

Upcoming Events

Convention on the Rights of the Child in the 21st Century: Securing rights to children in an age of uncertainty.

Approximately one thousand lawyers, judges and allied professionals from around the world will meet in March for the 4th World Congress on Family Law and Children's Rights.



This high-profile and influential international gathering will review key emerging issues, policies and practices that impact on the administration of justice in the family law area and on the rights of children and youth.

Keynote speakers and chairs include:

- Mme Graça Machel, Patron of the Congress - UN Study on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children
- The Hon Philip Ruddock - Attorney-General for Australia
- The Rt Hon Baroness Hale of Richmond DBE, PC Lord of Appeal in Ordinary
- Mary Robinson, Executive Director - Ethical Globalization Initiative
- Carol Bellamy, Executive Director - UNICEF
- The Hon Justice Yvonne Mokgoro - Constitutional Court of South Africa
- Geraldine Van Beuren, Professor of International Human Rights Law - Universities of London & Cape Town
- Savitri Goonesekere, Professor of Law - University of Colombo
- Willie Henegan - South African Law Reform Commission
- Maria Eugenia Villarreal - IPRA

- Professor Jaap Doek, UNCROC (UN Convention on the Rights of the Child)

The congress brochure is now available on our website www.lawrights.asn.au or follow the link below http://www.lawrights.asn.au/html/2005_online.htm

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Call for Papers for Country Children's Services Association of NSW Inc Annual Conference June 2005.

The conference theme is **Children's Services as Family Services: revolution or evolution?**

Objectives:

- To explore ways of building and strengthening relationships with families
- To examine ways that children and families contribute to curriculum development
- To explore the role of leadership as a catalyst for change
- To investigate how marketing contributes to high quality service delivery
- To find ways to re-evaluate service delivery in the light of new policy directions

The conference will be held in Newcastle, City Hall, Friday 17 to Sunday 19 June 2005.

Kathy Whalan

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ISPCAN would like to announce its upcoming Global Institute Program: “Child Abuse Prevention-Good Practice Models Around the World”.

Location: Town and Country Resort & Convention Center, San Diego, CA, USA

Date: Monday, January 24, 2005, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Come and listen to the experts from around the world! This year’s speakers include:

- Deborah Daro, PhD, University of Chicago, Chapin Hall Center for Children, USA
- Evelyn Eisenstein, MD, DrSc, Centro de Estudos Integrados, Infância, Adolescência, Saúde (CEIIAS), Brazil
- Tufail Muhammad, MD, Child Rights and Abuse Committee of Pakistan Paediatric Association, Pakistan
- Bernard Gerbaka, MD, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Hotel – Dieu Hospital, Lebanon
- Jonathan Picken, Chair Elect, British Association for the Study and Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, UK
- Harriet MacMillan, MD, Departments of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences and Pediatrics, McMaster University, Canada
- Buki Ponle, M. Sc, Senior Editor, News Agency of Nigeria, Nigeria

The Global Institute Program and the Registration Form are attached. They are also available on the ISPCAN website: www.ispcan.org

To register, please fill out the attached Registration Form and submit it to ISPCAN with payment by email (eventmanager@ispcan.org), fax (1.630.221.1313) or by mail (ISPCAN, Attn: 2005 Global Institute, 25 W. 560 Geneva RD, Suite L2C, Carol Stream, IL 60188).

Contact Tatyana Bessonov at eventmanager@ispcan.org or at 1.630.221.1311. ISPCAN Congress/Conference Manager The International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) www.ispcan.org

Youth Keynote Panel

One highlight of the conference will be the youth keynote panel titled “Our Voices, Our Stories, Our Triumphs.” The panel will be comprised of youth **18 and under** who have been affected by violence and abuse, and confronted it in a positive way. **We are looking for 5-6 youth to be members of this panel.**

If you know someone who may be interested in speaking on this panel, please have him/her answer the following questions and submit by following the same instructions below.

1. How has violence or abuse affected your life?
2. How were you able to overcome your struggles with violence or abuse?
3. How has your outlook on life changed since that time?
4. In what ways have you been able to give back to your community in preventing violence?

Children Conceived through Donor Insemination

Project Managers: Sarah Wise/ Jan Duffie

Since one in 20 Australian children is now born through IVF, understanding the development and dynamics of family life for this sizeable group of children is extremely important. Yet gaining access to this particular population can be difficult. The Institute is fortunate to have formed a strategic relationship with Professor Gabor Kovacs of the Monash Medical School, Box Hill Hospital, renowned for his contribution to the IVF research field from its early days.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Institute and Professor Kovacs has been signed. Under the agreement, the Institute will collect information on approximately 100 families and children where the child was conceived using donor insemination technology, and compare these children and their families with families and children involved in the Children and Family Life study on key outcome variables. A central research question for this study is the extent to which ‘openness’ about children’s conception contributes to child and family wellbeing.

<http://www.aifs.gov.au/institute/research/progA.html>

3rd Annual Violence in the World of Our Youth Conference: Partners In Prevention May 5th – 7th, 2005

Call For Submissions

Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, CA
Presented by The Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute at CSPP, AIU

Violence in the World of Our Youth conference is designed to bring together a diverse group of experts in the field of youth violence prevention, intervention, and advocacy. Conference participants will include educators, psychologists, counselors, parents, social workers, youth, clergy, advocates, probation and law enforcement officers, youth service workers, and others. The overall goal of the conference is to further education and work together to stimulate multidisciplinary solutions to the problem of youth violence.

The Family Violence and Sexual Assault Institute invites Presenters to submit workshops on one or more of the following topics:

- o Teen Dating Violence
- o Prevention Programs
- o Violence in the Home
- o Cultural/Diversity Training
- o Sexual Assault
- o Policies and Legislation
- o Advocacy/Outreach
- o Substance Abuse
- o School Violence
- o Gangs
- o Community Collaborations
- o Trauma

Engine Innovate Conference 2005

Imagine attending a conference which was the work of young people who came together to provide a ‘voice’ back to professionals about service delivery, education and the relationship between research and policy from their perspective. This conference event not only

delivers the satisfaction of participating in change, learning and innovation, but provides an interface for discussion and growth on multiple levels between young people and professionals.

The 2004 Engine Innovate Conference was the inaugural event which provided the vision and foundation for moving into a new era of events which fill this niche in the youth sector. The Action Research Outcomes Report from the 2004 conference has offered rich learning’s which pointed us toward a youth lead model for 2005.

The conference, to be held in Port Fairy, will be a festive but focused event. This new and refreshing combination of examining evidence base, research and programs in a highly interactive and youth driven way, will ignite your passion for 2005 and return you to your sector armed with new ideas. Port Fairy will come alive with 10 venues, a fully integrated and concurrent Young People’s Program, expressions of the arts and a combination of experts, researchers and practitioners.

Gillian Swan, Conference Administrator
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NSW Ombudsman’s Child Abuse and Neglect Deaths Report

The NSW Ombudsman today released the Reviewable Deaths Annual Report 2003 - 2004 as well as a report on the investigation into the death of a 3yr old boy known to DoCS. The Reviewable Deaths report reviews the deaths of 137 children and 110 people with disabilities, between December 2002 and December 2003 and makes 18 recommendations. It also reviews the progress on recommendations made in previous reports. The report on the investigation into the death of the young boy criticises DoCS “continual failure to adequately respond to reports about risks of harm to the children”.

Both reports and the Ombudsman’s media statement are now on the website: <http://www.nswombudsman.nsw.gov.au>