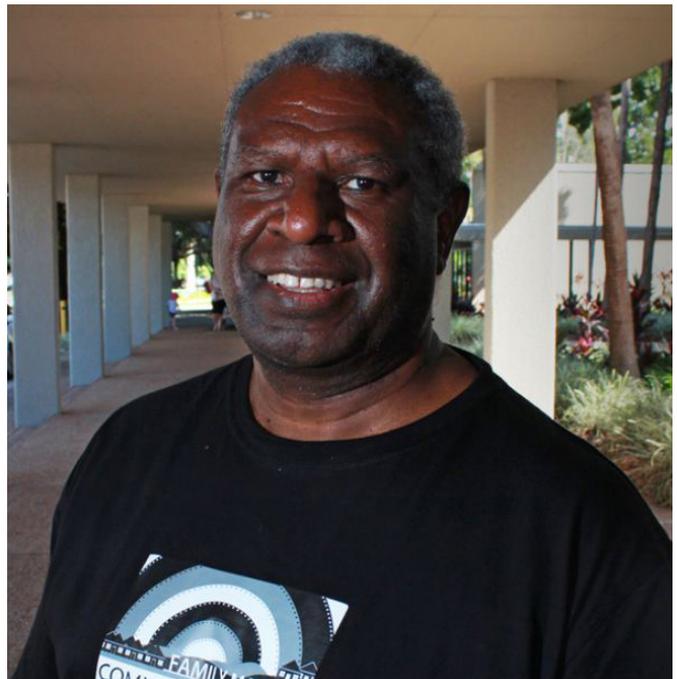
Coordinator
Wuchopperen Health Service
Limited

Indigenous Spirituality

Contributed by Charles Passi

Charles was born into the traditional responsibility of land ownership and the preservation of cultural traditions in both Mer and Erub islands in the Torres Strait. Charles draws his interpretations from his deep cultural connections.

It continues to amaze me that we are yet to find real solutions to the culture of violence that has been crippling our communities for a very long time now. So much so that this soul destroying hopelessness has become a common burden for those living in the midst of these communities. Families have suffered decades of social and moral degradation and the culture of spiritual cohesion and traditional responsibility through extended family ties continues to take a serious and prolonged beating, beyond easy repair.



It is without question that we need to urgently look back at what worked for millennia before us. We have what it takes to heal our world but how we do that with the sincerity needed to re-energise our will and spirit is an issue that needs to be approached with delicate intent.

When I look back at where my ancestors came from, in search for answers to a way forward, I see life dedicated to 'balance in the now' in order to maintain 'balance in the future'. The natural world determined the flow of human existence and a sustained commitment was given to keep the cycle continuing for the benefit of all. Great effort was taken to teach the ceremonies involved in maintaining environmental harmony and balance continuing into the future. It had to be passed on from generation to generation. That was our purpose.

When I look at the civilised society we live in today, I see a very different picture. I see the promotion of life dedicated to individualism and the collection of material wealth at the expense of others on a scale that is crushing the world and the natural balance that indigenous societies committed to maintain over many millennia. That in itself is highly distressing. It's a world that works against the natural flow of the environment in order to dominate and exploit to the extreme. This world sets in place ongoing confusion over emotional, spiritual and cultural sense of purpose amongst the indigenous peoples.

The unforgivable consequence is that too many indigenous peoples have succumbed to this selfishness. The longer we leave the rot to continue, the harder it is to reach social harmony. I believe the Australian Indigenous people themselves need to declare a "State of Cultural Emergency" and unite a spiritual revolution of the heart and of the mind.

I've thought many times about this clash of ideals and share this interpretation of the original sin. I believe that once we understand it, we can find pathways to fixing it for all of us.

Long ago when Adam and Eve were being created from the earth, the Garden of Eden was a well-balanced flourishing forest with impressive trees many centuries old. The Garden hosted plants and animals of all shapes and sizes that years of trial and error had brought to a natural state of harmony, rotating life through its peak experience and on to its eventual contribution to the regeneration of the environment from which it originated. Life continued harmoniously and nature could work its magic into new species of plants and animals.

Undetected in the midst of this natural world were indigenous peoples going about their business in completing ceremonies, in continuing the teachings about the balance of the natural environment.

They understood the secrets of the Garden and learnt how to be a part of it in order to maintain it and thrive within it. They were so well blended into the Garden that they were invisible to the eyes of the writers of the Book of Genesis.

All in the Garden watched as Adam and Eve were created. They watched them grow and be welcomed into the culture of the Garden. They were given gifts to communicate and be in harmony with all within the forest. They were welcomed to join in and be an essential part of the fabric of the cycle of life.

Then came the mistake.

Adam, through the persistence of Eve, sought the knowledge of God in order to also have power over all things.

The riches of the Garden today continue to be raped and pillaged even greater than before for the immediate self-gratification of one species- and it doesn't look like slowing down anytime soon.

Upholding the culture of keeping the natural environment strong and balanced for the future has become an old man's dream and information for books instead of a practiced and earned responsibility. We dance on NAIDOC day to show our culture, but that is just a minute fragment of the face of an historic culture that was forcibly ripped apart through the process of colonisation.

We have to go deeper to the ancient spirituality that takes away greed and exploitation from the hearts and minds of all that yearns to be released from it. A damning contradiction though is when we ourselves suppress and exploit our spirituality for monetary gain and see that as a necessary part of progress.

The violence that is 'packaged' into domestic and family violence is the result of the continual social stresses and the culture clash that this civilised world places on indigenous beliefs and purpose. Current solutions are designed to be immediate fixes rather than society changing answers. This issue is a social, cultural and spiritual issue and we continue to answer this as a perpetrator's problem. Until we alter the stresses that society places on our people and answer the confusion of loyalty in cultures, we will continue to break under the strain. Current attempts at healing and restoration then fail as cosmetic band aids rather than having the ability to turn the tide and create sustainable progress.

When Indigenous men are pigeon-holed only as 'perpetrators' of this violence by their own people adds insult to injury. Being forced to continually wear the extreme brunt of the shame and blame while our belief in our spirituality continues to rot makes the slow and tender journey of reform an even harder task to complete.

Our spirituality is the key. The natural world will respond if we respond by trusting in it and calling for it in our lives and intent. We don't have far to find it once again, for the spirit has never left us: rather, we have turned away from it. Once we have become meaningfully engaged and enriched again, harmony can be restored. People can then find their place and birth responsibility.

Re-energising our sacred sites and the traditional practices of ceremony and protection allows reconnection to land and its healing spirit. It gives sense of purpose and hope for the future as the purpose can be passed on as a positive and progressive legacy.

Our focus needs to be on refilling the spiritual cup of peace and goodwill. Restoring the spirit means restoring purpose. Restoring purpose means finding peace of mind. From this, respectful engagement and peaceful intent are but by-products.

That to me is the way forward and together we can heal the world.

We may think we can have dominion over all, but the Garden of Eden we see in our belief is only a pinhole view into the vastness of the natural environment that reaches far across the unreachable expanse of the universe.

We were never designed to work against the universe, only to be a part of it...

Queensland Injury Surveillance Unit

By Dr Ruth Barker

The Queensland Injury Surveillance Unit (QISU) has been in existence since 1988. Formerly known as Queensland Injury Surveillance Prevention Program (QISPP), QISU has continuously collected urban injury data from seven hospitals in Brisbane's southside as well as periodically collecting rural data. In 1998 QISU expanded and upgraded its surveillance activity to include new sites and convert paper-based collections to electronic data. Today, ninety percent of data is collected electronically and QISU collects data from 16 hospitals in Queensland across seven Hospital Health Service (HHS) regions.

These sites are:

- metropolitan (Brisbane- Metro North HHS);
- regional Southern (Wide Bay, Darling Downs HHS)
- regional Central-Northern (Central, Mackay, Townsville HHS,)
- remote (North West HHS) and
- paediatric data from Lady Cilento Children's Hospital (Children's Health Queensland HHS).

Emergency Departments in these areas provide data level 2 injury surveillance data either electronically or on standardised forms which are then coded in accordance with the National Data Standard for Injury Surveillance (NDS-IS) and stored on the QISU database.

As an Emergency Department data source, QISU data can be utilised to augment fatality and inpatient data in describing the patterns of, and understanding causal mechanisms for, a wide variety of injury types.

Whilst the data does not capture/ identify all relevant injuries, it can be used to gain a broader understanding of injury patterns.

Requests for data assistance/ information can be submitted through the QISU website using the data request form: www.qisu.org.au

Where QISU is not able to provide data, we may be able to provide other assistance in terms of publications/ contacts.

Dr Ruth Barker, QISU Director and emergency

paediatrician, is an active advocate across a wide range of injury prevention topics and involved in a variety of local, state and national injury prevention groups/ initiatives.

Health impacts associated with IPV: Injury
Brain injury, loss of consciousness, genital trauma, fractures and sprains, lacerations, abrasions and bruising, self-harm.

Reference: Ayre, J., Lum On, M., Webster, K., Gourley, M., & Moon, L. (2016). Examination of the burden of disease of intimate partner violence against women in 2011: Final report (ANROWS Horizons, 06/2016). Sydney: ANROWS.

In the health system, treatment for specific injuries may be recorded without recording the cause of the injury, thus not recording the family violence or sexual assault nature of the injury.

Despite these data limitations, societal changes can provide opportunities to improve family, domestic and sexual violence data collection. State and territory legislative changes, an increased focus on family violence training for police, counsellors and other service providers and community awareness may all contribute to the level of reporting of incidents and quality of resulting data.

Reference: Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). (2013a). Defining the data challenge for family, domestic and sexual violence. (Cat. No. 4529.0). Canberra: Author.



Above: Michelle Hillcoat and Dr Ruth Barker from QISU with Associate Professor Annabel Taylor.

Forthcoming Events

SPECIALIST TRAINING 2017

Intimate Partner Violence Strangulation Crimes Training

Hosted by Red Rose Foundation

Where: Royal On The Park
152 Alice Street, Brisbane

When: 9am to 5pm, 20th & 21st February 2017 (2 Day Workshop)
9am to 1pm, 22nd February 2017 (Half Day Workshop)

Cost: 2 Day Workshop: \$480 plus GST
Half Day Workshop \$160 plus GST

Register here: by Monday 13th February 2017

Enquiries: Betty Taylor - 0432 118 248

Email: info@redrosefoundation.com.au

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM 2017

Not Now, Not Ever Research Symposium Registration is Open

Hosted by Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research (QCDFVR)

Where: Ocean International
1 Bridge Road, Mackay

When: 8:45am to 5pm, Thursday 23rd February to Friday 24th February

Cost: Student - \$350 pp // Full Delegate - \$500 pp

PAY VIA CREDIT CARD OR PAY VIA INVOICE

For further information please visit www.noviolence.org.au

FORUM

Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Prevention Forum

Hosted by Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research (QCDFVR)

The 2017 Forum Working Group and the Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research (QCDFVR) are calling for expressions of interest from Indigenous people who currently deliver programs within their communities that relate specifically to the prevention of domestic and family violence.

Expressions of interest are sought from potential presenters/ facilitators who may be:

- Working with female victims of domestic and family violence
- Working with families impacted by domestic and family violence
- Working with male perpetrators of domestic and family violence
- Working with communities to prevent/ respond to domestic and family violence

Theme: Our Keys to Healing
Where: Pullman Hotel Cairns
When: 10th & 11th May 2017
Cost: TBA

Complete your expression of interest here.

Contact Us

QCDFVR
CQUniversity Mackay
PO Box 135
Mackay MC, 4741
P: 07 4940 3320



Staff

Director

Senior Research Officers

Research Officer
Coordinator, Education
Project Support Officer
Multimedia Resource Officer
Contracts Resource Officer
Administration Officer
CQUniversity Lecturers

VET Teacher

Associate Professor
Annabel Taylor
Dr Heather Lovatt
Dr Anne Butcher
Dr Liane McDermott
Dr Nicola Cheyne
Colleen Gunning
Lauren Pattie
Petrina Frankham
Patrice Zarzecki
Margaret Roche
Dr Silke Meyer
Dr Andrew Frost
Judy Pidcock

We encourage readers to contribute to the QCDFVRe@der. If you have any information or articles you wish to publish, please contact QCDFVR Staff.

HAVE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS CHANGED?

We have become aware that some recipients of the QCDFVRe@der have relocated or changed contact details, including email address. To enable us to update our records and ensure that you receive our quarterly publication, please contact us at the listed phone number or email qcdfvronline@cqu.edu.au with your change of details. Please be assured that the Centre does not release your details to any third parties without your permission.

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