

Racism and the health and wellbeing of children and youth

Understanding impacts, finding solutions

Program

26th June 2014

19.30: Welcome Dinner

Charcoal Lane (136 Gertrude St, Fitzroy, Victoria)

<http://www.charcoallane.com.au/>

27th June 2014

8.30-17.00: Symposium

234 Queensberry st, The University of Melbourne

http://maps.unimelb.edu.au/parkville/building/263#.U5_KRJxmM40

Time	Event	More details	Location
8.30-9.00	Registration	Coffee/tea available.	Foyer of level 2, 234 Queensberry st
9.00-9.30	Opening comments	Welcome to Country by Aunty Di Kerr/ Opening comments from Ms Pat Anderson and Symposium organisers	Theatrette 230/Level 2, 234 Queensberry st
9.30-11.15	Session 1: Understanding the impacts: Pathways between racism and child and youth health and wellbeing (Oral presentations)	Chair: A/Prof Margaret Kelaher 1. <i>'How do maternal and contextual experiences of racism and discrimination impact on children's health? A longitudinal examination of possible pathways using the UK Millennium Cohort Study'</i> Dr Laia Becares, Manchester University, UK 2. <i>'Racism and Health in the United States: Socio-Psychobiological Pathways of Embodiment'</i> Dr David Chae, University of Maryland, USA 3. <i>'Discrimination and Substance Use: A Test with Adolescents in Hawaii'</i> Ms Rebecca Knight, University of Hawaii, USA 4. <i>'Racism and its contribution to health inequalities in Aboriginal Australia.'</i> Dr Carrington Shepherd, Telethon Institute of Child Health Research	Theatrette 230/lvl 2

11.15-11.30	Morning tea		Foyer of level 2
11.30-13.15	Session 2: Developing solutions: Anti-racism and pro-diversity interventions (Oral presentations)	<p>Chair: Prof Yin Paradies</p> <p>1. <i>'Anti-racism theory and practice with children and youth: learnings from recent Australian community-based studies'</i> Dr Naomi Priest, University of Melbourne/Deakin University</p> <p>2. <i>'Theory-driven experimental field studies can produce twelve months of sustained intergroup bias reduction'</i> Associate Professor Fiona White, University of Sydney</p> <p>3. <i>'Nandiri Mariwari – Bangawarra Gumada (Seeing Hate –Strengthening Spirit): Resiliency against Racism'</i> Dr Gawaian Bodkin Andrews, Macquarie University</p> <p>4. <i>'Developing a behavioural model of racism and school attendance: Policy implications for Indigenous children and youth'</i> Nicholas Biddle, ANU</p>	Theatrette 230/lvl 2
13.15 - 14.00	Lunch	Sign up for afternoon discussion groups	Foyer of level 2
		Poster presentation: <i>'Real Time Monitoring of Cyber-Racism'</i> Dr Andre Oboler, CEO, Online Hate Prevention Institute	Theatrette 227/Lvl 2
14.00-16.00	Session 3: Break-out discussion groups to develop policy, practice and research solutions including: <i>Attendees will be able to nominate topics for discussion groups during morning tea and lunch breaks</i>	1. Children in Immigration Detention (facilitated by UNICEF)	Room 421/Lvl 4
		2. National Anti-racism Strategy and schools (facilitated by the Australian Human Rights Commission)	Room 521/Lvl 5
		3. Youth forum (facilitated by the Centre for Multicultural Youth)	Room 409/Lvl 4
		4. Over-representation of Indigenous children in out of home care (facilitated by UNICEF and SNAICC)	Room 545/Lvl 5
16.00-17.00	Conclusions	Feedback from group discussion and a “Where to from here” discussion to inform symposium recommendations and a symposium statement. Facilitated by Professor Kerry Arabena	Theatrette 230/lvl 2

Presenter Biography

Ms Pat Anderson AO

Ms Pat Anderson is an Alyawarre woman known nationally and internationally as a powerful advocate for disadvantaged people, with a particular focus on the health of Australia's First Peoples. She has extensive experience in all aspects of Aboriginal health, including community development, advocacy, policy formation and research ethics. Ms Anderson has spoken before the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous People, and currently serves as the Chairperson of The Lowitja Institute: Australia's National Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research. She has also been the CEO of Danila Dilba Health Service in Darwin, Chair of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation, Executive Officer of the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT), and was the Chair of the CRC for Aboriginal Health from 2003 to 2009. Ms Anderson has had many essays, papers and articles published. She was a co-author with Rex Wild QC of *Little Children Are Sacred*, a report on the abuse of Aboriginal children in the Northern Territory. In 2007 she was awarded the Public Health Association of Australia's Sidney Sax Public Health Medal in recognition of her achievements and she was awarded the Human Rights Community Individual Award (Tony Fitzgerald Memorial Award) in 2012 and an honorary doctorate from Flinders University in 2013. She was recently appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for her services to the community.

Presentation Abstracts and Biographies

Session 1: Understanding the impacts: Pathways between racism and child and youth health and wellbeing (Oral presentations)

1. 'How do maternal and contextual experiences of racism and discrimination impact on children's health? A longitudinal examination of possible pathways using the UK Millennium Cohort Study' Dr Laia Becares, Manchester University, UK

The association between experienced racism and poor health is well documented, and experiences of racism and discrimination have been identified as a crucial distal determinant of ethnic health inequalities. However, this literature is mainly based on cross-sectional examinations focused on adult health. Longitudinal examinations of the association between racism and health, as well as studies examining the relationship between racism and child health, are limited. In addition, evidence on how mothers' experiences of racism and discrimination impact on child health and development, and the mechanisms by which this occurs, is scarce.

This study employs a life course approach to examine: 1) the longitudinal association between maternal reports of experienced discrimination and maternal mental health; 2) the impact of maternal experiences of racism and discrimination on the child's socioemotional development, and 3) the mechanisms by which maternal experiences of racism and discrimination impact on children's health and development, with a focus on the possible mediating role of parenting practices.

Data were drawn from the Millennium Cohort Study, a UK birth cohort study which includes measures on individual- and area-level experiences of racism and discrimination, indicators of maternal mental health (Kessler 6), children's socioemotional development (SDQ), and information on parental practices and socioeconomic circumstances.

Findings show a strong longitudinal association between maternal experiences of racism and discrimination, and a decrease in mother's mental health. Maternal experiences of racism or discrimination were not associated with children's health, but children living in areas where racist insults and/or attacks are fairly or very common were more likely to have increased socioemotional difficulties. Although mothers who reported experiences of racism and discrimination were more likely to use harsher parenting practices, parenting practices did not mediate the strong association between maternal mental health and children's socioemotional development.

***Dr Laia Becares** is a Joint Hallsworth / ESRC Research Fellow at the University of Manchester. Her work examines the determinants of ethnic inequalities on health, with a focus on life course and neighbourhood effects. She is particularly interested in understanding the pathways by which the racialisation of people and places lead to socioeconomic and health inequalities. Her current project, funded by a Hallsworth Fellowship and an ESRC Future Research Leaders grant, compares ethnic inequalities in child health and development in the UK, the US and in New Zealand. She is also working on studies examining how ethnic density is associated with experienced racism and health. She is involved in ESRC Centre on the Dynamics of Ethnicity (CoDE) and is Assistant Editor for Ethnicity and Health.*

2. 'Racism and Health in the United States: Socio-Psychobiological Pathways of Embodiment' Dr David Chae, University of Maryland, USA

Contemporary forms of racism have been shown contribute to persistent racial disparities in health in US contexts. Moreover, developmental perspectives suggest that heightened disease risk in adulthood can be traced to systemic disadvantage and social inequities, beginning with conception and continuing through childhood and adolescence. In this seminar, David H. Chae will describe social and psychobiological pathways of embodiment linking racism and poor health outcomes among African Americans. He will discuss his research on racism at the area-level and disparities in Black-White mortality; his findings on racial discrimination and cardiovascular disease; and his studies integrating the role of internalized racism as a risk factor for aging at the cellular level among African Americans. David will also discuss recent findings on how racism-related factors experienced in adolescence may forecast indicators of early physiologic dysregulation among African Americans in young adulthood. As part of this talk, he will discuss new ways of measuring racism in light of the covert ways in which contemporary forms often manifest. Given the chronicity of racism-related experiences during the lifecourse and their ubiquity across various social domains, implications for policy and practice to mitigate the negative consequences of racism will also be highlighted. Furthermore, family processes and positive dimensions of racial identity will also be discussed as potential points of intervention.

***Dr David H. Chae** is an assistant professor of epidemiology at the University of Maryland, College Park, School of Public Health. He was a W.K. Kellogg Predoctoral Fellow in Health Policy at the Harvard School of Public Health where he obtained his doctoral degree in Social Epidemiology. He was also a Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholar at the University of California, Berkeley and San Francisco. David's research focuses on how dimensions of racism generate racial disparities in health in US contexts. He is currently the principal investigator of a K01 career development award from the National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes of Health to study links between racial minority stress and risk factors for accelerated biological aging among African Americans. He is also the principal investigator of an R01 research grant examining how racism-related factors impact disease progression among African American women with lupus.*

David also studies how racism at the area-level impacts health and mortality. Collectively, his work has provided further evidence for the ill health effects of racism.

3. 'Discrimination and Substance Use: A Test with Adolescents in Hawaii'

Rebecca Knight,^a Thomas A. Wills,^a Joseph Keawe'aimoku Kaholokula,^b Frederick X. Gibbons,^c Melissa Jaspers,^a and Mercedes Harwood-Tappe^a

^aUniversity of Hawaii Cancer Center; ^bJohn A. Burns School of Medicine; ^cUniversity of Connecticut

This research studied pathways in the relation between perceived racial/ethnic discrimination and substance use (tobacco, alcohol, and marijuana) in a multiethnic sample of adolescents (N = 2,659, M age 12.6 years) that included Asian-Americans (31% of the sample), Filipinos (25%), and Native Hawaiians (20%), and Caucasians (16%). A school-based survey included measures of discrimination and substance use as well as measures of six possible mediators (school involvement, affect, smoking/alcohol expectancies, rebelliousness, social competence, and self-esteem). Results from a structural modeling analysis showed mediation through more anger, rebelliousness, and substance expectancies and less school involvement; the mediators had indirect effects to adolescent substance use through affiliation with peer users as well as direct effects to substance use. Multiple-group analysis showed significant paths from discrimination to the mediators that were similar for Asian-Americans, Filipinos, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders but not for Caucasians. Discrimination affects several different ethnic groups and does so from relatively early ages. Processes underlying the effect of discrimination on substance use were similar for three of the ethnic groups studied.

Ms Rebecca Knight has a Masters of Public Health degree from the University of Hawaii, Honolulu. She is currently based at the University of Hawaii, Cancer Center, in the Department of Epidemiology, under the supervision of Dr. Thomas A. Wills. For the past three years she has been serving as project director for a Hawaii-based study about media effects on adolescent smoking and alcohol use. Her research interests include substance use and abuse among minority adolescents and the role of stress and coping in vulnerability to substance use. Rebecca is also interested in more general research on Indigenous populations, discrimination/ethnic differences, and electronic cigarettes. Her previous research has focused on obesity, exercise/physical activity and nutrition.

4. 'Racism and its contribution to health inequalities in Aboriginal Australia' Dr Carrington Shepherd, Telethon Institute of Child Health Research

The pervasive disparities in the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians have been well documented. The reasons for these disparities and the poor state of Aboriginal health in Australia are complex and multifaceted, although the impact of racism on the health of populations in this country is becoming clearer. While the existing evidence-base connects the experiences of racism with Aboriginal ill-health, there is currently not a definitive understanding of the contribution that racism makes to health inequalities. In addition, we have a limited understanding of the pathways and processes by which racism impacts on the health of Aboriginal Australians.

This paper will summarise the existing empirical evidence on the level of racism faced by Aboriginal peoples, and the nature of its relationship with the health of Aboriginal populations. It will argue that we require a more explicit and sophisticated examination of the contribution that racism makes to disparities in health within Aboriginal Australia, in conjunction with other key social determinants of health and wellbeing. This will facilitate a better grasp of the complex

underlying mechanisms that lead to poor health outcomes among Aboriginal peoples and provide a more robust evidence-base that is fundamental to processes that aim to “Close the Gap”.

***Dr Carrington Shepherd** is a post-doctoral researcher at the Telethon Institute of Child Health in Perth. He was awarded his doctorate in 2013, which examined the role of socioeconomic factors on the health and development of Aboriginal populations—this is one of the few studies internationally to explicitly look at the socioeconomic patterning of health in an Indigenous population, and the first to examine these patterns among Aboriginal children using population-representative data. Carrington has a passionate interest in bridging the knowledge gap on social inequalities in Aboriginal health and his research explores how social determinants and pathways can lead to enhanced life outcomes and increase the pace of change toward health equity in Australia. He also manages the Child Mortality Database (CMD) project and is using unique population data to investigate ways of reducing preventable and unexplained deaths in the early life course.*

Session 2:

Developing solutions: Anti-racism and pro-diversity interventions (Oral presentations)

1. 'Anti-racism theory and practice with children and youth: learnings from recent Australian community-based studies.'

Dr Naomi Priest^{a,b} and Professor Yin Paradies^b

^aMcCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne; ^bCentre for Citizenship and Globalisation, Deakin University

It is widely acknowledged that multi-level, multi-strategy interventions to address racism and promote cultural diversity are critical in reaching children and young people, and have potential to strongly influence their life chances. Programs focused on children are considered particularly important in promoting intercultural understanding and acceptance of diversity into the future, as well as in protecting children from racism's harmful effects both during childhood and throughout their lives. While pertinent knowledge exists in theoretical and laboratory research literature, it is rarely implemented in community and school settings nor evaluated using rigorous designs. Discussion continues regarding the most important individual and social factors to be targeted in interventions to prevent racism and negative attitudes towards cultural diversity and to promote intercultural understanding, with a lack of empirical agreement regarding the best way to promote positive attitudes and prevent prejudice among children. While the ultimate goal would be to prevent racism from occurring in the first place, there is also a paucity of knowledge regarding the optimal strategies to buffer children from racism's harmful effects on their health and wellbeing when it does occur. This presentation will discuss findings from recent Australian community based anti-racism interventions with children and young people including Localities Embracing and Accepting Diversity (LEAD); Using museums to counter racism and increase acceptance of diversity among young people; 'Talking Culture' developing an ethnic-racial socialisation intervention for primary school students; and the 'Intercultural Understanding Field Trial'. It will discuss these findings within the context of current theoretical and empirical evidence and give recommendations for future research, policy and practice.

***Dr Naomi Priest** is Alfred Deakin Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Citizenship and Globalisation, Deakin University and Program Leader, Anti-Racism Diversity Studies Program, McCaughey VicHealth Centre for Community Wellbeing, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne. Her current research is focused on addressing child health inequalities through combating racism and promoting diversity and inclusion. This includes social epidemiology*

and qualitative research to understand the effects of racism on child and youth health and wellbeing; how children develop racial/ethnic attitudes and intercultural understanding, including ethnic-racial socialisation processes; as well as developing, implementing and evaluating anti-racism interventions with children and young people. She also conducts research examining community attitudes towards cultural diversity and experiences of racism among adults from majority and minority backgrounds, and on developing mental health promotion interventions among young children. Naomi also has a strong interest in evidence synthesis and knowledge translation and exchange, has worked with the Cochrane Public Health Group and lead publication of a number of systematic reviews (including the first international systematic review of epidemiological studies of racism and health and wellbeing for children and young people), participated in the development of guidelines for systematic reviews of health promotion and public health interventions together with international experts, and worked on consultancies for the WHO Global Commission on Social Determinants of Health, Queensland Health and VicHealth. Naomi has also worked as an occupational therapist in a range of community settings with children and families from diverse backgrounds and as a lecturer and clinical supervisor in occupational therapy.

2. 'Theory-driven experimental field studies can produce twelve months of sustained intergroup bias reduction' Associate Professor Fiona White, University of Sydney

Longitudinal research can track critical periods, test models of causal relationships, and provide evidence on optimal times for interventions to promote positive development, despite, this type, longitudinal research is surprisingly rare in the field of prejudice reduction. The current research addresses this by highlighting how long-term intergroup bias reduction can be successfully achieved with multiple sessions of a Dual Identity E-Contact (DIEC) intervention. Here, data from Muslim and Christian students attending religiously segregated high-schools was collected across three years: – Time 1 (pre-DIEC intervention) when they were in Year 7, Time 2 (2-weeks post-DIEC intervention) and Time 3 (6-months post-DIEC intervention) when they were in Year 8, and Time 4 (12-months post-DIEC intervention) when they were in Year 9. At each time point, Muslim ($n = 92$) and 96 Christian ($n = 96$) students completed measures of affective intergroup bias, intergroup anxiety, and outgroup knowledge. The results found that the intergroup bias reduction among the DIEC group at Time 2, are maintained at Time 4. When investigated further within religious group, the long-term bias reduction was found only amongst the Muslim DIEC students, and not the Christian DIEC students. Explanations for these interesting findings are evaluated and implications for future research are discussed.

Associate Professor Fiona White is an international expert in developing effective strategies to promote intergroup relations based at the University of Sydney. Fiona White's work is recognised internationally for developing new measures of prejudice, identifying sources of prejudice, and developing strategies for the effective long-term prejudice reduction. The quality of her contribution to the field of prejudice reduction is evidenced by her ability to attract competitive grant funding. Specifically, she been awarded funding by the ARC Discovery Project Scheme for a study of "Cooperative dual identity: A new approach to promote ethnic harmony between Muslim and non Muslim Australians." (2009-11). Here she developed and evaluated an innovative dual identity electronic-contact (DIEC) strategy to promote long-term intergroup harmony between Muslim and Christian high-school students (13-15 years of age). In 2010, A/Prof. White was invited to be a CI on a subsequently successful VicHealth Grant (\$199k) examining children's ethnic-racial socialisation. The critical interview findings revealed not only that socialisation strategies for parents and teachers of primary children school children (8-12 years of age) differed, but that the strategies varied depending on the children's ethnic minority vs majority status. Across her career,

A/Prof. White has published over 40 papers in peer-reviewed publications with over 500 citations and 60 conference presentations. These publications have appeared in a number of high impact psychology journals. She has also been lead author on three editions of a developmental psychology textbook that has had substantial national impact with over 14,000 copies sold. A/Prof. White also maintains a research active role in the scholarship of teaching having been awarded six highly competitive research-teaching grants (> \$500K). In recognition of the quality embodied by her contribution to the research scholarship of learning and teaching A/Prof. White was the successful recipient of the 2012 Vice Chancellor's Excellence in Teaching Award.

3. 'Nandiri Mariwari – Bangawarra Gumada (Seeing Hate –Strengthening Spirit): Resiliency against Racism' Dr Gawaian Bodkin Andrews, Macquarie University

Across the last two decades, there has been a substantial increase in the amount of research that has sought to understand the impact of racism on Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Associated with this research, are a number of empirical papers (both quantitative and qualitative) that have sought to identify how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples may cope with racism within their daily lives. It is the purpose of this presentation to explore three studies that have sought to identify potential agents of resilience against racism within the educational context. Two of the studies explored statistical interactions between popular positive psychology constructs and racism in predicting educational outcomes. A third study sought to identify possible agents of resilience drawn from the voices and life stories of respected Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representatives. The results revealed a complex pattern of not only agents of resiliency, but also a number of interactions that alluded to 'positive' factors that may make Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students more susceptible to the negative impact of racism. Whilst acknowledging the limitations of this research (e.g., contextual factors), the findings do suggest that it is important that future research more carefully examine a diversity of indirect effects racism may have on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student outcomes.

Dr Gawaian Bodkin-Andrews is a Senior Lecture at Warawara – Department of Indigenous Studies at Macquarie University (funded by the Australian Research Council - ARC), and is also a member of the ARC special initiative, National Indigenous Research and Knowledges Network (NIRAKN). He completed his PhD in 2008 (examining the impact of self-concept, motivation, and racism on Indigenous and non-Indigenous schooling outcomes), and has been a Chief Investigator on four ARC, one AIATSIS, two internal university grants, and two research tenures. Each of these projects have, utilizing varying methodologies, investigated Indigenous Australian issues in education, wellbeing, self-concept, motivation, identity, peer-mentoring, bullying, and racism. His projects have led to the development of strong foundation in varying research designs, including developing psychometrically sound instrumentation, conducting interviews across a wide range of age-groups, and undertaking advanced quantitative data analyses (primarily within the Structural Equation Modelling framework). His research has also attracted a number of national and international awards (including the AARE Betty-Watts Indigenous Researcher award), and he currently has numerous journal publications, book chapters, and peer reviewed conference publications, all of which have a strong emphasis on Indigenous Australian affairs.

4. 'Developing a behavioural model of racism and school attendance: Policy implications for Indigenous children and youth' Dr Nicholas Biddle, ANU

In order to benefit academically, socially and physically from school, children and youth need to attend on a regular basis. While the relationship is probably not linear, it is fair to say that those students who do not attend school regularly are likely to fall behind their peers, with resulting

negative effects on school completion, school achievement, and later life outcomes. The causes of low rates of attendance are, however, complex and multi-dimensional. In order to design and target policies that work in ensuring children do attend school, it is important to understand the factors that predict both high and low levels of attendance at an individual level. There is an increasing policy focus on the school attendance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (Indigenous) children with a new Closing the Gap target being implemented on the issue. However, these targets will not be met unless policies designed to achieve them are based on solid evidence that takes into account the agency and autonomy of the children and youth themselves, as well as the Indigenous-specific and other factors that influence attendance. The aim of this paper and presentation is to develop and outline a behavioural model that explains patterns of attendance, with a particular focus on experiences of racism amongst Indigenous children and youth. The model and policy implications that follow are based on a review of the existing qualitative and quantitative literature, as well as new analysis of four nationally representative datasets – the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS), the Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC), the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC) and the Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth (LSAY).

***Dr Nicholas Biddle** is a quantitative social scientist and a Fellow at the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research (CAEPR) at the Australian National University (ANU). He is currently Graduate Convenor for CAEPR and a member of the College's Research Committee. He has a Bachelor of Economics (Hons.) from the University of Sydney and a Master of Education from Monash University. He also has a PhD in Public Policy from the ANU where he wrote his thesis on the benefits of and participation in education of Indigenous Australians.*

Poster Presentation

'Real Time Monitoring of Cyber-Racism' Dr Andre Oboler, CEO, Online Hate Prevention Institute

Real time monitoring of cyber-racism is essential. It enabled mitigation efforts, exposes trends in society, and allows the impact of anti-hate campaigns to be empirically measured. Users are already investing significant amounts of time to report cyber-racism to social media platform providers. Data on the number and nature of these reports, and the effectiveness of platform providers in responding to the reports, does not exist. This presentation introduces a new system for gathering this data in a manner that is independent of the commercial interest of the companies. This empowers users, while allowing their efforts to feed into research and regulatory efforts that can improve online society.

The new system is being developed in multiple stages. The first stage, which allows users to report a limited number of types of hate, is currently in testing. The presentation presents key aspects of this first stage as well as a basic module for researchers and organisations to access and work with this data. The software is being produced in-house by the Online Hate Prevention Institute (www.ohpi.org.au), a charity working to combat problems ranging of problems including cyber-racism, cyber-bullying, serious trolling and hate targeting other groups, and members of those groups, within society.

Break-out Discussion Group Information

1. Children in Immigration Detention (facilitated by UNICEF)

Room 421/Level 4

The principle of detention as a last resort, and shifting the Australian narrative on asylum seekers to ensure the safety, well-being and positive development of children who require humanitarian protection. What questions does this raise in relation to Australian identity?

2. National Anti-racism Strategy and schools (facilitated by the Australian Human Rights Commission)

Room 521/Level 5

Youth engagement and education are priorities of the National Anti-Racism Strategy led by the Australian Human Rights Commission. Through the Strategy the Commission has developed resources for young people and educators aimed at preventing and reducing racism and encouraging safe and effective responses when it occurs. This session is an opportunity to provide input into future youth and education-focused activities under the Strategy.

3. Youth Forum (facilitated by the Centre for Multicultural Youth)

Room 409/Level 4

The Youth Forum will provide symposium attendees with the opportunity to hear directly from a panel of young people about their understanding of the impact of racism, as well as their lived experiences of racism in its various forms. Informed by these stories, participants will work together with young people to design practical solutions for combating racism at local, national and international levels.

4. Over-representation of Indigenous children in out of home care (facilitated by UNICEF and SNAICC)

Room 545/Level 5

Keeping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children safe and connected to their communities and culture.

5. Intragroup bullying and racism in schools (facilitated by A/Prof Juli Coffin, Telethon Kids Institute and GRAMS)

(withdrawn)

Facilitator biography

Professor Kerry Arabena

Dr Kerry Arabena is Chair for Indigenous Health and Professor and Director, Onemda VicHealth Koori Health Unit, and formerly the Professor and Director of Indigenous Health Research in the School for Indigenous Health, Monash University. A descendant of the Meriam people of the Torres Strait, and a former social worker with a doctorate in human ecology, Professor Arabena has an extensive background in public health, administration, community development and research working in senior roles in indigenous policy and sexual health. Her work has been in areas such as gender issues, social justice, human rights, access and equity, service provision, harm minimisation, and citizenship rights and responsibilities. She was a founding Co-Chair of the new national Indigenous peak body, the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, a collective voice to lobby governments on Indigenous issues.