



Australian Government

Australian Institute of Family Studies

Office of the Director

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28 July 2014

Ms Lyn Beverly
Secretary
Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Email: fpa.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms Beverly,

**Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee
Inquiry into domestic violence in Australia**

The Australian Institute of Family Studies has conducted a significant amount of research of relevance to the domestic violence inquiry. This research includes large scale-quantitative studies of separated families and studies of service system responses to family violence.

The Institute's most recent work in this area is listed below, as are the main relevant reports (web links to these reports are provided). In addition, we wish to draw the Committee's attention to two recently completed reports on family violence prevention: one focuses on initiatives for children aged 0-8 and the other focuses on at-risk groups, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and women with disability. These reports were commissioned by the NSW Department of Family and Community Services and inquiries about these reports should be directed to:

Ms Christine Foran
A/Executive Director, Women NSW
Department of Family and Community Services

The citations for the reports are:

- Campo, M, Kaspiew, R Moore, S and Tayton, S, *A review of domestic and family violence prevention and early intervention services focusing on at-risk groups and communities*, Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne 2014.
- Tayton, S, Kaspiew R, Moore, Moore, S, and M, Campo, M, *A review of domestic and family violence prevention and early intervention services focusing on children aged 0-8*, Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne 2014.

The prevalence and impact of family violence among separated parents has been a focus of the Institute's family law and family violence research program. Two reports based on large-scale quantitative samples of separated parents provide insight into prevalence and impact of family violence over the short and longer term. These are:

- De Maio, J, Kaspiew, R, Smart, D, Dunstan J. and Moore, S, *Survey of Recently Separated Parents: A Study of Parents Who Separated Prior to the Implementation of the Family Law Amendment (Family Violence and Other Measures) Act 2011*, Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne, 2013

Part 1:

http://www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Documents/SurveyOfRecentlySeparatedParents2012/SRSP_Report-part1.pdf

Part 2:

http://www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Documents/SurveyOfRecentlySeparatedParents2012/SRSP_Report-part2.pdf

- Qu, L., Weston, R., Moloney, L.M., Kaspiew, R., & Dunstan, J. (2014). *Post-separation parenting, property and relationship dynamics after five years*. Melbourne: Australian Institute of Family Studies.
<http://www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Documents/Post-SeparationParentingPropertyAndRelationshipDynamicsAfterFiveYears/post-separation-parenting-property-and-relationship-dynamics-after-five-years-chapters-0-2.pdf>

Research examining various aspects of service system responses, including in the family law system, are contained in the following reports and publications:

- Kaspiew, R. Carson, S. Moore, J. De Maio, J. Deblaquiere, and B. Horsfall. (2013) *Independent Children's Lawyer Study: Final Report*. Australian Institute of Family Studies, Melbourne.
www.ag.gov.au/FamiliesAndMarriage/Families/FamilyLawSystem/Documents/IndependentChildrensLawyersStudyReport-Publication.pdf

- Kaspiew, R, De Maio, J, Deblaquiere, J and Horsfall, B. (2012). *Evaluation of a pilot of legally assisted and supported family dispute resolution in family violence cases, Final Report*. Melbourne: Australian Institute of Family Studies.
www.ag.gov.au/FamiliesAndMarriage/Families/FamilyLawSystem/Pages/Familylawpublications.aspx
- Lodge, J., Moloney, L., Robinson, E. (2011). *Domestic and family violence: A review of the literature*. A confidential report for the Department of Human Services. Australian Institute of Family Studies – please refer to the Australian Government Department of Human Services.
- Robinson, E., & Moloney, L. (2010). *Family violence: Towards a holistic approach to screening and risk assessment in family support services* (AFRC Briefing Paper No. 17). Melbourne: Australian Family Relationships Clearinghouse, Australian Institute of Family Studies.
www.aifs.gov.au/afrc/pubs/briefing/b017/index.html
- Kaspiew, R, De Maio, J, Qu, L, Deblaquiere, J (2104) ‘Post-separation parenting arrangements involving minimal time with one parent’ in Hayes, A, Higgins, D, eds. *Families, policy and the law: Selected essays on contemporary issues for Australia*. Melbourne: Australian Institute of Family Studies, 225.
www.aifs.gov.au/institute/pubs/fpl/fpl23.html
- Kaspiew, R, De Maio, J, Deblaquiere, J and Horsfall, B. (2014). ‘Families with complex needs: meeting the challenges of separation’ in Hayes, A, Higgins, D, eds. *Families, policy and the law: Selected essays on contemporary issues for Australia*. Melbourne: Australian Institute of Family Studies, 225.
www.aifs.gov.au/institute/pubs/fpl/fpl22.html

Relevant publications synthesising current literature on intimate partner sexual violence have been produced by the Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault (ACSSA). These include:

- Wall, L. (2012). *The many facets of shame in intimate partner sexual violence*. ACSSA Research Summary. Melbourne: Australian Institute of Family Studies.
<http://www.aifs.gov.au/acssa/pubs/researchsummary/ressum1/index.html>. This ACSSA paper summarises the research literature on the role of and impact of shame for victim/survivors of intimate partner sexual violence.
- Wall, L. (2012). *Asking women about intimate partner sexual violence*. ACSSA Resource Sheet. Melbourne: Australian Institute of Family Studies <http://www.aifs.gov.au/acssa/pubs/sheets/rs4/index.html>. This ACSSA

The Resource Sheet aims to provide current information to those working in health care settings about how to approach the discussion of intimate partner sexual violence with their female clients and patients.

- Fileborn, B (2012) *Sexual violence and gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans, intersex and queer communities*. ACSSA Resource Sheet. Melbourne: Australian Institute of Family Studies. This ACSSA resource sheet aims to provide an overview and draws together the current research on GLBTIQ sexual violence. <http://www.aifs.gov.au/acssa/pubs/sheets/rs3/index.html>

I trust this information assists.

Yours sincerely

Professor Alan Hayes AM
Director