

KEY EVENTS BRIEF

AIFS KEY EVENTS, NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2022

► Publications and articles

Release date	Publication type	Title	AIFS authors	Notes
3 November	Research report	Evaluation of the Family / Small Claims Property Pilot – Priority Property Pools Under \$500,000 (PPP500)	Dr Rachel Carson, John De Maio, Dr Lixia Qu, Dr Rae Kaspiew, Dr Emily Stevens, Dr Kei Sakata, Dr Briony Horsfall, Louise Press, of the AIFS Family Law team	Commissioned by the Attorney-General's Dept. Determines whether access to special mechanisms to resolve post-separation property matters (particularly for women) improve outcomes where the value of the property pool may make it uneconomic to pursue through the family law system.
3 November	Research report	Evaluation of the Lawyer-assisted Family Law Property Mediation: Legal Aid Commission Trial – Final report	Dr Rachel Carson, Dr Lixia Qu, Dr Rae Kaspiew, Dr Emily Stevens, Dr Kei Sakata, Dr Briony Horsfall, John De Maio, of the AIFS Family Law team	Commissioned by the Attorney-General's Dept. Examines whether lawyer assisted mechanisms help resolve post-separation property matters for parties (particularly women) with property pools of less than \$500,000, where it is uneconomic to pursue through the family law system.
10 November	Research report	Illicit substance use among adult males in Australia, 2013/14-2020/21	Dr Brendan Quinn, Dr Rebecca Jenkinson, Dr Jennifer Prattley, Karlee O'Donnell, Dr Clement Wong, Dr Rukhsana Tajin, Dr Bosco Rowland	Details the use of illegal substances among Australian men aged 18–57 in 2013/14, and changes over time. Also investigates the effect of cannabis use on the experience of depressive symptoms over time, and the socio-demographic and psychosocial factors associated with past-year cocaine use. Chapter 3 of the second Ten to Men Insights Report .
14 November	Research report	Harms associated with loot boxes, simulated gambling and other in-game purchases in video games: a review of the evidence	Nancy Greer, Caillem Murray Boyle, Dr Rebecca Jenkinson, of the Australian Gambling Research Centre	Commissioned by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. Reviews the evidence of harms associated with simulated gambling, loot boxes and other in-game purchases in video games, as well as the effectiveness of mitigation responses.
15 November	Research report	Child wellbeing during the COVID pandemic: Parental concerns	Dr Jennifer Baxter, Dr Tracy Evans-Whipp	Analyses data from the AIFS Families in Australia Survey . Explores how children and young people were impacted by COVID restrictions, via self-reporting of their parents.
16 November	Research report	Financial support between family members	Dr Jennifer Baxter, Megan Carroll	Explores the ways in which family members support each other financially, and the extent of the support. Data taken from a variety of data sources, including the AIFS Families in Australia Survey and <i>Growing Up in Australia</i> .

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16 November	Short article	Supporting young people experiencing disadvantage to secure work	Cat Strawa	Presents evidence for practitioners working in education and employment on what works to help young, disadvantaged people secure work. Produced by the AIFS CFCA information exchange
17 November	Research report	Recent natural disasters in Australia: Exploring the association with men's mental health and access to healthcare	Karlee O'Donnell, Dr Jennifer Prattley, Dr Clement Wong, Dr Brendan Quinn, Dr Rukhsana Tajin, Dr Rebecca Jenkinson, Dr Bosco Rowland	Explores Australian men's exposure to natural disasters over the past-year and whether it is associated with mental ill-health and use of mental health services. Also investigates common barriers to accessing mental health services. Chapter 4 of the second Ten to Men Insights Report .
18 November (not for public release)	Research report	Summarising the evidence underpinning current understandings of family violence and all forms of violence against women	Coordinated by AIFS; written by internal and external authors	Commissioned by Respect Victoria. Summarises the research on a range of manifestations of family violence and violence against women and identifies gaps in the evidence.
30 November	Short article	Responding to food relief needs	External authors: Sue Kleve, Danielle Gallegos	Outlines the evidence on responding to food relief needs in a dignified, nutritious, sustainable and equitable way. Produced by the AIFS CFCA information exchange
30 November	Practice guide	How the experiences and circumstances of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) children and families influence child mental health	Anagha Joshi, Dr Pragya Gartoulla	Explores the child and family experiences and circumstances that contribute to child mental health service access and outcomes in CALD communities, drawing on evidence and stakeholder consultation. Produced by the AIFS Emerging Minds team .
30 November	Practice guide	Culturally informed ways to support mental health in refugee and asylum seeker children	Anagha Joshi, Dr Pragya Gartoulla	Describes how practitioners can support the mental health of children in refugee and asylum seeker populations. Produced by the AIFS Emerging Minds team .
7 December	Short article	Mental health literacy and action interventions for school-aged children	Dr Pragya Gartoulla; External authors: Alexandra Marinucci, Dr Christine Grove	Explains how mental health literacy interventions can be used to enhance youth mental health and potentially decrease the prevalence of mental illness. Produced by the AIFS CFCA information exchange
9 December	Research report	In home care evaluation report	Dr Jennifer Baxter, Mikayla Budinski, Jessica Smart and the Child Care Package evaluation team	Commissioned by the Dept. of Education as part of the review of the Child Care Package reforms; submitted to the Department in 2020. Evaluates the use of the In Home Care program, drawing on data to early 2020 from agencies, services and families.
9 December	Research report	Australian Military and Veteran Families Study	Dr Jody Hughes, Dr Luke Gahan, Dr Lakshmi Neelakantan, of the	Commissioned by the Department of Defence and the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Explores family experiences of military life and how Australian Defence

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			AIFS Defence and Veteran Family Research team	Force families' transition from service can be improved. Public release to be confirmed.
15 December	Resource sheet	Understanding and defining loneliness and social isolation	Cat Strawa	Explores how social isolation and loneliness are understood and provides common definitions to support practitioners working with people experiencing challenges with social relationships and connections. For the AIFS CFCA information exchange

► Research studies in the field

Date range	Study	Fieldwork participants	AIFS team and personnel	Notes
August 2022 – June 2023	Community of Practice Pilot Evaluation	Participant polls with Families and Children Activity funded service providers who participate in the Community of Practice	Evidence and Evaluation Support Sharnee Moore, Jessica Smart	Small-scale evaluation of the Community of Practice pilot, which will help AIFS and DSS understand if a Community of Practice model is a useful approach for building the capability of professionals in the FaC sector.
August – December 2022	<i>Ten to Men</i> : The Longitudinal Study on Male Health	National study of over 16,000 boys and men, aged between 10 and 55 when recruited in 2013/14	Ten to Men Dr Sean Martin, Jennifer Renda, Kipling Walker, Jessie Dunstan, Deborah Louwen, Karen Biddiscombe, Sarah Carr	Ten to Men project team and fieldwork provider Social Research Centre have finalised methodology and survey content. Wave 4 fieldwork will be undertaken concurrently for the Main, Pilot and Top-up samples.
November - December 2022	AIFS-CFCA Needs and Impact Survey 2022	Professionals working to improve outcomes for children and families.	Child Family Community Australia Dr Stewart Muir, Dr Pragya Gartoulla, Dr Mandy Truong, Anagha Joshi, Cat Strawa, Dr Jasmine B. MacDonald, Melissa Willoughby, Eliza Cotton	Annual survey of practitioners and professionals to help identify the key issues they face and how to support the use of evidence in their work. The findings will inform the development of AIFS CFCA resources and services.

► Key events (AIFS-hosted webinars, seminars, workshops, forums)

Date	Event type	Team / series	Event title	Presenters	Notes
16 November	Webinar	AIFS/Emerging Minds	Exploring parents' concerns about children's mental health and wellbeing	Co-ordinated by Melissa Willoughby. External presenters: Emi A, Dr Jamie Lee, Joanne Donne	Highlights practice skills for working with parents who have concerns about their child's mental health and wellbeing. Aimed at practitioners for whom working with children is not a regular focus but is within their scope of practice.
28 November	Seminar	AIFS Research	Overview of causal inference from observational studies	External presenter: Dr Ghazaleh Dashti	Guest presentation for internal research staff.

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30 November	Webinar	Family Law/ Child Family Community Australia	Parenting orders: Research on compliance and enforcement and insights from practice	Dr Rae Kaspiw, Dr Rachel Carson; External presenter: Michele Robinson, Melonie Creek	Highlights findings from a recent AIFS report commissioned by ANROWS. Investigates why some parents do not comply with parenting orders, and whether enforcement mechanisms and penalties improve compliance.
7 December	Webinar	Child Family Community Australia	How to support clients exposed to technology-facilitated coercive control	Facilitated by Dr Jasmine B. MacDonald. External presenters: Dr Evita March, Niamh O'Connor, Kristen Poel	Shares strategies to help practitioners recognise technology-facilitated coercive control and support victim-survivors.

► Recent media coverage

Date	Media type	Project	Activity	Interviewee	Notes
15 November	Radio		Interview with 2CC <i>Talking Canberra</i> with Leon Delaney	Dr Jennifer Baxter	Discusses the new AIFS report, Child wellbeing during the COVID pandemic: Parental concerns
17 November	Radio	Ten to Men	Interview with ABC Melbourne <i>Drive</i> with Raf Epstein	Karlee O'Donnell	Discusses the new AIFS report Recent natural disasters in Australia: Exploring the association with men's mental health and access to healthcare
17 November	Radio	Ten to Men	Interview with ABC North Queensland <i>Mornings</i> with Jess Naunton	Karlee O'Donnell	Discusses the new AIFS report Recent natural disasters in Australia: Exploring the association with men's mental health and access to healthcare
22 November	Radio	Ten to Men	Interview with ABC Radio Shepparton <i>Breakfast</i> with Nick Healy	Hon Dr Sharman Stone, Director	Discusses the new AIFS report Recent natural disasters in Australia: Exploring the association with men's mental health and access to healthcare
22 November	Television	Ten to Men	Interview with 10 News First with National Affairs Editor Hugh Riminton	Dr Sean Martin, Karlee O'Donnell	Discusses the new AIFS report Recent natural disasters in Australia: Exploring the association with men's mental health and access to healthcare
28 November	Newspaper	Australian Gambling Research Centre	Interview in the <i>West Australian</i> with Katina Curtis Independent MP Andrew Wilkie wants crackdown on loot boxes in video games	Dr Rebecca Jenkinson	Discusses the new AGRC report Harms associated with loot boxes, simulated gambling and other in-game purchases in video games: a review of the evidence

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Notes:

The AIFS Key Events Brief is produced monthly by the Communications Team @ AIFS. Enquiries: keyevents@aifs.gov.au

These dates are based on our current plans and subject to change.