



Australian Government

Australian Institute of Family Studies
National Child Protection Clearinghouse

Research Utilisation Project

About the National Child Protection Clearinghouse...

Many thanks for your interest in the work and publications of the National Child Protection Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse is committed to the prevention of child abuse and neglect and aims to contribute to developments in this area through the provision of services such as our information and advisory activities and also through the conduct of child protection related research.

About the 'Research Utilisation Project'...

At present, the National Child Protection Clearinghouse, in conjunction with the Australian Centre for Child Protection (based at the University of South Australia), is undertaking an investigation into research utilisation in the child protection field. The *Research Utilisation Project* aims to explore the extent to which professionals in the child protection field (such as policy makers, service providers, practitioners etc.) access research (for example, journal articles, government reports etc.) concerning child protection.

The rationale for conducting this study is based on the observation that researchers, policy makers, and practitioners often share common goals, but they tend to be represented as three separate cultures. The “cultural gaps” arising from these differences can lead to barriers in creating a shared agenda to effectively serve the families most in need of assistance. It is hoped that this study will identify ways in which the “cultural gap” between research, policy and practice can be bridged to enhance the links between these like-minded groups.

Attached to this flyer is a brief survey, which explores your role in the child protection field and the degree to which you access child protection related research. We ask that you complete the survey (either electronically or in hard copy) and return it by 30th June 2006. If you chose to return the survey in hardcopy, please make a copy of this information sheet for your records. The return of your completed survey will be taken to mean that you have given your consent to participate. One from every 50 surveys returned will be randomly selected to win two adult movie vouchers.

Further information...

If you have any queries you may contact Dr Leah Bromfield at the National Child Protection Clearinghouse on (03) 9214 7862 or email Leah.Bromfield@aifs.gov.au

Thank you for considering this information sheet. We hope you will take part in this important study.

Complete this survey online at
www.aifs.gov.au/nch/researchsurvey.html

Should you not have internet access, return this survey in the reply paid envelope provided
(Do not send this if you have completed the online form)

1. Which of the following best describes your main role?

- Researcher (e.g., university academic, teacher)
- Statutory child protection service professional (including managers of direct service providers)
- Statutory child protection policy professional
- Out of home care service professional (including managers of direct service providers)
- Out of home care policy professional
- Other policy-related professional/program developer
- Foster carer/Residential carer
- Community-based family welfare professional (e.g., family support, parent education, counsellor)
- Adult-centred service professional (e.g., drug and alcohol, mental health, domestic violence)
- Child-centred service professional (e.g., treatment of survivors of child sexual abuse, Manager - Early childhood program)
- Health professional (e.g., maternal and child health nurse, paediatrician, general practitioner, health training and administration)
- Legal professional (e.g., police, lawyer)
- Non-tertiary education or child-care professional (e.g., school teacher, careers advisor, child-care worker)
- Advocacy or lobby group (e.g., NAPCAN, AFCA)
- Other (please specify)

2. In which jurisdiction are you employed?

(e.g., Victoria)

3. What do you consider to be the top three research priorities in the field of child abuse prevention, child protection and out-of-home care?

(Number in order of importance with 1 being most important and 3 being least important)

4. How often do you use research findings in your main role?

(For example, research might refer to theory you learned while undertaking your degree, a paper you have read, or findings from research that were presented at a conference or in a workshop)

1 2 3 4 5

Never Seldom Sometimes Often Always

5. What print sources for research findings have you used in the past 2 years?

(List as many as you can think of, for example, *Child Abuse and Neglect*, *Child Abuse Prevention Issues*, *Children Australia*, *Developing Practice*, research updates provided by your employer)

6. How important do you think research findings are for your role?

1 2 3 4 5

Not at all Seldom Somewhat Important Very
Important important important important

Thank you

This survey is the first part of a research study that aims to better inform researchers about how to make research accessible and relevant to practice and policy.

Are you interested in being involved further in this study?
(Participants who tick "yes" may be invited to participate in a telephone interview of maximum 30 minutes duration in which they will be asked about their views about how best to get research into policy or practice)

Yes, I am willing to take part in a telephone interview

The best time to contact me about this interview is:

(e.g., AM Mondays, BH M-F, AH)

First name:

Last name:

Telephone:

(please include area code e.g., 03 9214 7888)

Email:

One from every 50 surveys returned will be randomly selected to win movie vouchers for 2 adults