Children and the Law

*International approaches to children and their vulnerabilities*

MONASH University
Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences
Dear Colleague,

We are delighted to invite you to attend our international conference which will bring together researchers, practitioners and policy contributors to examine new and emerging vulnerabilities of children in the twenty-first century. The rights and best interests of children are confronted by emerging social challenges: child refugees, children escaping war and trauma, child victimisation such as children as soldiers and the pervasiveness of child sexual abuse, as well as children harmed by abuse and family breakdown. Attention also needs to be paid to children with special needs, including concerns about health issues, sexual identity and family violence. Young people are increasingly being drawn into the justice system, and it is clear that increasing sanctions is not effective and does little to alleviate their marginalisation. Systems that respond to children and young people at risk of harm and national frameworks need to be reshaped to reflect the rights and best interests of all such children.

The conference will take place at the Monash University Centre in Prato, in the magnificent 18th century palace - Palazzo Vaj, just twenty minutes from Florence, Italy. The programme will give particular attention to the themes of: the protection of children under the law, in child welfare and family law; children as citizens and their vulnerability, including: indigenous children and the global movement of children as refugees, child trafficking, child soldiers; youth justice; and family and health impacts on children.

The conference will offer a considerable opportunity for cross-national dialogue, with emphasis on panel and round-table presentations. In addition, individual paper presentations that address conference themes, will be incorporated into the programme. You are invited to submit a conference abstract that relates to the conference themes.

There will be a Welcome Reception on the evening of the first day, Monday 7 September, with the Official Conference Dinner to be held on Wednesday evening, 9 September, at the Villa Artimino, an historic Medici Villa. On Tuesday 8 September, a medieval festival and night parade will be celebrated in Prato, honouring the Virgin Mary. Surrounding towns also participate, with flag throwers, soldiers and horses representing the period dressed in medieval costumes. This day’s celebrations will include entertainment by groups of musicians and townspeople moving around Prato’s various piazzas.

We extend an invitation to you to join us in Prato for what promises to be a great conference. We very much look forward to seeing you there.

A/Prof Rosemary Sheehan
Conference Convenor
Department of Social Work
School of Primary Health Care
Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences
Monash University

Organising Committee:
Dr Rosemary Sheehan
Mr Ralph Hampson
Ms Katy Symmons
Mrs Annabel Whitby

Scientific Committee:
Dr Rosemary Sheehan, Dept of Social Work, Monash University
Professor James Ogloff, Forensic Psychology, Monash University
Mr Gregory Levine, Magistrate, Children’s Court of Victoria
Dr Ian Kronborg, Director Drug and Alcohol Services, Western Hospital, Melbourne
Professor Thea Brown, Dept of Social Work, Monash University
Dr Teresa Flower, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Forensicare

Address for Communications
Conference Manager
School of Primary Health Care
Monash University
Building 1, 270 Ferntree Gully Rd
Notting Hill Victoria 3168
Australia
Tel: +61 3 8575 2214/15
Fax: +61 3 8575 2233
Email: katy.symmons@med.monash.edu.au

Official Conference Travel Agent - Australians Studying Abroad (ASA):
www.asatours.com.au

Cancellations & Refund of Registration Fees
All cancellations must be notified in writing to the Conference Manager.
Cancellations received:
Before 30 June 2009 will incur a cancellation fee of AU$100.00
After 30 June 2009 will receive a 50% refund of total registration fees paid
No refund shall be issued for cancellations received after 31 July 2009

Disclaimer
The information contained in this brochure is true and accurate according to the details available at the time of printing. The organisers reserve the right to delete or alter items where necessary.
As part of the region of Tuscany, Prato has both a distinguished past and an active role in contemporary Europe.

Taking its name from the Italian word for meadow, Prato has long been a successful commercial centre and is now the third largest city in Tuscany, after Florence and Livorno. It has been a major centre for textiles since the early Middle Ages, and now provides three quarters of all woollen cloth exported by Italy.

Prato's beautiful historic centre contains medieval and Renaissance buildings of great significance, including the Basilica di Santa Maria delle Carceri, designed by Giuliano da Sangallo, and the palace built by the famous merchant Francesco Datini. Prato also contains the Luigi Pecci Museum of Contemporary Art which is housed in an ultra modern (1987) complex planned by Italo Ciamverini.

A mere 20 minutes from Prato, is the capital city of the region of Tuscany, Florence. Founded by Julius Caesar in the 1st Century BC, Florence is a world cultural centre in terms of art, architecture, intellectualism and Renaissance. The city is renowned for its wonderful museums which contain some of Michelangelo's most famous works. Historic buildings include Il Duomo, the enormous domed cathedral designed by Brunelleschi in the 15th Century, and the Pitti Palace, and galleries such as the Uffizi Gallery and the Accademia Gallery house collections of Italian and foreign art dating from the Middle Ages through the Renaissance and beyond.

Conference Venue
The conference will be held at the stately 18th Century Palazzo Vaj. This wonderfully restored building with a beautiful open-air terrazo is surrounded by medieval towers and provides the location for Monash University in Prato.

For further information:
http://www.ita.monash.edu/
www.prato.turismo.toscana.it/
Keynote Speakers

His Honour Judge Andrew Becroft,
Principal
Youth Court
Judge of New Zealand/Aotearoa.
New Zealand introduced
an innovative system of
juvenile justice
in 1989 by
introducing Family Group Conferences,
restorative justice approaches as measures
to achieve reconciliation, restitution
and rehabilitation and minimise legal sanctions.
Judge Becroft is widely known for his
commitment to children whose care and
protection needs lead them into offending
behaviour, both in New Zealand and the
South Pacific. He is committed to ensuring the
treatment of young people is based
on fundamental principles such as those
found in UNCROC. He is committed to
ensuring children are dealt with in a distinct
youth justice system, that is tailored to
accommodate the specific needs of children,
recognising that child offenders are either
tomorrow’s law-abiding citizens or tomorrow’s
serious offenders. In many cases, which road
they take is determined by the youth justice
system.

Dr Danya Glaser is Consultant Child &
Adolescent
Psychiatrist at
Great Ormond
Street Children’s
Hospital, London. She
is President of the
International
Society for the
Prevention of
Child Abuse
and Neglect (ISPCAN) and Member of the
Family Justice Council, in the UK and Visiting
Professor at University College London.
Dr Glaser has taught and written widely
on various aspects of child maltreatment,
including sexual and emotional abuse,
fabricated or induced illness; effects of
adult mental illness on child welfare and
the effects of child maltreatment on the
developing brain. Her most recent book
presents the evidence base on attachment
and attachment disorders with attention to
the identification and treatment of emotional
abuse and working with children who have
been seriously maltreated.

Professor Gary Melton is Director of
the Institute
on Family and
NeighbourhoodLife
at Clemson
University in South
Carolina, USA. He
has been president of Childwatch
International,
the American
Orthopsychiatric
Association, the
American Psychology-Law Society and the
Society for Child and Family Policy and
Practice. He has received major awards for
research and public service from APA, the
American Psychological Foundation, the
American Professional Society on Abuse of
Children, and the American Orthopsychiatric
Association. He is amongst other things,
currently project director of US federally
funded research into engaging the community
in primary prevention of child maltreatment.
He produces and hosts an award-winning
weekly segment on South Carolina public
radio, and has briefed US Congress for
several years on family, community and child
maltreatment matters. Professor Melton leads
a unique interdisciplinary doctoral program on
International Family and Community Studies
that collaborates with universities in Africa,
Asia, Europe, Latin America, and North
America.

Professor James R. P. Ogloff, JD, Ph.D.,
FAPS is a psychologist
and Fellow of the
Canadian, American,
and Australian
psychological
societies. He is the Foundation Professor of
Clinical Forensic Psychology at Monash
University and Director of the Centre for
Forensic Behavioural Science. He is also
Director of Psychological Services at the
Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health
(Forensicare). He has worked in clinical and
forensic psychology in a variety of settings
with adults and children for 25 years. He
is the Chair of the College of Forensic
Psychologists of the Australian Psychological
Society, President of the Australian and New
Zealand Association of Psychiatry, Psychology
and Law, and President of the Division of Psychology and Law for
the International Association of Applied Psychology. Professor Ogloff has, amongst
other studies, researched the mental health
outcomes for children who have been victims
of maltreatment, which may also lead them
to the criminal justice system.

Professor Phil Scraton is Professor of
Criminology in the School of
Law at Queen’s
University, Belfast,
Northern Ireland.
His commitment
to issues of social
justice, racism and
social exclusion,
has encompassed
work with marginal
peoples, such as the
Travelling Community
in the UK and in Ireland. He has examined the
use and abuse of police powers in civil rights
disputes, and has researched the deaths of
individuals in controversial circumstances,
particularly in custody, and the issues arising
from their investigation through coroners’
inquests and public inquiries. His books
include ‘Childhood in Crisis’ (1997); he is
co-author of Children’s Rights in Northern
Ireland (Northern Ireland Commissioner for
Children and Young People) and 'The Hurt
Inside: The Imprisonment of Women and
Girls in Northern Ireland' (Northern Ireland
Human Rights Commission, 2005). He is
on the Editorial Board of Issues in ‘Crime
and Justice’, on the Steering Group of the
European Group for the Study of Deviance
and Social Control and is Chair of the Board
of ‘Include Youth’.

Conference Convenor

Dr Rosemary Sheehan, B.Soc.Stud,
MSW, PhD is an Associate Professor in
the Department of Social Work, Monash
University. She also holds the post of
Dispute Resolution Convenor Convenor in
the Children’s Court of Victoria. Her book
‘Magistrates Decision-Making in Child
Protection Cases’ (Ashtgate, 2001) pioneered
judicial decision making in child welfare
matters. She has researched, amongst other
projects, emotional abuse of children, the
extent to which children of parents who have
mental health issues feature in the Children’s
Court, and the contribution of alternative
decision-making in the child welfare
jurisdiction.

Welcome Address

Professor Thea Brown,
Department of Social Work, Monash University, has made
a significant contribution to understanding
the impact of family violence and parental
separation and divorce on children. Her
current research focus is an examination of
services supporting separating parents.
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<tr>
<th>MONDAY 7 SEPT</th>
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<th>WEDNESDAY 9 SEPT</th>
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<td>8:00 - 9:00am</td>
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<td>Registration</td>
<td>Keynote Address: Prof Phil Scraton</td>
<td>Keynote Address: Prof Gary Melton</td>
<td>Keynote Address: Prof Jim Ogloff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foyer, Monash Centre, Palazzo Vaj</td>
<td>Children and their human rights: responding to victims of war and trauma</td>
<td>Building Caring Communities</td>
<td>Children, mental health and the law</td>
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<td>Keynote Address: Dr Danya Glaser</td>
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<td>Children's best interests: emerging challenges in the 21st Century</td>
<td>Sexualised behaviour in younger adolescent boys: assessing risk</td>
<td>Sexualised behaviour in younger adolescent boys: assessing risk</td>
<td>Fitness to Plead in Children</td>
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<td>Paper Presentations Roundtable Sessions</td>
<td>Presentation: Prof Ian Kronborg</td>
<td>Presentation: Prof Margaret Alston</td>
<td>Plenary: Prof Thea Brown</td>
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<td>1:00 – 2:00pm LUNCH</td>
<td>Addiction and victimisation of children</td>
<td>Trafficking children and sexual victimisation</td>
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<td>Paper Presentations Roundtable Sessions</td>
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<td>AFTERNOON TEA 3:30 – 4:00pm</td>
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<td>Prof Thea Brown</td>
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<td>Roundtable Session: Judge Paul Grant</td>
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<td>The Koori Court: Youth Justice within the Community</td>
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<td>Close of conference</td>
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<td>6:30 - 8:00pm</td>
<td>At your leisure: Enjoy the mediaeval festival and evening parade in Prato - in honour of the Virgin’s Girdle (Belt)</td>
<td>7:30pm</td>
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<td>WELCOME COCKTAIL PARTY - PALAZZO VAJ</td>
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<td>OFFICIAL CONFERENCE DINNER - VILLA ARTIMINO</td>
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The conference is organized around a number of themes (as per the list below), and we invite abstracts for oral papers which address any one of these issues:

- The protection of children under the law, in child welfare and family law
- Children as citizens and their vulnerability: including indigenous children and the global movement of children, as refugees, child soldiers, and child trafficking
- Youth justice
- Family and health impacts on children.

Abstracts should not exceed 250 words.

We invite submission of abstracts from 31 October 2008. The deadline for submission of abstracts is 30 April 2009.

You will be notified by email or post of your abstract acceptance. Final notifications will be made by 14 May 2009.

Accepted abstracts will be published in the Conference Proceedings Book.

The official language of the conference is English. All abstracts should be submitted and presentations delivered in English.

Abstracts should include the following:
Author/s details: Full Name, Postal Address, Email, Telephone, Organisation, Title of Paper, Conference Theme being addressed.

Please submit your abstract online to:

http://www.med.monash.edu.au/socialwork/conference09

All presenters must register and pay the full conference registration fee before the early registration deadline, to ensure inclusion in the final program.

NB: Presenters are responsible for the transport and storage of their presentation materials. The Conference staff cannot receive or store materials, so please DO NOT forward them to the registration desk. We cannot accept responsibility for your materials or their transportation.
**Children and the Law International Conference**  
**7-10 September, 2009**  
**Registration Form**  
Monash University ABN 12 377 614 012

Personal Details (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY): (ALL PRICES ARE GST FREE)

### Delegate 1

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<th>Title (PLEASE TICK):</th>
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| Email:               |    |                  |           |
| Preferred name on badge: | | | |

Do you agree to have your name and country and email address included in a participants list available for distribution at the conference?  
- [ ] Yes  
- [ ] No

I will be attending the Welcome Cocktail Party (Palazzo Vaj Terrace, 7 Sept 6:30-8:00pm)  
- [ ] Yes  
- [ ] No

I will / will not be accompanied by a guest to the Welcome Cocktail Party (at an additional cost of AU$50 per person)  
- [ ] Yes  
- [ ] No

Special dietary needs:  
- [ ] vegetarian  
- [ ] other (please specify)

### Delegate 2

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<th>Title (PLEASE TICK):</th>
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- [ ] No

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- [ ] vegetarian  
- [ ] other (please specify)

### Conference Registration

| Early Bird Registration (before 31 July, 2009) | AU$825.00 | Late Registration (after 31 July, 2009) | AU$950.00 |
|Conference Dinner (OPTIONAL) - Villa Artimino, 9 Sept 7:30pm | AU$130.00 per person (includes bus transfers) |

Special dietary needs:  
- [ ] vegetarian  
- [ ] other (please specify)

**NB:** Cost of DELEGATE attendance at the Welcome Cocktail Party on 7 September is included in the registration fee, however, partners and guests are also welcome at an additional cost of AU$50.00/person. Accommodation and airfares are NOT included in the conference registration fee.

### Registration Payment Details

- [ ] Cheque made payable to ‘Monash University’  
- OR
- Card Payment:  
  - [ ] VISA  
  - [ ] Mastercard  
  - [ ] American Express

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**TOTAL PAYABLE:** $ [ ]

Please send your completed registration form with payment (in Australian dollars) to:
Ms Katy Symmons, Conference Manager Department of General Practice, Monash University,  
Building 1, 270 Ferntree Gully Rd, Notting Hill, Victoria 3168 Australia  
OR Fax: +61 3 8575 2233

### Delegate Entitlements

Fully registered DELEGATES are entitled to access:  
- All conference proceedings  
- Lunches, morning & afternoon teas  
- Conference Abstracts Book & Satchel  
- Welcome Cocktail Party (6:30pm, 7 Sept).

NB: The Dinner at the Villa in Artimino is OPTIONAL and an additional cost of AU$130.00 per person.
Australians Studying Abroad (ASA) celebrated 30 years in 2007, and is the licensed travel agent appointed to arrange travel for delegates and their partners wishing to attend the Children and the Law Conference based in Prato in 2009.

Group Travel Arrangements include:
- Competitive Economy class airfares flying Singapore Airlines;
- Accommodation at the Hotel Flora, Hotel Giardino, or the Art Hotel Milano in Prato.
- A limited number of mini-apartments are also available at the Residence Manassei in Prato
- Rail travel between Rome Airport and Prato

Early Bird Airfare Option:
During November, December and January each year, airlines generally offer a discount on air travel to Europe in the following year. The discount is often substantial, however, you must book your round trip dates and pay for the airfare during this period. Please contact ASA for further conditions.

Pre- and Post-Travel Options include:
- A range of accommodation options throughout Italy and Europe (including Rome, Florence & Venice), and a variety of day excursions and tours to regions of Italy including the Amalfi Coast, Sicily and Northern Italy;
- Car hire and villa rental options;

Day tours while based in Prato:
- A range of half-day and full-day excursions in Florence and neighbouring towns (Siena, San Gimignano & Pisa) are available. All these tours start in Florence. Please contact ASA if you are interested to receive further information.

ASA's website -
www.asatours.com.au contains:
- A detailed description of all accommodation options in Prato (including location map and hyperlinks to the hotels' websites).
- Flight options with Singapore Airlines – including airfare prices and flight schedules
- Other pre- or post- travel options
- Applicable Booking Forms

Travellers not taking the group travel arrangements:
If you require alternative airfares or additional travel arrangements, please remember that ASA will be pleased to assist you!

Please Note: September corresponds with High/Shoulder Season in Europe, demand for accommodation and air travel is therefore very high. We ask all travellers to begin organizing their travel arrangements as soon as possible (preferably to be completed by the end of February 2009).

For all enquires please contact:
Julie Whiteley, Senior Consultant
Email: julie@asatours.com.au
Tel: (03) 9822 6899
Fax: (03) 9822 6989
Freecall: 1800 645 755 (outside Melbourne metro area)
Website: www.asatours.com.au