



GIPPSLAND

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Gippsland Family Law Pathways Network

The monthly FLPN bulletin for practitioners across Gippsland who intersect with the family law space.

If you know a service provider or organisation who wishes to be included in this network newsfeed, email us at gippslandfamilylawpathways@betterplace.com.au

Twilight Session #2

The Gippsland Family Law Pathways Network and Better Place Australia presents the September 19th *Twilight Session* at Saltbush Café, 148 Commercial Rd Morwell, 5.30pm

"Growing up in a sexualised culture" with speaker Dr Russell Pratt.

Tickets on Trybooking for \$35.00. Tickets include an evening meal and a drink of your choice.

<https://www.trybooking.com/BECOF> or <https://www.trybooking.com/529001>

September brings a springtime Twilight Session with Dr. Russell Pratt who will lead a discussion into the controversial subject of pornography in contemporary society, with specific reference to how the sexualised culture impacts Family Law and mediation practice.

From 2014 Dr Russell Pratt and his colleague Cyra Fernandes have undertaken quantitative research on pornography's influence on sexually abusive youth. Key questions often asked are whether pornography acts as a "how to" manual of sexual behaviour and does pornography desensitise young people who sexually harm others to the harm they might cause? Russell provides insight into these queries and will discuss what has changed in the sexual world of children and youth (and perhaps even for adults) and how this presents challenges for family law practitioners and mediators working with separating families. Russell will explain a set of proposed practice principles which practitioners can refer to when working with sexually abusive youth to help them manage pornography consumption (*The Savvy Consumer Model*).

This Twilight session is relevant to legal professionals and mediators working in Family Law space as well as professionals working in areas where child protection and domestic family violence intersects. The Twilight Sessions contributes to CPD and PD requirements.

Updates from Around the Web / Blogs / Opinion Pieces / Studies and Reports

Children have views regarding what happens during Family Court processes:

<http://macdiarmidlegal.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Including-childrens-views.pdf>

Consent is a child's right:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-28/consent-training-for-kids-empowers-them-against-sexual-abuse/11335842>

Terrific u-tube vids regarding consent for children, tweens and young adults:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGoWLWS4-kU>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3nhM9UIJc>

Woman's Agenda reports on escalating childcare costs:

<https://womensagenda.com.au/latest/childcare-costs-are-an-increasing-stress-for-parents-nows-the-time-for-good-policy-making/>

Court situated violence is a contemporary issue in family dispute matters:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-07-25/accused-joondalup-courthouse-killer-had-knife-skills-trial-told/11346784>

News and Developments

Express your opinion regarding changes to the costs of Family Court: Joint Costs Advisory Committee - 2019 call for submissions (Submissions will be accepted until 23:59 AEST, 2 August 2019)

http://www.familycourt.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/fcoaweb/about/news/jcac_2019

The Intersection of Child Protection and Family Law:

The overlapping jurisdiction of Commonwealth and State (Private and Public) in matters of Family Law and Child Protection are complex. In the case of child protection legislation, the Federal Family Law Act defers to orders under State Legislation because the Commonwealth Parliament does not have legislative competence in relation to such matters. However, there are difficulties which arise in practice. To understand this in more detail please refer to the following discussion:

<https://www.alrc.gov.au/sites/default/files/pdfs/publications/19.%20The%20intersection%20of%20Child%20Protection%20and%20Family%20Laws.pdf>

See the Australian Institute of Family Studies for a resource sheet regarding State by State child protection legislation:

<https://aifs.gov.au/cfca/publications/cfca-resource-sheet>

Earn 1 hour of CPD points by attending the Future of Law Reform webinar:

<https://www.cchlearning.com.au/catalogue/634-the-future-of-law-reform/>

News and Developments

News from Victoria Police:

The new **L17**, which has an MARAM framework, is being rolled out across Victoria. The release of the new L17 has been timed to coordinate with the State-wide release of Crime and Event Reporting on mobile devices. Police are not mandated to use the devices but those who do will not have to wait to return to the police station to capture and submit their reports.

<https://www.nifvs.org.au/police-to-implement-new-l17/>

The Victorian Government has recently committed to introduce a standalone strangulation offence:

<https://theconversation.com/victorias-commitment-to-a-non-fatal-strangulation-offence-will-make-a-difference-to-vulnerable-women-119743>

Research project on self-represented litigants in Family Law proceeding involving family violence:

The University of Technology Sydney are conducting a research project which aims to examine the role and impact of self-representation in family law proceedings involving allegations of family violence. This research is funded by ANROWS and has been approved by the UTS Human Research Ethics Committee.

[To find out more, please click here](#)

For information about services available in Gippsland, visit the Family Law Pathways Network Circuit Court information kiosk:

The FLPN kiosk will be present from 9am -3.30 pm during the Mon and Tus of weeks beginning **16th September** and **11th November**, providing service information, Network expertise and referral advice. Located upstairs in the Latrobe Valley Magistrates Court, look for the FLPN brochure display.



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