

ANROWS study into child protection responses to domestic and family violence in First Nations families – ACU expert available

Australian Catholic University's Institute of Child Protection Studies has partnered with Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) to investigate the responses of child protection systems to incidents of domestic and family violence among First Nations families.

The report, released by ANROWS today, argues First Nation's voices need to be elevated to prioritise community-led solutions for healing and recovery. A new *Healing our children and young people framework* has also been developed to support policy makers and child protection systems based on the report findings.

ICPS Director Professor Daryl Higgins said culturally sensitive, evidence-based practices, as outlined in the new framework, were needed to stop the intergenerational trauma of domestic and family violence on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families.

"This research shows the need to improve education within communities, resource early support services, and ensure the rights and safety of children are upheld through holistic and culturally-responsive systems that support families and give them a voice as they work towards healing," he said.

Expert commentary

ICPS Director Professor Daryl Higgins is available for interview about the ANROWS *You Can't Pour from an Empty Cup* report of which ACU was a research partner. Professor Higgins is based at ACU's Melbourne campus and is available for media interviews in person, by phone, or teleconference.

Link to the report: [ANROWS to provide](#)

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