SPRC

UNSW
Social Policy
Research Centre

Australian Social Policy Conference
25 October – 5 November 2021

UNSW
SYDNEY

1A. Digital Social Policy & Service Delivery - What is happening

Date: Monday 25 October
Time: 8.45AM–11.00AM
Chair: Professor Paul Henman, University of Queensland

Session overview
Digital technologies are now intimately entangled into all operations of social policy processes, from development and analysis, decision, and administration and compliance. These include automated eligibility assessment, online service delivery, compliance monitoring, chatbots and proposals for Artificial Intelligence. High profile case of the use of automated decision making – such as Australia's Robodebt or the UK Universal Credit – have highlighted key legal, policy, social and ethical challenges arising from digital social policy. This panel explores the case studies and the myriad complex dynamics arising from the intersection of social policy, public administration, and digital technologies. This panel is the first of two complementary panels. It focuses on what is happing in the use of digital technology in social policy and service delivery.

Presenters

Mapping Automated Decision Making in Social Services in Australia
Dr Lyndal Sleep, Brooke Coco & Prof Paul Henman, University of Queensland

Beyond digital dole parole: understanding the role of digitization in the New Employment Services
Dr Simone Casey, Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS)

Digitalisation of Employment Services in the UK and Australia
Dr Jo Ingold, Deakin University

Outsourced ADM in disability provisioning: lessons for Australia from the US and the UK
Dr Georgia van Toorn, UNSW Sydney

Digitally Networked Social Services: Mapping the NDIS online network
Sam Borg, Prof Michele Foster & Dr Eloise Hummel - Griffith University, Prof Paul Henman, University of Queensland, Dan Dai, Queensland University of Technology, Prof Karen Fisher, UNSW Sydney

1B. Nothing about us without us: Exploring the power of lived experience researchers with disability in a peer support research project

Date: Monday 25 October
Time: 11.30AM–01.30PM
Chairs: Sarah Simmons & Arron Fitzpatrick, Community Disability Alliance Hunter

Session overview
The Community Disability Alliance Hunter (CDAH) and Diversity Disability Alliance (DDAlliance) are peer-led organisations, run by people with disability for people with disability. Peers provide peer support across a diverse range of communities in NSW. In 2020, CDAH and DDAlliance commenced a research project exploring the challenges and benefits of peer support across NSW with a team of nine lived experience researchers in partnership with the University of Newcastle. This session focuses on the experiences of our lived experience as researchers and peers, its impact on the research and our experiences of working collaboratively during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will also reflect on how our lived experience informs and shapes research. Potential

policy implications for peer support, including how peer support can be a platform for people with disability to share, learn and lead to create inclusive spaces and inclusion in local communities and in service provision will be explored.

Presenters

David (Xiaolong) Yang, Julie Duong, Julie Magill, Catherine Walsh, George Ayoub - Diversity Disability Alliance (DDAlliance)

Shaylie Pryer, Owen Baird-Peddie, Sarah Simmons, Arron Fitzpatrick - Community Disability Alliance Hunter (CDAH)

Carrie Hayter, Carrie Hayter Consulting

Dr Meredith Tavener, University of Newcastle

1C. Digital Social Policy & Service Delivery - What are the experiences and implications

Date: Monday 25 October
Time: 02.00PM–04.00PM
Chair: Professor Paul Henman, University of Queensland

Session overview
Digital technologies are now intimately entangled into all operations of social policy processes, from development and analysis, decision, and administration and compliance. These include automated eligibility assessment, online service delivery, compliance monitoring, chatbots and proposals for Artificial Intelligence. High profile case of the use of automated decision making – such as Australia's Robodebt or the UK Universal Credit – have highlighted key legal, policy, social and ethical challenges arising from digital social policy. This panel explores the case studies and the myriad complex dynamics arising from the intersection of social policy, public administration, and digital technologies. This panel is the second of two complementary panels. It focuses on the experiences and implications of digital technology in social policy and service delivery.

Presenters

International experiences of the digital transition of welfare to work: opportunities and challenges
Dr Sarah Ball, Prof Mark Considine, Prof Jenny Lewis & Dr Michael McGann - University of Melbourne, A/Prof Siobhan O'Sullivan, UNSW Sydney, Dr Phuc Nguyen, La Trobe University

Encountering the Digital Welfare State: Voices at the interface
Dr Scarlet Wilcock, University of Sydney, Dr Roba Abbas & Dr Andrew Whelan, University of Wollongong

Equity and Personalisation in the NDIS: ADM Compatible or not?
Prof Terry Carney, University of Sydney

Administrative Justice in a Digital World: Challenges and Solutions
Professor Paul Henman, University of Queensland

2A. Exposing inequalities through experiences of COVID and disability

Date: Tuesday 26 October
Time: 11.30AM–01.30PM
Chairs: Karen Fisher & Rosemary Kayess, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Session overview
The COVID pandemic has exposed many underlying inequalities experienced by people with disability, from the systems that people depend on to access to health care such as vaccines. This session explores the impact of the pandemic on these inequalities and the social policy responses to them. It presents the experiences, perspectives and actions of people with disability in the local community, government and international levels. In the last two years, the pandemic has accentuated inequalities in access in everything from health care, social isolation, housing and employment. The format is 10-minute presentations and a facilitated panel discussion, with the aim of stimulating participant interaction and areas where future work is needed.

Presenters

Triaged out? People with disability and critical care decisions in the COVID pandemic
Jackie Leach Scully, UNSW Sydney

Disability community mutual support and advocacy about COVID
El Gibbs

More than isolated: The experience of children and young people with disability and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic
Helen Dickinson, UNSW Canberra

Barriers and enablers in the development of a COVID-19 policy response for people with disability
Gemma Carey & Celia Green, UNSW Sydney

Lessons learned from the COVID-19 Disability Health Response
Julian Trollor, UNSW Sydney

Social isolation and loneliness in COVID

Sally Robinson, Flinders University

2B. Where to for the residential aged care workforce?

Date: Tuesday 26 October
Time: 02.00PM–04.00PM
Chair: Gabrielle Meagher, Macquarie University

Session overview
This session takes up questions of workforce development that remain as 'unfinished business' from the Aged Care Royal Commission and the Australian Government's response. The Commission's 13 recommendations covered the four areas of workforce planning; registration and minimum qualifications; education, training and skills development; and pay and conditions. While the Government has accepted most of the recommendations, at least in principle, proposed actions are spread across the Aged Care Workforce Industry Council and other bodies, a broad whole-of-Government Care Workforce Strategy and the JobTrainer Fund, and decisions of the Fair Work Commission. Panellists will assess the adequacy of these responses, the prospects for successful implementation and the scale and nature of outcomes that can be realised in the short

and longer term. The focus will be on the residential aged care workforce and the capacity for building capability for workforce development across the sector. This session is co-sponsored by the Macquarie Aged Care Policy Forum and the NSW branch of the Australian Association of Gerontology.

Presenters

Annie Butler, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation

Professor Denise Jepsen, Macquarie University

Professor Gabrielle Meagher, School of Social Sciences, Macquarie University

2C. The social safety net as a complex system failure for women

Date: Tuesday 26 October
Time: 04.30PM–06.00PM
Chair: Dr Susan Maury, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand

Session overview
Complex systems, such as nuclear power plants or passenger airplanes, depend on multiple discrete operating systems interacting seamlessly with each other for safe and continuous operation. Disasters can occur when multiple small failures cascade across discrete systems, setting off a chain reaction that leads to a whole-of-system collapse. This session explores the concept that Australia's social safety net operates as a complex system but lacks the failsafe mechanisms that protect against cascading failures. This often results in what can be termed a complex system failure, and women are more likely to be the victims of such failures. This concept will be explored with specific examples, including mutual obligations, child support and ParentsNext.

Presenters

Overview: The social safety net as a complex system failure
Dr Susan Maury, Good Shepherd Society Australia and New Zealand

Supporting low-income single-parent families or reducing welfare expenditure? The symbolic purpose of child support
Prof Kay Cook, Swinburne University of Technology

The compounding burden of mutual obligation
Dr Sue Olney, University of Melbourne

On free riding, expropriation and welfare conditionality: The case of ParentsNext
Dr Elise Klein, Australian National University (ANU)

Bludgeoned by burdens? Lived Experiences of women on the Cashless Debit Card
Dr Shelley Bielefeld, Australian National University (ANU)

3A. Launch and discussion of the book Buying and Selling the Poor: inside Australia's privatised welfare-to-work market

Date: Wednesday 27 October
Time: 10.00AM–11.00AM
Chair: Prof Gaby Ramia, University of Sydney

Session overview

Presentation will showcase and launch the book *Buying and Selling the Poor: inside Australia's privatised welfare-to-work market.* The book tells the story of Australia's two-decade old welfare-to-work privatisation experiment. Once the darling of the OECA, Australia's lean, KPI-driven system has a well acknowledged Achilles' heel. While effective at churning jobseekers through the system by keeping them, and their frontline service providers, 'activated', it has continuously struggled to help the most highly disadvantaged find sustained employment. We tell the story of Australia's multibillion-dollar welfare-to-work system through the prism of four high performing JobActive offices. Following their jobseekers and case managers for over 18 months, we learn that there is no single recipe for success. Rather, we find marginal returns and both the 'carrot' and the 'stick' wielded to effect.

Presenters

Introduction
Prof Gaby Ramia, University of Sydney

Inside Australia's privatised welfare-to-work model
A/Prof Siobhan O'Sullivan, UNSW Sydney

Beyond privatisation? Digital futures in employment services
Prof Mark Considine, University of Melbourne

3B. Designing social service markets: Risk, regulation and rent-seeking

Date: Wednesday 27 October
Time: 11.30AM–0.1.30PM
Chair: Professor Gabrielle Meagher, Macquarie University

Session overview

In rich democracies around the world, governments are increasingly using market designs and logics to re-organise and/or extend provision of social services. Policy-makers typically justify marketisation with claims that consumers benefit from greater choice, higher quality services, and more diverse, innovative and efficient providers. The extent to which social service markets deliver on policy-makers' goals depends on how these markets are designed and how actors behave in them. This session brings together policy researchers across the social sciences who examine the dynamics of markets for several publicly-funded social services in Australia for a forthcoming collection. Together their findings suggest that that Australian governments' marketising efforts have produced fragile and fragmented service systems, in which risks of rent-seeking, resource leakage and regulatory capture are high. Panellists present their main findings on specific social

service sectors, including family day care, Indigenous employment services and retirement incomes, and consider ways forward.

Presenters

Marketisation in Australian social services: an overview
Gabrielle Meagher, Macquarie University

Quality and marketised care: the case of family day care
Natasha Cortis, Megan Blaxland & Elizabeth Adamson - UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

The development and significance of marketisation in refugee settlement services
Adele Garnier, Université Laval, Montréal

Out of sight, out of mind? Markets and employment services in remote Indigenous communities
Diana Perche, UNSW Sydney

Marketisation in disability services: a history of the NDIS
Georgia van Toorn, UNSW Sydney

Designing public subsidies for private markets: Rent seeking, inequality and child care policy
Adam Stebbing, Macquarie University

Public providers – making human service markets work
Bob Davidson, Macquarie University

3C. Young people and social exclusion: Future policy approaches to promote inclusion

Date: Wednesday 27 October
Time: 02.00PM–04.00PM
Chair: Dr Cathy Thomson, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Session overview

In academic and policy discourses social exclusion refers to people who are denied access to resources and rights that are often taken for granted, experience barriers that prevent participation in activities and relationships, and subsequently have reduced quality of life. Policies promoting 'inclusion' are commonly paternalistically focused on individual autonomy to promote participation mostly through paid employment. These adult-centric approaches have a narrow economic focus and ignore underlying structural inequalities and barriers to participation specific to young people. Based on original research this session will critically examine these issues and contribute to a policy debate centred on young people and social exclusion.

Presenters

Who excludes? Young People's Lived Experience of Social Exclusion
Prof. Gerry Redmond, Flinders University

Extracurricular Activities as a Vehicle to School Engagement: The Importance of Peers Social Inclusion in low Socioeconomic Status Communities
Dr. Alexander O'Donnell, Flinders University

Getting ready to get organised: stories from the UK and Australia
Dr Jen Skattebol, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Young carers at risk of social exclusion?
Dr Cathy Thomson, UNSW Social Policy Research
Centre

3D. Education for equity, excellence and inclusion

Date: Wednesday 27 October
Time: 04.30PM–06.30PM
Chair: A/Prof Scott Eacott, UNSW Sydney

Session overview

The question of how best to deliver equitable and inclusive education at scale has been an enduring question for government and systems globally. While the Australian government is spending more on education than at any point in history, the downward trend in student achievement and substantial disparity gaps for marginalised students has caused concern among policymakers and systems. There is an urgent need for new forms of policy and reforms aimed at delivering on the intents of the Alice Springs (Mparntwe) Declaration and Sustainable Development Goal 4. As the world re-sets under pandemic the internal tensions and external pressures on education policy have never been greater. Increasing costs for public services as government revenue and household incomes fall amplifies policy themes of equity, inclusion, and excellence. The papers in this symposium draw on diverse interdisciplinary resources to address these contemporary challenges through education.

Presenters

Education for equity and access
Prof Laura Perry, Murdoch University

Education for inclusion
Prof Linda Graham & Prof Suzanne Carrington, Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

Education for excellence
L/Prof Jenny Gore, University of Newcastle

Small schools for equity and inclusion
A/Prof Scott Eacott, UNSW Sydney

Discussion
A/Prof Glenn Savage, University of Western Australian (UWA)

4A. Innovative Solutions: sustaining informal care through new and existing respite options

Date: Thursday 28 October
Time: 09.00AM–11.00AM
Chair: Sarah Judd-Lam, Carers NSW

Session overview

Many carers remain closely involved in the care and support of their family member or friend, even when formal support, such as in-home or residential care services, is in place. While carers report positive aspects associated with their caring role, evidence also demonstrates the adverse

impacts of a lack of meaningful breaks on the sustainability of care arrangements and on carer wellbeing. Despite the existence of a range of different respite services designed to provide this break, many carers are unable to access these opportunities, either at all, or at a level or frequency that meets their needs. This session will explore and contextualise the current barriers carers experience when navigating and accessing respite options, with particular focus on the aged care sector. Drawing on contributions made by each presenter, the session will also utilise research and policy analysis to demonstrate new and existing opportunities to bridge these service gaps.

Presenters

Respite needs and effects for carers in disability- and aged care. An analysis of the Carers NSW Carer Survey
Dr Lukas Hofstaetter, Carers NSW

Centre-based respite care
A/Prof Myra Hamilton, University of Sydney & Dr Cathy Thompson, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Can the respite phoenix survive the neoliberal marketisation of the home care packages program?
Dr Cathy Duncan, University of Wollongong

Repositioning respite: Innovative approaches to respite care
Melissa Docker, Carer Respite Alliance, Carers NSW

Making Flexible Respite a Practical Reality
A/Prof Lyn Phillipson & Dr Cathy Duncan, University of Wollongong

4B. Complex social policy evaluation in disruptive times: Co-production and partnerships

Date: Thursday 28 October
Time: 11.30AM–01.30PM
Chairs: Professor Tim Reddel, Dr Caroline Salom & Dr Lutfun Nahar Lata - Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), The University of Queensland (UQ)

Session overview

Contemporary social policy reflects a complex interplay between policy design, legislation, program delivery, and evaluation across a range of fields including health, housing, poverty and inequality reduction, education, and family support. Policy makers are increasingly interested in using evidence-based analysis and employing co-production techniques to work with multiple stakeholders to address the causes, consequences, and solutions for social policy problems. Such partnership approaches come with multiple opportunities and challenges. Drawing from the Institute for Social Science Research's (ISSR) extensive experience in working collaboratively with government and the private and not-for-profit sectors to understand, influence and evaluate social policies, this panel explores researchers' experiences of co-producing knowledge. The presenters will share their experiences in co-design and co-production in the fields of poverty, welfare and social inequalities, communities, families and children, housing, and health. The panel will highlight the contribution of partnership approaches for complex social policy evaluation in disruptive times.

Presenters

Collaboration and partnership approaches to foster greater public policy impact for social science research
Professor Tim Reddel, Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), University of Queensland

Evaluation capability building with not-for-profit sectors
Associate Professor Jenny Povey, Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), University of Queensland

The National Support for Child and Youth Mental Health Program Overarching Evaluation
Professor Simon Smith, Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), University of Queensland

Queensland Housing Strategy Research and Evaluation Program
Professor Tim Reddel & Dr Lutfun Nahar Lata, Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), University of Queensland

Co-developing a systems-informed Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework with Health and Wellbeing Queensland
Dr Mark Robinson, Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), University of Queensland

Evaluation capability building with government and the private and not-for-profit sectors
Dr Caroline Salom, Institute for Social Science Research (ISSR), University of Queensland

4C. Great expectations - inclusivity in disability research - policy meets practice

Date: Thursday 28 October
Time: 02.00PM–04.00PM
Chairs: Sallie-Anne Moad & Paul Tomaszewski, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Session overview

This session will explore inclusive research approaches in disability research. This includes discussions on the opportunities, challenges and experiences of researchers in designing and producing research with people with disability. During the session there will be opportunities to hear about some projects that researchers with and without lived experience of disability are working on. These researchers will also talk about their experiences of being involved in inclusive research. This will include the challenges and limitations of defining and implementing truly inclusive research across disciplines. Attendees will also have opportunities to share their own views and experiences. The session will close with a practical session run by Karen Fisher and Peri O'Shea, which aims to provide delegates with practical guidance and principles aimed at incorporating inclusive principles into practice.

Presenters

Ayah Wehbe, Diane MacDonald, Sallie-Anne Moad, Dr Peri O'Shea, Professor Karen Fisher & Paul Tomaszewski - UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Chloe Watfern - UNSW Art & Design and Black Dog Institute

Lisa Scott - Studio A

Katie Butler - University of Sydney, School of Education and Social Work

Kathryn Thorburn & Shifra Waks - Centre for Primary Health Care and Equity UNSW

5A. What next for supporting people who are justice involved?

Date: Friday 29 October
Time: 11.30AM–01.30PM
Chair: Dr Claire Spivakovsky, University of Melbourne

Session overview

People involved in the justice system and their families and communities continue to be among the most economically and socially marginalised in Australia. The justice system has become 'an instrument for the management of dispossessed and dishonoured groups' (Wacquant 2001, 95); and, amidst the withdrawal of welfare safety-nets, 'a perverse agency for the delivery of human services to the social refuse of the market society' (Wacquant 2002, 388). In the wake of the Black Lives Matter protest movement in the USA, Australia and elsewhere, calls for decarceration and community-based supports for criminalised populations have gained a new prominence. In light of these issues, this session will focus on social policy concerns outside the justice system to reduce state reliance on incarceration as a solution to social problems. Presentations will be followed by a brief panel discussion.

Presenters

Place-based responses in geographic areas of concentrated disadvantage
Prof Joe Graffam, Deakin University

Maintaining family relationships through technology
Dr Catherine Flynn, Monash University

Towards a theory of change for reintegration services
Dr Aaron Hart, VACRO

The disruptive potential of including people with lived experience of the justice system in policy making processes
Jordan Dittloff, Deakin University & Abigail Lewis, VACRO

5B. Emerging insecurities as a result of COVID-19: Evidence from service delivery

Date: Friday 29 October
Time: 02.00PM–04.00PM
Chair: Prof. Roslyn Russell, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand & RMIT

Session overview

The far-reaching impacts of COVID-19 both exacerbated existing socio-economic inequalities in Australia and also created new vulnerabilities. This sessions provides insights into how these seismic changes presented within two social service agencies, focusing on the impacts of extended lockdowns experienced in the state of Victoria in 2020.

Presenters

The newly vulnerable: Population-level data identifies cohorts experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19 impacts
Dr Zara Lasater, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand

Changing credit and debt patterns for low-income households: An analysis of NILS clients
Dr Susan Maury, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand

Reflection on papers 1 and 2: Policy implications
Emma O'Neil, Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand

COVID-19 wellbeing impacts: Identifying changing client needs, experiences and outcomes to better support wellbeing
Beth McCann, Drummond Street Services

Our well-being: LGBTIQ+ experiences of family violence, mental health and wellbeing issues during COVID19
Madeline Gibson, Drummond Street Services

Reflection on papers 3 and 4: Policy implications
Karen Field, Drummond Street Services

6A. Resilient Ageing and End-of-Life Planning among People Living with HIV

Date: Monday 1 November
Time: 09.00AM–11.00AM
Chair: A/Prof Limin Mao, UNSW Centre for Social Research in Health

Session overview

This session is based on the Australian Department of Health funded project, entitled 'Resilient Ageing and End-of-Life Planning among people living with chronic hepatitis B, chronic hepatitis C or HIV (BBV-RAEL)'. Key findings focusing on HIV, ageing and end-of-life planning will be presented, based on in-depth interviews and the online Delphi consensus building with key stakeholders. A number of leaders, representing a diverse community service provision network, are invited to offer their insights and further case studies to improve ageing and aged care policy and practice for PLHIV.

Presenters

PLHIV ageing and end-of-life planning: a researcher's perspective
Dr Kerryn Drysdale, Centre for Social Research in Health

PLHIV ageing and end-of-life planning: what's the national policy agenda?
Dr John Rule, NAPWHA

Preparing the community for ageing and aged care service engagement
Joel Murray, ACON

PLHIV ageing and aged care service provision: role of peer-navigators
Chris Howard, Queensland Positive People

Ageing and aged care: serving a diverse PLHIV population groups
Jane Costello, Positive Life NSW

The role of peer-navigation in PLHIV support services: needs and gaps
Neil Fraser, Positive Life NSW

6B. Centring voices on the Australian poverty machine

Date: Monday 1 November
Time: 11.30AM–01.30PM
Chair: Kristin O'Connell, Antipoverty Centre

Session overview

The Australian Social Security System once set up to stop people falling into poverty, now has integrated poverty as part of its design. The rate of social security is not enough to meet basic needs and the mutual obligations placed on people are often reported as stigmatising and actually work against people finding employment. Those receiving unemployment payments are often unable to work – because of a disability, chronic illness or having unpaid caring responsibilities. This panel will explore what we are calling the 'poverty machine', and the various racialised, gendered, settler colonial and ableist aspects of the social security system and employment policy that excludes, maims and stigmatises people caught in it. What is unique and important about this panel is that many of the contributions will come from people with actual lived experience of the poverty machine, which will illuminate the contours of the dehumanisation experienced, as well as the cracks where meaningful action should be focused.

Presenters

The poverty machine: waged labour, coercive labour programs and poverty
Jeremy Poxon & Tabitha Lean

The Disability Support Pension
Kristin O'Connell & Jay Coonan, Antipoverty Centre

Depression by design
Sylvie Ellsmore, University of Sydney & Eve Geyer

Social security and slow death
Elise Klein, Australian National University

6C. What does it take for universities to genuinely support community-led efforts to improve outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people?

Reflections from the partnership between UNSW and the Dharriwaa Elders Group, Walgett

Date: Monday 1 November
Time: 02.00PM–04.00PM
Chair: Peta MacGillivray, UNSW Sydney

Session overview

The Yuwaya Ngarra-li partnership developed after the Dharriwaa Elders Group invited UNSW to work together longer-term after collaboration on an ARC Linkage research project on the criminalisation of Aboriginal people with mental and cognitive disability (2011-2015). The partnership is grounded in community-led priorities and protocols. A key priority of the DEG has been reducing the contact of Aboriginal children and young people with the criminal justice system and improving wellbeing and life pathways. Building on existing evidence and community knowledge, we have developed a holistic approach that involves working directly with children and young people, building and supporting community leadership and family engagement, and influencing and ensuring accountability of agencies and services. This session will include reflections from Dharriwaa Elders Group and UNSW-based staff of Yuwaya Ngarra-li about what it takes for universities to genuinely support community-led efforts for Aboriginal children and young people.

Presenters

The Bulaarr Bagay Warruwi Burranba-li-gu 'Two River Pathway for Change'
- Holistic Wellbeing and Transitions Program
- Walgett Holistic Working Group and policing in the pandemic
Peta MacGillivray & Sam Alderton-Johnson - UNSW Sydney, Trish Sharpley, Vanessa Hickey & Zoe Sands - Dharriwaa Elders Group

The Yuwaya Ngarra-li approach to research and evaluation
Dr Ruth McCausland & Dr Rebecca Reeve - UNSW Sydney, Virginia Robinson - Dharriwaa Elders Group

6D. The COVID 19 pandemic and its legacy – international lessons for Child Protection policy and practice

Date: Monday 1 November
Time: 04.30PM–06.30PM
Chair: Professor Ilan Katz, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Session overview

The session will include work by an international group of scholars who came together in April 2020 during COVID-19 to advance theory, policy and practice. Led by Prof. Carmit Katz from Tel Aviv University. The group is composed of leading scholars from 14 countries. After a year of international efforts, there is accumulating knowledge that can be taken from COVID-19 to provide the base for a positive legacy for child protective services worldwide. The symposium will present insights from the research undertaken by the group on the impact of COVID 19 on Child Protection Systems. Emerging lessons of the pandemic for the longer term policy and practice in child protection will be identified and discussed.

Presenters

This session will be a panel of interntational presenters.

7A. Communities, families and children: Practice-focused action research

Date: Tuesday 2 November
Time: 09.00AM–11.00AM
Chair: Associate Professor Amy Conley Wright, Research Centre for Children and Families, The University of Sydney

Session overview

This session features 3 presentations on action research with human services and other professionals working with children and families. These three studies have a shared aim on improving practice in sensitive and challenging areas. The first focuses on a multi-method approach to examine limitations in the current system of parenting capacity assessments for parents with intellectual disability, from the perspective of professionals and parents. The second illuminates how domestic violence informed capacity-building action research catalysed practice improvements, particularly in relation to how evidence is collected, documented and presented. The third explores how the out-of-home care sector can encourage positive relationships between children's carers and families when they are on long-term court orders, focusing on practice learnings and resources. The chair will draw out key themes in relation to action research and engage participants in discussion about how action research can be applied for practice change with communities, families and children.

Presenters

Improving access and equity before the law for parents with intellectual disability
Dr Susan Collings & Dr Margaret Spencer, The University of Sydney

Evidencing better practice: using action research to improve responses to families experiencing domestic violence in the child protection system
Associate Professor Sue Heward-Bell - The University of Sydney, Tracey De Simone - QLD Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs

Promoting positive relationships between children's carers and families: Emerging practice learnings from action research with NSW caseworkers
Associate Professor Amy Conley Wright & Sarah Ciftci, The University of Sydney

7B. COVID-19 vaccine equity for marginalised populations

Date: Tuesday 2 November
Time: 11.30AM–01.30PM
Chair: Associate Professor Joanne Bryant, UNSW Centre for Social Research in Health

Session overview

In this symposium we draw on research data to consider: What is necessary to achieve vaccine equity for marginalised people? What are the implications for those who do not want vaccination?

And, what role will vaccine refusal have in further entrenching marginalisation? The research themes document how COVID vaccines have particular meanings that make sense in the contexts of marginalised people's lives – as protective and rational biotechnologies, as invested with collective care, or as suspect and potentially dangerous. Ensuring vaccine equity requires that promotional messages account for these understandings and use values that matter to them, and that vaccine provision happens in ways that are acceptable. We argue that efforts towards vaccine equity must also accept that some people will not want to be vaccinated, and this may be especially true for members of marginalised groups. We must consider and wherever possible circumvent processes in which vaccine refusal further entrenches marginalisation.

Presenters

A/Prof Joanne Bryant, Dr Jake Rance, A/Prof Loren Brener & Dr Lise Lafferty - UNSW Centre for Social Research in Health

Dr Dean Murphy & Daniel Storer - The Kirby Institute, UNSW Sydney

Dr Simon Graham, The Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity, University of Melbourne

A/Prof Holly Seale, School of Population Health, UNSW Sydney

7C. Safeguarding disability rights: Are policy reforms retreating from CRPD obligations?

Date: Tuesday 2 November
Time: 02.00PM–04.00PM
Chair: Professor Michele Foster, Griffith University

Session overview

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD) is a human rights instrument to promote and protect equal rights, freedoms and choices for all persons with disabilities. The onus of translating the CRPD into domestic policy for the promotion and protection of rights is left to the discretion of individual countries. Unfortunately, domestic disability policy and law are often weak instruments, which fail to address rights adequately or equally. This is the case in Australia regarding individualised funding strategies for disability support, which aims to give effect to obligations of equality and choice under the CRPD. By including perspectives from policy, law and human rights, presentations in this session will explore different approaches to rights obligations and the extent to which these are being met and inform more robust policy and legal development for genuine engagement and enactment of the CRPD.

Presenters

The participatory dynamic animates the CRPD: Nothing about Us Unless it is Led by Us
Professor Paul Harpur, University of Queensland

Aspiring Astronauts and Sexual Intimacy: Contesting Rights in the NDIS
Professor Susan Harris Rimmer & A/Professor Kylie Burns, Griffith University

Realising individual autonomy and freedom of choice in the NDIS
Mr Chadwick Wong, Public Interest Advocacy Centre

The CPRD and the Rights of Older Persons: Intersections and Gaps
Mr Bill Mitchell OAM, Townsville Community Law

Examining Australia's performance in realising CRPD obligations in health through the lens of COVID-19
Professor Helen Dickinson, UNSW Sydney

8A. Housing and locational disadvantage

Date: Wednesay 3 November
Time: 09.00AM–11.00AM
Chair: Dr Hazel Blunden, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Session overview

Housing disadvantage and locational disadvantage are intertwined. This session explores elements of both via papers on the characteristics of disadvantage via geographies of poverty and vulnerability, and the limited housing choices faced by disadvantaged and low income people in an increasingly expensive and marketised housing sector.

Presenters

Staying safe through transitions: resources for unsettled times
A/Prof kylie valentine, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Housing options for women leaving domestic violence: the limitations of rental subsidy models
Dr Hazel Blunden, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Dropping off the Edge – persistent and complex place-based disadvantage in Australia
Andrew Yule, Jesuit Social Services

Understanding the experience of social housing pathways
Dr Kathleen Flanagan, HACRU, UTAS

Mobilising climate resilience across disadvantaged communities in Melbourne - a place-based approach'
A/Prof Susie Maloney, Centre for Just Places

8B. Intersectionality in Public Policy: First Nations people with disability and a convergence in Closing the Gap and Australia's Disability Strategy

Date: Wednesday 3 November
Time: 02.00PM–04.00PM
Chairs: Dr Scott Avery, Western Sydney University

Session overview

As a group traversing two marginalised populations, First Nations people with disability experience multifaceted discrimination and complex social inequality. This is despite being entitled to composite rights under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Convention of the Rights of Person with Disabilities. Engaging 'intersectionality' as an interpretive frame within public policy encourages addressing the rights of First Nations people with disability as a discrete group in their own right. However, the institutionalised configuration of Indigenous and disability poles has often resulted in First Nations disability issues falling off the agenda in policy reform and practice development. This 2 hour interactive panel discussion will explore the current interface between the First Nations disability community, practice, research and public policy, and the advancement of Indigenous disability knowledges and rights. Panelist offer unique perspectives from community, practice, research, and policy. Panelists will share examples of how this interface has organically come together to address the unique social, cultural and systems complexity in addressing the inequalities confronting the First Nations disability community.

Presenters

Dr Scott Avery, Western Sydney University

Dr Talia Avrahamzon, Australian National University

TBC, First Peoples Disability
Network

8C. Welfare Conditionality: Australia and beyond

Date: Wednesay 3 November
Time: 06.00PM–08.00PM
Chair: Dr Jeremiah Brown, UNSW Sydney

Session overview

COVID-19 poses an opportunity for countries to reflect on the strength and weaknesses of social welfare and welfare state protection for the future. This panel is organized to explore the new directions for social policy changes in different countries after the COVID-19.

Presenters

"A Waste of My Time." ParentsNext, the embodied time of parenting, and 'Appointment time'
Dr Eve Vincent, Macquarie University

Marketisation and conditionality: two sides of the same activation coin? Evidence from Ireland
Dr Michael McGann, Maynooth University

Paternalism in Australian parliamentary debate: the case of drug testing social security recipients
Dr Katherine Curchin, Australian National University

Between Apparatuses and Assemblies: The Reformations of Welfare
Dr Tom Boland, University College Cork

9A. More effective policy making and policy research: the case of alcohol and other drugs

Date: Thursday 4 November
Time: 09.00AM–11.00AM
Chair: Professor Alison Ritter, Director, Drug Policy Modelling Program, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Session overview

This session provides insights into a variety of policy making and policy research topics, including new research on policy making processes under conditions of emergency, using evidence for more effective advocacy, and understanding the impacts of incremental policy change. We also highlight methods, including mapping policy responses and working with anthropology. This tapas of original research papers all hang together around policy concerned with alcohol and others drugs. Papers cover alcohol, opioids, and cannabis. This new work from the Drug Policy Modelling Program is relevant for all areas of social policy and we look forward to sharing our insights such that we can be more effective policy researchers and create better policy!

Presenters

Making policy under emergency conditions: what can we learn?
Richard Mellor, UNSW Sydney

Mapping policy responses under COVID-19: an example of global alcohol policy mapping
Claire Wilkinson, UNSW Sydney

Incremental policy making: the gap between intention and implementation
Liz Barrett, UNSW Sydney

Wielding evidence to inform policy: a path to effective advocacy
Michala Kowalski, UNSW Sydney

On being an anthropologist in an applied social policy research team
Laura McLauchlan, UNSW Sydney

9B. UNSW/ACOSS Poverty and Inequality Partnership presents: Poverty and inequality in the Covid crisis

Date: Thursday 4 November
Time: 02.00PM–04.00PM
Chair: Dr Yuvisthi Naidoo, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Session overview

The Covid crisis has been associated with dramatic changes to the incomes of Australian families. In 2020, lockdowns led to job losses, while household incomes were supported by wage subsidies and income support supplements. In 2021, these supports have been significantly reduced. In this session, we different aspects of the impact of the crisis on family incomes, in the context of both longer-term trends and international comparisons.

Presenters

The Covid impact on the Australian labour market
Bjorn Jarvis, ABS

Income support and poverty from the turn of the century to the Covid crisis
A/Prof Bruce Bradbury, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

COVID Jobseeker and Jobkeeper impacts on poverty under current and alternative policy scenarios
A/Prof Ben Phillips, Australian National University (ANU)

Income support during the Covid crisis: International perspectives
Prof Peter Whiteford, Australian National University (ANU)

'In this together, recovering unequally': Income inequality in the pandemic
Dr Peter Davidson, ACOSS & UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Discussant
Charmaine Crowe, ACOSS

9C. New trends in comparative social policy in the post pandemic world 1

Date: Thursday 4 November
Time: 04.30PM–06.00PM
Chairs: Associate Professor Stefan Kuehner, Lingnan University, Hong Kong & Professor Bingqin Li, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Session overview

Public health concerns have played an important role in the history of social policy development. The COVID-19 pandemic is not only about health risks and health system resilience, but also poses a whole range of new challenges to people's livelihoods, lifestyle and the vulnerabilities associated with these changes. What is more, the COVID-19 pandemic affected many countries in the world. There has been a range of international comparative research on the responses by the state and the public and the health system resilience to the pandemic. There is also some research on the role of social policy during the COVID-19 as an important part of the pandemic. COVID-19 poses an opportunity for countries to reflect on the strength and weaknesses of social welfare and welfare state protection for the future. This panel is organized to explore the new directions for social policy changes in different countries after the COVID-19.

Presenters

From 'New Social Risks' to 'Covid Social Risks'? The Challenges for Inclusive Society in South Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan Amidst the Global Pandemic
Prof Young Jun Choi - Yonsei University, Republic of Korea, Prof. Stefan Kühner - Lingnan University, Hong Kong, Prof. Shih-Jiunn Shi - National Taiwan University, Taiwan

Explaining the Child Poverty Outcomes of Japan, South Korea and Taiwan
Assoc Professor Bruce Bradbury - UNSW Social Policy Research Centre, Professor Aya Abe - Tokyo Metropolitan University, Professor Markus Jäntti - Stockholm University, Dr Inhoe Ku - Seoul National University, Dr Julia Shu-Huah Wang - University of Hong Kong

Perceptions of Health System Resilience to COVID-19: Cases of Singapore, South Korea, Malaysia, and China
Prof Bingqin Li - UNSW Sydney, Prof Shun Wang - KDI School of Public Policy and Management, JJ Woo - National University of Singapore

Mexico's Social Policy Response to Covid-19: A Path of Minimal Action
Prof Ricardo Velázquez Leyer, Ibero CIUDAD Mexico

Addressing the new demand for care needs in industrialised China. The case of the South Guangdong Housemaking Project
Asso Prof Ijin Hong, Sun Yat Sen University, China

9D. New trends in comparative social policy in the post pandemic world 2

Date: Thursday 4 November
Time: 07.00PM–08.30PM
Chairs: Associate Professor Stefan Kuehner, Lingnan University, Hong Kong & Professor Bingqin Li, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Session overview

Public health concerns have played an important role in the history of social policy development. The COVID-19 pandemic is not only about health risks and health system resilience, but also poses a whole range of new challenges to people's livelihoods, lifestyle and the vulnerabilities associated with these changes. What is more, the COVID-19 pandemic affected many countries in the world. There has been a range of international comparative research on the responses by the state and the public and the health system resilience to the pandemic. There is also some research on the role of social policy during the COVID-19 as an important part of the pandemic. COVID-19 poses an opportunity for countries to reflect on the strength and weaknesses of social welfare and welfare state protection for the future. This panel is organized to explore the new directions for social policy changes in different countries after the COVID-19.

Presenters

New social policy concerns after COVID-19
Professor Ilan Katz, UNSW Social Policy Research Centre

Housing policy during the pandemic: Reflections from Greece and United Kingdom
Professor Nicholas Pleace & Dr. Antonios Roumpakis - York University, UK

The role of informal social citizenship in developed welfare states: moral economy and the framing of COVID-19 policy strategies
Dr. Markus Ketola - University of Edinburgh, Asso Prof Johan Nordensvärd - University of Linkoping, Sweden

Rise of social insurance state—knowledge transfer between Germany and China
Prof Tao Liu, Zhejiang University

10A. Economics of Social Changes in China and Australia

Date: Friday 5 November
Time: 11.30AM–01.30PM
Chairs: Associate Professor Zhiming Cheng, UNSW Sydney & Macquarie University

Session overview

This session will present papers on economic and demographic analysis of social policy and social changes in Australia and China.

Presenters

New social policy concerns after COVID-19 assaults in NSW and Victoria during lockdowns
Professor Massimiliano Tani, UNSW Canberra

Mama Loves You: The Gender Wage Gap and Expenditure on Children's Education in China
A/Prof Zhiming Cheng, UNSW Sydney & Macquarie University

Air pollution and entrepreneurship
Liwen Guo, UNSW Canberra

Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy among Major Migrant Groups in Australia: The Role of Nativity in the 'Healthy Migrant Effect'
Dr Guogui Huang, Macquarie University

Tackling The Challenges of Old Age Care Services in Communities in China
Dr Sisi Yang, UNSW Sydney & Macquarie University

10B. What open science means for the future of social policy research in Australia

Date: Friday 5 November
Time: 02.00PM–04.00PM
Chairs: Dr Katherine Curchin, Australian National University

Session overview

The crisis of replication has spawned an international movement aiming to make social science more open and transparent. The realisation that many well-established findings from classic studies cannot be reproduced has prompted many funders and publishers of social research to require researchers to make their datasets accessible and their analytic methods transparent. The Australian Journal of Social Issues (AJSI) is developing a new data accessibility and transparency policy with the aim of enhancing the rigour of the research we publish. Some of our competitor journals internationally already have data policies in place. At this session the editors of the AJSI will share our rationale for developing a data policy and provide information about the international trend towards open science. The majority of the session will be given over to interactive discussion among contributors to the journal, providing the audience an opportunity to have input into the new policy.

Presenters

International context: Why data transparency?
Dr Steven McEachern, Australian National University (ANU)

Developing a data transparency and accountability policy for the Australian Journal of Social Issues
Associate Professor Ben Edwards, Australian National University (ANU)

10C. Income management policies

Date: Friday 5 November
Time: 04.30PM–06.30PM
Chairs: Dr Katherine Curchin, Australian National University

Session overview

The Australian government has been trialling income management policies since 2007. Income management applies to people who receive income support payments from the government (e.g. unemployment or parenting payments), restricting their choices over how they can spend their income. The goal of income management is to encourage spending on essentials and reduce spending on gambling, alcohol, and illegal drugs. This session will bring together recent and ongoing research on the topic, from across a range of disciplines and methods. It will be an opportunity to hear from researchers working in this area, and to build a broader picture of the potential implications of extending or expanding current policies. Presenters will discuss whether the policy achieves its goals, as well as challenges with implementation and unintended effects. This research is particularly topical because in late 2022, parliament will vote on whether to make the current Cashless Debit Card trials permanent.

Presenters

Measuring the social impacts of income management in the Northern Territory: an updated analysis
Dr Rob Bray, Australian National University (ANU)

Income management of government payments on welfare: the Australian cashless debit card
Dr Luke Greenacre, Monash University

The long shadow of welfare reform: health impacts of Australia's 'emergency response' to Indigenous disadvantage
Ms Mary-Alice Doyle, London School of Economics

Barriers to implementing compulsory income management
Professor Philip Mendes, Monash University