

# **Children, Young People and the Criminal Justice System**

## **ANZSOC Thematic Group Proposal**

### **Convenors:**

**Dr. Faith Gordon**, Monash University and the *International Youth Justice Network*

**Dr. Shelley Turner**, Monash University

**Dr. Emma Colvin**, Charles Sturt University

### **Description:**

It is evident that there are extremely challenging and significant issues existing in relation to children, young people and the criminal justice system. For example, in Australia the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory (2017), the Office of the Public Guardian in Queensland's investigations into the treatment of children detained in Watch houses (2019) and the urgent issues outlined by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (2019) during its examination of Australia's children's rights record, paint a clear picture of youth justice and child protection systems in crisis.

The proposed thematic group will bring together members in Australasia and globally who are undertaking research, advocacy and practice in the areas of youth justice, young people experiencing out-of-home care, children's rights, social work and health. The ultimate goal is to foster working relationships to disseminate existing research, generate new research and support advocacy, in order to secure better outcomes for children, young people and their families.

### **Aims and objectives:**

- Further grow and develop the working relationships and connections between scholars, practitioners and advocates working in Australasia and internationally.
- Develop collaborative and supportive relationships across a variety of academic institutions and NGOs, in order to promote knowledge exchange, communication, sharing of information, dissemination of research findings, as well as mentoring support for Early Career Scholars.
- Continue to build and forge links and connections between researchers, industry partners, NGOs, practitioners and advocates working in Youth Justice, Child Protection, Social Work, Policing, Public Health, and related disciplines.
- Provide a yearly thematic panel at the ANZSOC Conference on: Children, Young People and the Criminal Justice System
- Organise events and maintain an active website.

## **Proposed Members:**

In addition to the three convenors, the following ANZSOC members (in alphabetical order) have agreed to be members of this thematic group:

### **Members**

1. Professor Thalia Anthony, UTS
2. Dr. Susan Baidawi , Monash University
3. Jennifer Bargaen, UTS
4. Professor Chris Cunneen, UTS
5. Dr Phillipa Evans, UNSW
6. Dr Kate Fitz-Gibbon, Monash University
7. Professor Alison Gerard, University of Canberra
8. Dr. Diana Johns, University of Melbourne
9. A/Professor Marg Liddell, RMIT
10. Dr Claire Loughnan, University of Melbourne
11. A/Professor Nessa Lynch, Victoria University, Wellington
12. Dr. Catia Malvaso, University of Adelaide
13. Dr. Sarah Monod de Froideville, Victoria University of Wellington
14. Robyn Oxley, Monash University
15. Associate Professor Kelly Richards, QUT
16. Professor Lizzy Stanley, Victoria University of Wellington
17. Professor Rob White, University of Tasmania