



# Association for the Welfare of Child Health

AWCH EMAIL NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2005

Dear Members and new subscribers

This is email newsletter No. 18 from the Association for the Welfare of Child Health (AWCH). You can now access previous newsletters on the AWCH website [www.awch.org.au](http://www.awch.org.au)

The contents below are under the following headings:

- AWCH Activities
- Health Updates
- New Services
- Conferences/Training
- Media Releases and News
- Books/resources/reports

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The Association for the Welfare of Child Health advocates for a holistic, family oriented approach to child and adolescent health care, and works to ensure the unique and specific non-medical, psychological, social and behavioural needs of children and their families in the Australian health care system are recognised and met.

### **Mission**

The mission of AWCH is to support and advocate for the improved health and well-being of infants, children, young people and their families.

### **Values**

AWCH believes in:

- access to quality healthcare for all children and young people
- valuing the opinions of children, young people and their families in the delivery of healthcare
- families playing a vital role supporting children and young people receiving healthcare
- fostering partnerships between parents/carers and health care providers
- the provision of culturally sensitive healthcare services
- appropriate information and resources being readily accessible
- challenging the status quo to advance our mission

### **Objectives**

- To develop and promote a positive and well informed attitude to the psychosocial needs of acutely and chronically ill children and young people and their families in the health care system.
- To act as a resource for parents, community groups, and health professionals on the psychosocial needs of children, young people and their families in the health care system.
- To provide specific information on the design of paediatric wards, emergency departments, outpatient and day surgery facilities, adolescent units, mental health units and play and family facilities.
- To provide a framework for bringing together all healthcare professionals and parents working towards improving the psychosocial needs of children and families.
- To provide a resource to facilitate consumer networking, input and consultation into paediatric health care policies and practices.

### **AWCH National President's Report 2004-05**

In October 2004 I was elected AWCH NSW President and in the following month, AWCH National President. This report will include my activities from both roles.

There were many activities on the AWCH agenda during 2004-05:

- The review/restructure of AWCH
- The hosting of the AWCH 10<sup>th</sup> national conference
- The development of recommendations and a report arising out of the 2005 survey into the psychosocial care of children, young people and their families in hospital
- Child health advocacy
- The funding of the AWCH Library

During 2004, a review of AWCH had been undertaken by John Peacock of NFP Consultants who made a range of recommendations. The key recommendation was for a structural change to form a single-entity AWCH in the eastern and central states and territories. A further recommendation was for confirmation of Mission, plans and budgets by the National Council.

A strategic planning day was held in February 2005 where the mission and values of AWCH were discussed and re-written, and a strategic plan was developed. A National Board Steering Committee was convened in April 2005 and the committee has since set about developing a new constitution. AWCH is well on its way to becoming a new AWCH entity.

In my role as NSW President, I was involved with the AWCH NSW Committee in hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> AWCH National Conference *Healthy Solutions for Children* which was held in April 2005 and was a most successful conference with over 244 participants, excellent speakers and a young people's panel that was the highlight of the conference. It will be imperative for the next conference to build on the success of the 2005 conference and to attract more funding. See [http://www.awch.org.au/conf\\_2005.html](http://www.awch.org.au/conf_2005.html) for further reports on the conference.

In 1992, AWCH conducted a national survey on the psychosocial care of children and their families in hospital. The survey was repeated in 2004, in partnership with the University of Western Sydney (UWS), using the same research instrument (a questionnaire). Fund AWCH, the fund-raising arm of AWCH, financed the study. By early 2005, the research and a literature review had been completed. Recommendations arising out of the research were developed at a workshop facilitated by Far Chiang from the Centre for the Advancement of Adolescent Health <http://www.caah.chw.edu.au/>. AWCH Members and others who expressed an interest attended the workshop and written submissions were also invited. Further development of the report was undertaken by a small committee of myself, Sue Hawes and Anne Cutler. Professionals were contracted to edit, design and print the report, which was funded by Fund AWCH. The report was launched on 15 August by the Director General of NSW Health, Ms Robyn Kruk. To see *AWCH 2005 National Survey Report on the Psychosocial Care of Children and their Families in Hospital* go to [http://www.awch.org.au/2005\\_AWCH\\_National\\_Survey\\_Report.htm](http://www.awch.org.au/2005_AWCH_National_Survey_Report.htm). If you want a hard copy of the report (\$22 per copy), please contact [awch@awch.com.au](mailto:awch@awch.com.au).

I have been involved in child health advocacy through the Royal Australasian College of Physicians Child Health Policy Committee and have raised the concern AWCH has about the co-location of children and adults on same hospital wards. A small working group has been convened to assess how to address this issue and the College has invited AWCH to present a seminar on this topic at a conference in Cairns next May.

The AWCH Library and securing its accommodation and ongoing funding has been a major priority this year. Negotiations are continuing with The Children's Hospital at Westmead to locate the resources of the library and the development of a partnership between The Children's Hospital at Westmead, Sydney Children's Hospital, Kaleidoscope, CAMHSNET and AWCH to provide ongoing funding for a librarian position and additional resources. A business case has been sent to each of the partners for consideration.

I see the key issues for 2005-06 will be:

- Bedding down the 'new AWCH' structure and development of the strategic plan for 2006-09 including building AWCH national profile
- Sourcing of additional funding
- Advocacy relating to the recommendations in the *AWCH 2005 National Survey Report on the Psychosocial Care of Children and their Families in Hospital*
- AWCH Library accommodation, librarian position, resource funding secured through a 5 way partnership with CHW, SCH, Kaleidoscope, CAMHSNET and AWCH
- AWCH publications materials reviewed, updated and replenished

In closing, I wish to acknowledge the ongoing support of the NSW Health Department for the Non-Government organisation funding grant, which maintains the National Office.

I would like to thank Anne Cutler and Rowena Sebastian for their outstanding work and support of the Association at National Office during this very busy and productive year; to acknowledge the ongoing stewardship of National Office by members of the ASC: Ron Berney, Charlotte Lyons and Judyth Dowdell; and to especially mention the valued personal time Ron Berney has given to AWCH as the Association's Honorary Solicitor and his financial guidance for which I have been very grateful.

A thankyou also to FUND AWCH Graham Bench (Chairman), Irene Hancock, Noel Mills and Marion Steele for the commitment to AWCH projects which needed additional resources; and to the AWCH National Councillors Sue Packer, Ngia Purton and Ann Taylor for their invaluable assistance to AWCH particularly during the AWCH review process.

To the AWCH NSW Committee - Clare Godfrey, June Granger, Charlotte Lyons, Jann Kingston, Anne-Marie Dunne and Gail Tomsic - a big thank for all your hard work towards AWCH NSW hosting the AWCH 10<sup>th</sup> National Conference; and especially to June Granger for so ably taking on the role of Treasurer.

Lastly, to the National Steering Board Committee - Ron Berney, Sue Hawes, Sue Packer, Joanna Holt, Ann Taylor, Ngia Purton, Lyn Shegog, Chris Bennet, Marion Steele, Victor Nossar, Charlotte Lyons - thankyou for your ideas and advice steering AWCH to its new structure.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy and safe holiday season to you all.

**A/Prof David Bennett AO**  
*AWCH National President*

## HEALTH UPDATES

### ABC AND OTHER HEALTH UPDATES

**THE HEALTH REPORT: The Effects of Probiotics on Eczema in Young Children** Monday, 14 November, 8.30am, Radio National Eczema is a chronic condition of the skin and it's becoming an increasing problem in young children. In young kids food allergy has often been associated with eczema. Researchers in Western Australia have studied the effects of probiotics on eczema or severe atopic dermatitis in young children. <http://www.abc.net.au/rn/talks/8.30/helthrpt/>

**NATIONAL SKIN CANCER ACTION WEEK.** 13-19 November, Australia wide. A skin cancer and sun protection awareness campaign for the Cancer Councils across Australia. <http://www2b.abc.net.au/abcdiary/event.asp?id=56014&display=fromtoday&gatewayid=221&presdir=health&PageRec=0>

**NT CAMPAIGN TARGETS SCABIES** (AM: 07/11/2005)  
<http://www.abc.net.au/am/content/2005/s1499051.htm>

**ABORIGINAL HEALTH** (Health Report: 07/11/2005). The largest ever study of well-being of Aboriginal children and adolescents has been performed in Western Australia. The results contradict some assumptions about Aboriginal health. And changes in a chronic disease treatment program in an Australian Aboriginal community. <http://www.abc.net.au/rn/talks/8.30/helthrpt/stories/s1496205.htm>

**THE MAN WHO SAVED A MILLION BRAINS** (Catalyst: 03/11/2005) This is the story of a doctor's crusade to save the brains of children in Tibet and Australia from Iodine Deficiency Disorder. The cure is effective, cheap and simple but is the message getting through?  
<http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/s1497255.htm>

**FAT BABIES MAKE FAT ADULTS** (Health Minutes: 03/11/2005) UK research shows that fat babies and those who grow faster than average, tend to become fat children, fat adolescents and fat adults.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/health/minutes/stories/s1496847.htm>

(Health, Heart Disease)

**SECRETS OF THE FATHERS** (Four Corners: 24/10/2005). The right to know versus the right to privacy... as donor-conceived children battle a secret system in the search for their biological fathers.

<http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/content/2005/s1489657.htm>

**GENERATION O** (Four Corners: 17/10/2005) Who is to blame for the child overweight and obesity epidemic that is fast becoming a national health crisis?

<http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/content/2005/s1482272.htm>

**HEALING GARDENS** (Saturday Breakfast RN: 15/10/2005) If you've ever spent time in hospital, or you've even been sick and restricted to your bed at home for some time, you've probably experienced an acute feeling of disconnection from the outside world. Generally if you get the chance to at least look out onto some vegetation and see the day unfold, it makes you feel a bit better. Well this important healing connection that humans have with nature has been the subject of research by scientists over the last 30 years. Ian Forbes is an architect with Woodhead International and has just finished work on one of the largest healing gardens in Australia, at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital at Woodville, west of Adelaide.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/talks/saturday/stories/s1482560.htm>

**DEMAND INCREASES FOR KIDS HELP LINE** (The World Today: 11/10/2005)

<http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2005/s1479663.htm>

**CEREBRAL PALSY LITIGATION** (Health Minutes: 12/10/2005) Despite improvements in obstetric care and a huge caesarean section rate, there's been no fall in the number of babies born with cerebral palsy. It appears trauma at the time of delivery is not the problem.

<http://www.abc.net.au/health/minutes/stories/s1480329.htm>

**BRAIN INJURY AND STROKE - THE ROAD TO REHABILITATION** (Health Report: 10/10/2005) Today the remarkable story of Ishbel, a girl who suffered a stroke at the age of seven and we talk to Professor Roger Rees who specialises in rehabilitation after brain injury and stroke.

<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/talks/8.30/helthrpt/stories/s1478684.htm>

**BANISHING HEAD LICE** (Health Minutes: 05/10/2005) Nit combing is four times more effective at banishing head lice than applying chemicals to the scalp, according to a UK study.

<http://www.abc.net.au/health/minutes/stories/s1474962.htm>

About one child in twenty stutters at some stage. While it usually goes away by itself, early treatment gives the child the best chance of overcoming it.

<http://www.abc.net.au/health/thepulse/s1470314.htm>

**THE AUSTRALIAN CELEBRITY CHEF'S PLAN TO TACKLE CHILDHOOD OBESITY** (Stateline Victoria: 16/09/2005) <http://www.abc.net.au/stateline/vic/content/2005/s1462146.htm>

**CARER'S PAYMENT EXTENDED TO INCLUDE A BROADER RANGE OF DISABILITIES** (PM: 12/09/2005)

<http://www.abc.net.au/pm/content/2005/s1458685.htm>

**RETT SYNDROME BREAKTHROUGH** (PM: 02/08/2005)

<http://www.abc.net.au/pm/content/2005/s1428697.htm>

**TEEN BRAIN** (Catalyst: 28/07/2005) With a spate of teen bashings, teen road death, and plain incomprehensible teen behaviour, many people are wondering about teenagers today. Why are they so impulsive...so thoughtless...so stupid? Scientists used to blame the hormones, while society blamed the parents. But stunning new research is overturning everything we understood about how teenagers think.

<http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/stories/s1424747.htm>

**TRAFFIC POLLUTION HAZARDOUS TO UNBORN BABIES** (AM: 28/07/2005)  
<http://www.abc.net.au/am/content/2005/s1424278.htm>

**THE GENDER PUZZLE** (Four Corners: 25/07/2005) The scientific world may be on the cusp of discovering the origin of gender: What makes a boy? What makes a girl?  
<http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/content/2005/s1419343.htm>

**WHEN HEALTH PROFESSIONALS DON'T LISTEN TO THEIR PATIENTS** (Health Report: 25/07/2005)  
This is the remarkable story of a South Australian man who caught TB while sharing a bus ride with an infected passenger, but whose diagnosis was missed by doctors - with near-fatal consequences.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/talks/8.30/helthrpt/stories/s1421770.htm>

**NURSING NUMBERS ON THE RISE** (The World Today: 14/07/2005)  
<http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2005/s1414208.htm>

**TEENS DON'T KNOW ABOUT MENTAL ILLNESS** (Health Minutes: 21/07/2005) Melbourne researchers surveyed a group of 12-25 year olds about depression and psychosis and found young people need more information about serious mental illness and its treatment.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/health/minutes/stories/s1419098.htm>

**PARENT-BASED EARLY INTERVENTION FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM** (Health Report: 18/07/2005)  
Researchers at Monash University in Melbourne have done a long-term study looking at how to help parents as well as their children with autism.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/talks/8.30/helthrpt/stories/s1417435.htm>

**SIDS AND BABIES' IMMUNE RESPONSE** (Health Report: 18/07/2005) Researchers from Newcastle, New South Wales, suggest that there may be a link with Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and a baby's immune response.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/talks/8.30/helthrpt/stories/s1417442.htm>

**PREMATURE INFANTS AND INSULIN RESISTANCE.** Children born prematurely are at increased risk of insulin resistance, which can be the first step on the road to type 2 (adult-onset) diabetes. But is it the prematurity or the low birth weight that often goes along with it, that's to blame? (This is one of a selection of Dr Norman Swan's popular Health Minutes, which are now becoming available as video on demand.) <http://www.abc.net.au/health/minutes/video/>

**ADOLESCENTS AND BODY PIERCING** (Health Minutes: 14/07/2005) Researchers in the United States asked a group of about 200 young people what they thought of body piercing. Most weren't good at identifying safe places to have it done.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/health/minutes/stories/s1411419.htm>

**HOW TO MAKE FAT KIDS** (Health Minutes: 14/07/2005) UK researchers looked at risk factors for childhood obesity and they found that having fat parents, watching TV, and eating junk food were three of eight proven risk factors for obesity in kids.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/health/minutes/stories/s1411444.htm>

**WHERE DO THE CHILDREN PLAY?** Parental fear of 'stranger danger', the internet, TV, and fewer public spaces for kids to play, are combining to produce fat kids who'll become unhealthy adults.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/health/thepulse/s1365080.htm>

**CHILD HEALTH AND BEHAVIOUR** From asthma to ADHD, epilepsy to allergies, stay informed with some detailed fact files as well as transcripts of selected health stories from across the ABC, updated every week.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/health/library/childhealth.htm>

**RESEARCH FINDS CHILDREN AWAKE DURING MEDICAL PROCEDURES** (AM: 09/05/2005)  
<http://www.abc.net.au/am/content/2005/s1362980.htm>

**AUTISM LINKED TO ALTERED IMMUNITY** (Health & Medical News: 06/05/2005)  
[http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/health/HealthRepublsh\\_1361301.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/health/HealthRepublsh_1361301.htm)

**ECZEMA** (Second Opinion: 10/05/2005) See how two young Australians found relief from painful eczema and hear how the complementary therapies of traditional Chinese medicine and homeopathy eased the itch. <http://www.abc.net.au/tv/secondopinion/txt/s1356572.htm>

**ADHD IN CHILDREN AND ADULTS** (Health Report: 09/05/2005) New research into attention deficit hyperactivity disorder from Western Australia and the United States provided some interesting results, including what brain scans are showing in children with ADHD.  
<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/talks/8.30/helthrpt/stories/s1360262.htm>

## SERVICES

**THE RAISING CHILDREN NETWORK** is a national parenting information website which grew out of research into what parents, carers and practitioners working with parents want and need (from the national Parenting Information Project). [www.raisingchildren.net.au](http://www.raisingchildren.net.au) The Raising Children Network website will be a single, reliable, user-friendly resource for parents.

**TELSTRA BIG BUTTON PHONE.** Telstra has a new big button cordless phone. It will be easy to use for people with vision impairments, or difficulty with hand movements. It will be launched soon but can be ordered now via the Telstra Disability Hotline or through the Telstra website  
<http://www.telstra.com.au/disability/catalogue/apply.htm>

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** The Hideout - [www.thehideout.org.uk](http://www.thehideout.org.uk) - the first national domestic violence website (UK) for children and young people. The website has been designed to inform children and young people about domestic violence, help them to identify whether it is happening in their home and signpost them to additional support and information.

The website of the **SECRETARIAT OF NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHILD CARE** (SNAICC) has been redeveloped with a host of new features. Member organisations will now be able to share their news, electronic resources and discussions in the website's new networking area, while the SNAICC National Services Directory provides details of Indigenous family and children's services, health and legal services, government departments, peak bodies and resources agencies from across the country. See it all at <http://www.snaicc.asn.au>

**EARLY CHILDHOOD CONNECTIONS** is an Australian website, containing more than 450 Australian and 400 International website links. These links are collated alphabetically and in submenus to provide easy viewing and access to the most up to date information for professionals and parents interested in the renewed emphasis on the early childhood years. [www.ecconnections.com.au](http://www.ecconnections.com.au)

**NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BUREAU** works to identify and promote the well-being and interests of all children and young people across every aspect of their lives. [www.ncb.org.uk/](http://www.ncb.org.uk/)

**TARALYE** a not for profit organisation which provides oral language programs for deaf children. Works in partnership with families, other providers and the community to improve linguistic, educational and social outcomes of deaf children by promoting innovative early childhood intervention services, research and advocacy. [www.taralye.vic.edu.au/](http://www.taralye.vic.edu.au/)

**THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL EDUCATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE** (CHERI), at The Children's Hospital at Westmead, is very pleased to announce that our website: [www.cheri.com.au](http://www.cheri.com.au) is now live. We hope it

will provide valuable assistance to children, families and professionals with not only information on our clinical services, conferences and research forums, but also helpful information sheets.

Berry Street Victoria' is now the largest independent provider of child and family welfare in Victoria.  
<http://www.berrystreet.org.au/Publications/SpringNews%202005.pdf>

Medicine Talk is published quarterly and can be obtained at [www.nps.org.au/consumers](http://www.nps.org.au/consumers)

There are around 347 700 Australians, under the age of 25, providing care to a family member who has a long-term illness or disability (5.2% of all people under 25). The young carer project at Carers NSW was created to make a positive difference to the lives of young carers and their families.

[www.youngcarersnsw.asn.au](http://www.youngcarersnsw.asn.au)

## CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/EVENTS/TRAINING

### CHALLENGE, DEBATE, INSPIRE, SURVIVE ADOLESCENT HEALTH 2005

4th Annual Australian and New Zealand Adolescent Health Conference

10-11 November 2005 Melbourne Australia

[http://www.rch.org.au/cah/index.cfm?doc\\_id=8183](http://www.rch.org.au/cah/index.cfm?doc_id=8183)

Kate Wilson: Phone: 9345 4835 Email: [cah.conference@rch.org.au](mailto:cah.conference@rch.org.au) Web: [www.rch.org.au/cah](http://www.rch.org.au/cah)

### 6TH ISPCAN ASIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Protecting Children: Asian Perspectives and Beyond

16-18 November 2005 Singapore.

Singapore Children's Society, Research and Outreach Department

Block 107 Yishun Ring Road, #01-233, Singapore 760107

Fax: + 65 6853 7381 Email: [enquiries@ispcansingapore.com](mailto:enquiries@ispcansingapore.com) Website: <http://www.ispcansingapore.com>

### 100 YEARS OF CHILD PROTECTION

28 - 30 November 2005 Amsterdam - The Netherlands

Defence for Children International Netherlands

Cruquiusweg 68-70, 1019 AH Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Tel: + 31 20 4203771; Fax: + 31 20 4203832 Email: [m.palamari@defenceforchildren.nl](mailto:m.palamari@defenceforchildren.nl)

Website: <http://www.childprotection2005.nl>

### THE TENTH AUSTRALASIAN CONFERENCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

14 - 16 February 2006 Wellington New Zealand.

[www.nzfvc.org.nz/acan](http://www.nzfvc.org.nz/acan)

### PEOPLE IN PLACE IN PEOPLE

1st International Symposium on Environment, Behaviour and Society

9-11 February 2006 Sydney Australia

<http://www.arch.usyd.edu.au/web/research/ebs/ebssymposium.html>

Tel: +61 29351 8765 Fax: +61 2 9351 5665

Web: <http://www.arch.usyd.edu.au/web/research/ebr.html>

### INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS - AN APPRAISAL OF THE CHILDREN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION

18-19 May 2006 Ghent Belgium

Marie Delplace, Ghent University, Department of Constitutional Law

Human Rights Centre, t.a.v. Marie Delplace, Universiteitstraat 4, B-9000 Ghent, Belgium  
Tel: + 32 9 264 68 22; Fax: + 32 9 264 69 95 Email: [Marie.Delplace@UGent.be](mailto:Marie.Delplace@UGent.be)  
Website: <http://www.law.ugent.be>

## MEDIA RELEASES/NEWS

**CARERS NSW INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR RESEARCH ON RESPITE FOR CARERS IN NSW.** The purpose of this research is to examine how current models of respite meet the support needs of carers. They encourage service providers to participate through an online survey or through focus group participation. The online survey will also be available from 9 November until mid-January 2006 on our website [www.carersnsw.asn.au](http://www.carersnsw.asn.au). Carers NSW encourages all respite providers, particularly those who cannot attend a focus group, to complete this survey. Contact Information: Emily Johnson on 9280 4744 or email: [emily@carersnsw.asn.au](mailto:emily@carersnsw.asn.au)

The Minister for Community Services in NSW, the Hon Reba Meagher, MP, has announced the **APPOINTMENT OF THE NSW CHILDREN'S GUARDIAN**, Ms Kerry Boland who has worked in senior executive roles at the Department of Community Services. <http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au/>

From 1 November 2005 children born on or after 1 May 2004 will receive **CHICKENPOX VACCINE FREE** when they turn 18 months old.

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/ministers/publishing.nsf/Content/health-mediarel-yr2005-ta-abb131.htm?OpenDocument&yr=2005&mth=11>

**28 OCTOBER 2005.** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner and Race Discrimination Commissioner Tom Calma launched a new publication today titled Face the Facts - which provides factual, easy-to-read information about refugees and asylum seekers, migration and multiculturalism and Indigenous people. It is available at [www.humanrights.gov.au/racial\\_discrimination/face\\_facts/](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/racial_discrimination/face_facts/)

**31 OCTOBER 2005.** Acting Race Discrimination Commissioner Tom Calma and the Attorney-General, The Hon. Philip Ruddock MP, launched the 'Voices of Australia' project in Canberra today to mark the 30th anniversary of the Racial Discrimination Act - Australia's first anti-discrimination law. The 'Voices of Australia' project features a collection of real-life stories about diversity and living together in contemporary Australia. Around 100 stories have been published in a colour magazine and many more have been placed on the website at <http://www.humanrights.gov.au/voices/index.html> Media contact: Paul Oliver on 02 9284 9880 or 0408 469 347

**JUN 7, 2005** One in five young people have been bullied by email, text or via an internet chatroom, according to research by children's charity NCH. As a result the charity and Tesco Mobile are launching an interactive website for young people to access information and advice about mobile bullying at [www.stoptextbully.com](http://www.stoptextbully.com) For more information about the research go to <http://www.nch.org.uk/information/index.php?i=237>

## BOOKS/RESOURCES/REPORTS

**THE CHILDREN OF THE LUCKY COUNTRY - HOW AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY HAS TURNED ITS BACK ON CHILDREN AND WHY CHILDREN MATTER** by Fiona Stanley, Sue Richardson & Margot Prior. A must read book for all those who are concerned for our children - their health, happiness and development. Can be purchased from <http://www.ichr.uwa.edu.au/news/news.lasso?id=95> ; <http://www.booktopia.com.au/featuredbook1.asp?StoreURL=booktopia&bookid=140503680X> ; <http://www.shearersbookshop.com.au/featuredbook1.asp?StoreURL=shearersbookshop&bookid=140503680X> or borrowed from the AWCH Library 02 9631 9208 or [awch@awch.com.au](mailto:awch@awch.com.au)

**WHO IS SPEAKING FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS AND FOR THEIR HEALTH AT THE POLICY LEVEL?**  
<http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/content/full/321/7255/229>

**GUIDELINES FOR DOCTORS MANAGING PROCEDURAL PAIN IN CHILDREN** were launched at the National Global Day Against Pain by the Royal Australasian College of Physicians. The guidelines also give parents some handy suggestions on how they can support their child during medical procedures. They are available from [www.racp.edu.au/hpu/paed/pain/index.htm](http://www.racp.edu.au/hpu/paed/pain/index.htm) .

The October issue of the Save the Children Brussels Office Newsletter has been published. It provides information on the New Save the Children **REPORT ON SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN ON THE INTERNET**:  
[http://www.redbarnet.dk/Files/Filer/sexuelt\\_misbrug/Position\\_Paper\\_2005.pdf](http://www.redbarnet.dk/Files/Filer/sexuelt_misbrug/Position_Paper_2005.pdf)

A new study released by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics has found that using non-punitive forms of discipline in the home may be the **KEY TO REDUCE VIOLENCE AND BULLYING IN SCHOOLS**.  
[http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/bocsar/ll\\_bocsar.nsf/vwFiles/R56.pdf/\\$file/R56.pdf](http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/bocsar/ll_bocsar.nsf/vwFiles/R56.pdf/$file/R56.pdf)

IN THE ABC SHOP: **I'M NOT CRAZY, I'M JUST A LITTLE UNWELL**, by Leigh Hatcher (Paperback book \$19.95). One day in January 1998, Leigh Hatcher lay down for a ten-minute afternoon nap - and woke two hours later feeling as if he'd been run over by a truck. Without warning, he'd plunged into a health crisis that was as devastating as it was mysterious. Finally, after a year, the verdict came in: chronic fatigue syndrome, or CFS. <http://shop.abc.net.au/browse/product.asp?productid=513661>

IN THE ABC SHOP: **TAKING CHARGE: A GUIDE FOR TEENAGERS**, by Sarah Edelman & Louise Remond Paperback Book (\$22.00) Practical ways to help teenagers overcome stress, hassles and upsetting emotions. <http://shop.abc.net.au/browse/product.asp?productid=505903>

**SAFE SLEEPING ONLINE VIDEO** <http://www.sidsandkids.org/>

**CHILDREN AND THE INTERNET**: Children's Prospects Depend on Parents. The fifth report from the UK Children Go Online project "Inequalities and the Digital Divide in Children and Young People's Internet Use: Findings from the UK Children Go Online project" presents survey findings in relation to internet access, low users and the digital divide.

For more information, contact: Dr Magdalena Bober, Research Officer 'UK Children Go Online' London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE, UK  
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Website: <http://www.children-go-online.net>

**NSDUH REVIEWS SUBSTANCE ABUSE AMONGST FORMER FOSTER CARE YOUTH**. The National Survey on Drug Use and Health as released a report discussing the prevalence of drug use in youth who have spent time in foster care. <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/2k5/FosterCare/FosterCare.htm>

**URBAN INSTITUTE: HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN OF IMMIGRANT.** The Urban Institute has released a report that investigates the health and well-being of children of immigrants.  
<http://www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=311139>

**SAFE SLEEPING FOR BABIES.** Child Death Review Team's [Sudden Unexpected Deaths in Infancy: the New South Wales Experience](http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/publications/sudi_downloads.html) (SUDI) report [http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/publications/sudi\\_downloads.html](http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/publications/sudi_downloads.html). The report found that the babies who died suddenly and unexpectedly had a much higher presence of known risk factors including unsafe sleeping positions, the head being covered by items such as doonas or pillows, or adults who smoked during pregnancy or after the birth.

**KIDS SPEAK UP ABOUT BULLYING IN SCHOOLS.** More than a million children from 3000 public and private schools from across NSW recently took part in the state's biggest anti-bullying offensive SPEAK Up Day.  
<http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/exchange/21/bullying.html>

**CUTTING OFF THE PHONE BULLIES...** A new resource to help young people deal with mobile phone bullying has been launched by the Australian Mobile Telecommunication Association.  
<http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/exchange/21/bullies.html>

**MAKING KIDS COUNT IN RESEARCH.** A new resource to help conduct social research in partnership with children and young people is now available. <http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/exchange/21/research.html>

**NEW DIRECTIONS FOR SHOPPING CENTRES AND YOUNG PEOPLE.** New approaches to how young people are treated in shopping centres were showcased at a special youth forum recently.  
<http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/exchange/21/shopping.html>

**PARTICIPATION GETS A GONG.** The Commission recently won an Award for Robust Public Participation Process for its work around promoting children and young people's involvement in the NSW Summit on Alcohol Abuse and other related initiatives such as our TAKING Participation seriously kit.  
<http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/exchange/21/Participation.html>

**PUTTING CHILD-SAFE CHILD-FRIENDLY TO WORK.** Community organisations that involve children want to make the experience for kids as safe and happy as possible - the question is: how?  
<http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/exchange/21/Child-Safe.html>

**WHAT IS CHILD-SAFE CHILD-FRIENDLY?** What Child-Safe Child-Friendly means for your organisation.  
<http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/exchange/21/What.html>

**CHILDREN'S EMPLOYMENT REGULATIONS IMPROVED.** Children and young people under 15 years who work in exhibitions, the entertainment industry, stills photography or door-to-door sales will benefit from recent changes to their employment conditions that came into effect on 1 April 2005.  
<http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/exchange/21/empolyment.html>

**TAKING KIDS SERIOUSLY.** Using children's views and experiences as a starting point, leading researchers and policy makers consider how children can be recognised as 'social actors' rather than passive consumers or victims in a recently released new book.  
<http://www.kids.nsw.gov.au/exchange/21/seriously.html>

**SEXUAL ABUSE:** "Those are MY Private Parts" was written by Diane Hansen to empower young children to say NO to their abusers. The proceeds from the book are being donated to Sexual Abuse Free Environment (SAFE Inc.) a non-profit organisation that will provide a safe home for sexually abused young children. For more information, contact: Diane Hansen, To Empower Young Children PO Box 1051 Redondo Beach, CA 90278 Website: <http://www.thosearemyprivateparts.com>

Save the Children has also produced a Child Friendly text on Physical and Humiliating Punishment called "WHAT SAVE THE CHILDREN THINKS ABOUT PHYSICAL AND HUMILIATING PUNISHMENT - INFORMATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE". Visit: <http://www.crin.org/violence/search/closeup.asp?infoID=5593>

[Childhood weight gain and heart disease](http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/short/353/17/1802), Report in the New England Journal of Medicine  
<http://content.nejm.org/cgi/content/short/353/17/1802>

[WA ABORIGINAL CHILD HEALTH SURVEY](http://www.ichr.uwa.edu.au/waachs/) - Vol 2. A landmark new report on the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal children has found that nearly a quarter (24%) of Aboriginal children are at high risk of clinically significant emotional or behavioural difficulties. For a summary booklet or full copy of the document go to <http://www.ichr.uwa.edu.au/waachs/>

[THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS POSITION STATEMENT REGARDING CHILDREN OF PARENTS WITH A MENTAL ILLNESS](http://www.ranzcp.org/publicarea/posstate.asp) is now available on their website  
<http://www.ranzcp.org/publicarea/posstate.asp>

[KIDS IN CRISIS](http://news.sbs.com.au/insight/archive.php?archive=1&artmon=5&arty=2005) - Insight SBS TV hosted by Jenny Brockie. The SBS Insight program dealt with the topic of child protection in Australia and in particular children and young people in the alternative care system.  
<http://news.sbs.com.au/insight/archive.php?archive=1&artmon=5&arty=2005>

[AUSTRALIA'S CHILDREN HEALTHY AND WELL](http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10127) - But not for all. Australia's children are on the whole very healthy, with families and the community playing an important role in their overall well-being, says an Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) report launched. The report, "A Picture of Australia's Children", covers a holistic range of measures of health and wellbeing, including information on elements of family structure, education and early learning, socioeconomic status, social cohesion, health status and infant mortality. Report available for download at:  
<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10127>

[QUALITY OF PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE FOR YOUNG CHILDREN: STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVEMENT](http://www.cmwf.org/publications/publications_show.htm?doc_id=275484). Policymakers increasingly understand the importance of children's early years for promoting health, learning, and school readiness and for identifying and mediating risk that can compromise later functioning. Yet not all parents receive the services needed to identify developmental and behavioral issues in early childhood [http://www.cmwf.org/publications/publications\\_show.htm?doc\\_id=275484](http://www.cmwf.org/publications/publications_show.htm?doc_id=275484)

[CONSULTING WITH CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITIES](http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/builder/participation/cons_div.html). "Why Didn't You Tell Us? Because You Didn't Ask" is a guide for South Australian Government Agencies on consulting with culturally and linguistically diverse communities which contains information useful to everyone consulting these communities. [http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/builder/participation/cons\\_div.html](http://www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/builder/participation/cons_div.html)

[HELPING CHILDREN UNDERSTAND PARENTAL ALCOHOL USE](http://www.camh.net/PUBLICATIONS). Wishes and Worries: A story to help children understand a parent who drinks too much alcohol. Available from Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CA). [www.camh.net/PUBLICATIONS](http://www.camh.net/PUBLICATIONS) or email [marketing@camh.net](mailto:marketing@camh.net)

[CHILDCARE AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PARENTS INFORMATION SHEET](http://www.ecconnections.com.au/news/index.cfm?doc_id=5674) - March 2005. 'Parent-Professional Partnerships' [http://www.ecconnections.com.au/news/index.cfm?doc\\_id=5674](http://www.ecconnections.com.au/news/index.cfm?doc_id=5674)

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