

Aware

AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

In this issue

Dear ACSSA reader

Welcome to the fifteenth edition of *ACSSA Aware*, the quarterly newsletter of the Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault, continuing to provide news, reviews, articles and notices for those working in the sexual assault field in Australia. This newsletter was edited by Cameron Boyd, Research Officer at ACSSA.

This newsletter contains two feature articles by ACSSA staff. 'Perspectives on the treatment of men and boys who sexually abuse', by Cameron Boyd, explores the neglect of feminist theory and critical studies of masculinity in literature regarding the treatment of men and boys who have been sexually violent. It discusses a small but growing body of literature on therapy and interventions ('treatments') that place gender and power at the centre of working with these men. 'Considering elder abuse and sexual assault', by Antonia Quadara, follows on from an article on elder abuse in *ACSSA Aware* 13 ("Elder abuse" and the sexual assault of older women: A new Australian policy response'), also by Antonia, and is particularly pertinent, given potential developments as Australia prepares laws regarding the mandatory reporting of the abuse of elderly people.

In addition to these articles, we review a report by Moira Carmody and Karen Willis, *Developing ethical sexual lives: Young people, sex and sexual assault prevention*, which discusses the first stage of a three-year project that explores sexual assault prevention for young people. We also review a book providing a guide to the laws relating to sexual and reproductive health in NSW, *Sex and the law: A guide for health and community workers in New South Wales*.

In addition, we interviewed Anna Song, from Friends of 'Comfort Women' in Australia, for this newsletter. Friends of 'Comfort Women' Australia is a group established in 2006 to mobilise supporters in Australia to bring justice for 'comfort women'. After this interview took place, the first 'Wednesday protest' occurred in Australia on 7 March, with the protestors gathering outside the Japanese Consulate in Sydney receiving widespread media attention.

There is also our usual 'News in brief' section, detailing recently released reports and other news from the sector.

Finally, there are our regular columns on conferences and training, as well as literature highlights from recent additions to the ACSSA Library collection at the Australian Institute of Family Studies.

As always, ACSSA remains keen to receive feedback on how we can better meet the needs of those committed to working against sexual assault. Please continue to provide us with your comments on current or future publications—we always love to hear from you.

If this is the first issue of *Aware* that you've read, earlier editions can be requested via email or by returning the form on the back page of this issue. Also, all our publications are freely available online at www.aifs.gov.au/acssa

We thank you for supporting ACSSA, and hope you find this newsletter informative, inspiring and perhaps also helpful in your invaluable work to better understand, respond to and ultimately prevent all sexual assault in Australia.

Dr Zoë Morrison
ACSSA Coordinator