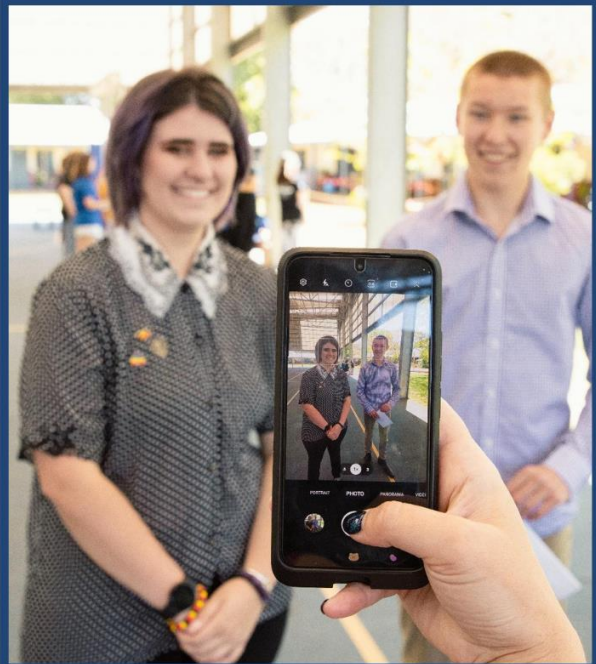


“Listen to Youth – for we have such insights.”

Joshua Patrick



Action plan for young people in Western Australia

Youth Strategy Submission 2024

www.valuingchildreninitiative.com.au

Acknowledgement

At the Valuing Children Initiative, we acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Custodians of this Country and its waters, particularly the Whadjuk Noongar people who's *boodja* (Country) we were founded on. We wish to pay respect to the Elders past, present and emerging, particularly **our children and young people and future decision makers**.

The Valuing Children Initiative wishes to acknowledge the rights of **all *koolankas* (children)** and we wholeheartedly endorse the United Nations Conventions of the Rights of the Child.

We want to say to all children: that you matter and you are valued.



Indigo Ellis is a proud Noongar Nunga girl and a Valuing Children Initiative Ambassador

“Valuing children means seeing them as real people, equal to adults. It means seeing them as future adults, and that the investment we make in children is directly connected to the adults they become. Valuing children means treating them with respect, giving them the tools they need to be able to problem solve independently, and confidently forge their way in life. Children are all unique, and seeing their uniqueness also requires us to value them fully, and not measure them against each other”

– Australian Adults Attitude to Children Survey 2023

We would like to thank our Ambassadors, Indigo Ellis, Joshua Patrick and Kayelene Kerr (founder of eSafeKids) for their contributions to this strategy.

Written and compiled by Sarah Quinton, Development Executive, Valuing Children Initiative

squinton@valuingchildren.com.au

Introduction

Western Australian children make up 25 per cent of our population – yet are rarely asked what they think and feel about the systems that are supposed to assist them; education, health, justice, poverty, child support and child protection to name a few.

This has had a detrimental impact on children and their wellbeing and therefore our whole community.

One in four children experience **child sexual abuse** before the age of 18, one in six **children live below the poverty line**, one in four **children are obese**, 20 per cent of **children are not school ready**, **suicide is the leading cause of death of young people** aged 15-24 and the 2021 ABS found 28,948 **children reported to be homeless**, 17,646 of these children were under the age of 12.

Aboriginal children make up 40 per cent of the Aboriginal population, yet educational, health, housing and justice outcomes are **far worse than their non-indigenous peers**.

The one main reason we continue to see these poor outcomes for our children and young people is because they are not yet prioritised in Government policies and spending.

While we understand that this submission is for young people, you cannot talk about young people without considering talking about them as children. How they experience life as a young person aged 10-24, is framed, constructed and developed in their experiences of being a child aged 0-10.

In Western Australia

Western Australia does not have a strategy for children aged 5-10 years old, we don't have a minister for children with a dedicated budget and we don't have a department for children to develop policies and maintain relationships with community. The experiences of children in government systems are siloed into various different departments. This means by the time a child reaches their teenage years, their experience of government systems is fractured and ad hoc.

In our view at the Valuing Children Initiative, you cannot have a Youth Strategy without a Children's Strategy. A young person's life doesn't start at 10, we need to see the whole child through a whole child strategy.

We know that the self-esteem of a child declines as they grow into their teenage years, and the numbers are worse for females¹ than males. So how we ensure safety, wellbeing and confidence can depend on their childhood years. Early intervention for a child's overall development, health and wellbeing can change a child's developmental trajectory², reducing the risk of further psychosocial and health issues and their associated economic and social consequences. Reimagining a new system that assesses the impact of children, will change our system for everyone.

¹ <https://www.cyp.wa.gov.au/our-work/speaking-out-survey/> Girls Wellbeing

² [00016NoCover.pdf \(parliament.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/00016NoCover.pdf)

Recommendations:

- 1. Adopt legislation to End Child Poverty in Western Australia**
- 2. Legislate the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations in WA and expand the WA Government's Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing to every government department.**
- 3. Legislation for online safety: For the Western Australian government to urge the Australian Government to re-evaluate its decision to implement an age verification system for online safety and at a minimum trial a pilot program.**
- 4. Develop and fund a state-wide child and youth advisory process in every government department.**
- 5. Adopt a Child and Youth Impact Assessment Tool in all decision-making areas of government.**
- 6. Appoint a Minister for all Children with a dedicated Children's Budget – 0-17 years old.**
- 7. Investigate through a Parliamentary Inquiry the availability of therapeutic service for children who experience family and domestic violence.**

Valuing Children Initiative Attitudes Towards Children Survey 2023

In our research, *Exploring Adults Attitudes Towards Children for a Better Future*, children are experiencing increasing and unprecedented pressures as they are accessing social media and technologies at a younger age. While these can be helpful resources, the online world is also posing significant challenges and risks to children.

[Read the full report here](#)

The survey found that the mental health issues and family issues were the two biggest issues facing children today followed by education and drug and alcohol issues.

The majority of adults agreed that the opinions of children should be considered just as important as those of adults (67.2%) but that a child's word is less likely to be believed than that of another adult (75.1%).



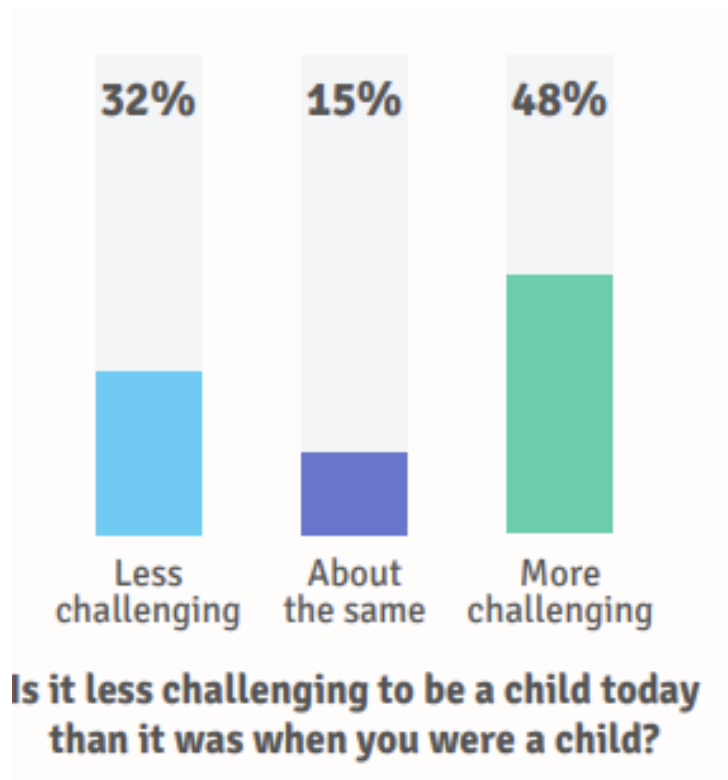
THE VALUING CHILDREN INITIATIVE SURVEY 2023

EXPLORING AUSTRALIAN ADULTS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS CHILDREN FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Respondents also indicated they believed the best interests of children should always be considered in all decisions made by adults (75.2%) and more than half of respondents felt that when making policy decisions, the Australian government gave too little consideration to the impact on children and young people. This response was higher than for other groups, including older Australians, people with disabilities or chronic health conditions, and people on low or fixed incomes.



Children today have to deal with a lot more external pressures and high demands and expectations than any other generation before.



Hear Our Voice
By Joshua Patrick

Through the insight of youth, inspiration we find,
Future direction informed by fresh, eager minds.
Climate change tackled, a sustainable quest,
A green future the aim, to repair and harm less.

Strained mental health services, youth shouldering a tonne,
Crisis cries for help, when needed, receive none.
Unemployment's challenge, youth struggle to survive,
Necessities unaffordable, yet the need to still thrive.

Youth poverty, unacceptable, life-limiting, so unfair,
At times we question, does anyone really care?
Sexual and gender diversity, a unique, colourful array,
Defy stereotypes, challenge bias and pave the way!

Cost of living, a tremendous weight,
The Australian dream? Now an unknown fate.
Housing shortage, rentals are few,
Increasing young homeless, a need to act and do!

First Nations' voices, their wisdom, their story,
We need to improve, humble respect and glory.
Regional education, hobbies and sports,
Empower remote youth, equal to metro consorts.

Youth with disabilities, determination abounds,
Support young warriors, to have resilience, profound.
Young carers, selfless heroes, love extreme, complete,
Loyally nurturing, pushed to limits, often deplete.

Listen to youth, for we have such insight,
For today, tomorrow, hear our plight.
No biases nor stereotypes, we unite,
Inclusive, sustainable, proactive, our fight!

Joshua is an Ambassador for the Valuing Children Initiative
<https://youtu.be/mpxtPcGbH5c?si=vLus6gsFqpOEKnH>



1. Legislate an End to Child Poverty in Western Australia

The existence of child poverty in Australia is undeniable with one in six children living below the poverty line. In real numbers, that's 761,000 Australian children living in poverty, and more than 200,000 experiencing severe poverty. In Western Australia, around 100,000 children live in poverty and it is expected more children will experience poverty as the cost of living and housing crisis deepens.

Our vision is a future where every child in Australia grows up in a country free from poverty, where their potential is nurtured by their community, their dreams are within reach, regardless of their family's economic circumstances.

How does child poverty differ from adult poverty?

Alongside the material elements of poverty such as housing, food security, clothing, access to health and mental health care, education opportunities, income and employment, children also experience poverty as 'missing out' on something non-material. Current approaches don't consider 'non-material' poverty experienced by children. Children also require having their social and emotional needs met as well. Children who experience poverty can describe it as having no more than one pair of shoes, causing shame, losing their teddy because they had to move house so many times, causing grief, missing their friends from school because they've changed schools multiple times. You cannot end child poverty without addressing 'non-material' poverty for children. And you can't end all poverty, without addressing child poverty.

Why legislate an end to child poverty?

While the statistics on child poverty in Australia are alarming, they are not accurate, localised, or up-to-date. Legislation to end child poverty would measure, inform, and transparently report real-time statistics about child poverty so we as a whole community can take action and target services where and when children need them.

Reporting to Parliament every year, governments are held accountable to targets, while providing transparency to the community about the extent of child poverty. When considering initiatives in the Budget, Governments of all levels would then be required to give greater focus to the wellbeing of children in Australia.

The Valuing Children Initiative will launch a new campaign calling on all levels of government to commit to ending child poverty by legislating targets and reporting to Parliament every year.

<https://www.endchildpoverty.com.au/>

[An End to Child Poverty by Adj Professor Tony Pietropiccolo AM](#)

2. Legislate the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations in WA and expand the WA Government's Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing to every government department.

Safe Space legal state that: 'As of 2024, Western Australia is still guided by the Australian Government's National Principles for Child Safe Organisations; **however, these principles have not been implemented into legislation in WA**'.

Since the introduction of The National Principles on a federal level, each state and territory has taken steps towards implementing statewide frameworks and reportable conduct schemes.

[The Department of Communities in WA has not yet incorporated these principles into law, but they remain an essential framework for ensuring child safety within organizations 1.](#)

These principles were agreed upon by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), including the WA Premier, in February 2019. [They provide guidelines for creating safe environments for children and young people in various settings, such as schools, sports clubs, and community organizations 2.](#)

‘While they are not yet legislated in WA, organisations are encouraged to adopt and implement these principles voluntarily to protect children from harm. The focus is on promoting child safety, preventing abuse, and responding effectively if any concerns arise. The principles cover areas such as governance, risk management, staff training, and reporting mechanisms’¹.

The National Principles for Child Safe Organisations are:

- 1 Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture.
3. Children and young people are informed about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously.
4. Families and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safety and well-being.
5. Equity is upheld, and diverse needs are respected in policy and practice.
6. People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and well-being values in practice.
7. Processes to respond to complaints and concerns are child-focused.
8. Through ongoing education and training, staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe.
9. Physical and online environments promote safety and well-being while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed.
10. Implementation of the national child safe principles is regularly reviewed and improved.
11. Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

Recommendation: The Valuing Children Initiative calls on the WA State Government as a matter of urgency to implement the Nationals Principles into legislation in WA.

The Valuing Children Initiative welcomes the WA State Government’s Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing to promote the rights of Western Australian Children and Young People.

The Statement endorses the Child Safe Standards commitment to ensure all children and young people, their families and communities are safe from all forms of harm.

While it is noted that the following departments have pledged their support to the Statement, it does not cover all government departments.

The current list of departments who have signed the Statement are:

- Department of Communities
- Department of Education
- Department of Health
- Department of Justice
- Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
- Mental Health Commission
- Department of the Premier and Cabinet
- WA Police Force

Recommendation: We call on all other State Government departments, Government trading enterprises and agencies, commissions and bodies to do the same.

[Our Commitment to Child Safety and Wellbeing \(www.wa.gov.au\)](http://www.wa.gov.au)

- 3. Legislation for online safety: For the Western Australian government to urge the Australian Government to re-evaluate its decision to implement an age verification system for online safety and at a minimum trial a pilot program.**

One in four children are seeing porn online before the age of 12 and 71 per cent said they were not seeking porn when they witnessed it, Government regulation around online safety is paramount for both children and young people.³

The internet has given our children access to the world, but it has also given the world access to our children. Children gain immense benefits from being online, but there are also risks.

The increase in the number of children online has seen corresponding increases of exposure to pornography, online grooming, online child sexual abuse and exploitation, sextortion, youth produced sexual content, image-based abuse, cyberbullying and exposure to illegal, hurtful, harmful and age-inappropriate content to name but a few. Digital harm is occurring on apps, platforms and online services at unprecedented levels.

Consequently, our children are growing up in a world where it is impossible to avoid sexualised media and pornography.

Six correlational studies among children and young people found that exposure to pornography is associated with perpetrating teen dating violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence and dating violence victimisation.

It's not a matter of 'if' children will see pornography but 'when' and it is getting younger and younger. In Australia the age of first exposure is anecdotally being reported as between 8 and 10 years of age. Recent research by Australian organisation Our Watch found almost half of young males have seen pornography by the age of 13, and almost half of young females by the age of 15.

Young people report that pornography can shape theirs and others' sexual attitudes and behaviours and influence the way people think and act. There is clear evidence that pornography is shaping young men's and women's sexual practices. This has been well documented in relation to heterosexual anal sex and the increase of sexual choking, more accurately this should be referred to as non-fatal strangulation.

Children displaying harmful sexual behaviours

In recent years in Australia, 30% to 60% of child sexual abuse is being committed by children and young people. The Australian Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse highlighted children displaying harmful sexual behaviours as a significant concern.

Recent Australian research explored the onset of children displaying harmful sexual behaviours and found a range of factors increased the likelihood of a children displaying harmful sexual behaviours, one of these is exposure to excessive or harmful pornography. Additional Australian research identified pornography exposure being statistically significant to the onset of harmful sexual behaviours.

³ [Pornography Education Perth | eSafeKids](#)

Australian research findings highlight that 75% of 7-11 year old boys and 67% of 7-11 year old girls in treatment for problem sexual behaviours reported early sexualisation through online pornography. Unsurprisingly, and sadly, demand for therapeutic intervention and treatment of children displaying harmful and problematic sexual behaviours has grown significantly over the past decade.

Recent Australian research found a high rate of young people reported using pornography as a source of information to learn about sex and sexual relationships. Various studies have pointed to the need for comprehensive sexuality and relationship education that meets the needs of young people, including information on developing and maintaining respectful relationships, and responding to the influence of pornography.

The National Survey of Australian Secondary Students and Sexual Health is a periodic survey of sexual health among school-aged young people in Australia. The survey began in 1992 and takes place every 5 years. The survey reports on a range of issues related to sexual identity and experiences, STI and HIV prevention, and relationships and sexuality education (RSE). The [2021 report](#) involved 6,841 young people enrolled in Years 10, 11 and 12 in the Government, Catholic and Independent school systems, and from every Australian state and territory.

Over 95% of young people reported that they believe RSE is an important part of the school curriculum, and 93.0% reported receiving RSE at school, most commonly in Years 8 and 9. However, only 24.8% reported that their most recent RSE class was very or extremely relevant to them.

The WA Data again clearly highlighted the limitations of the current curriculum.

When young people were asked if there was anything else that they'd like to say about RSE, the most consistent and clear theme in young people's responses related to a perceived absence of discussion about sexual practices or experiences within RSE. Young people wanted to learn more about what sex involves and how to negotiate sex with a partner. They also wanted opportunities for more open and frank discussions about sex and relationships. Young people also commented that the RSE they received was not comprehensive and lacked detail on topics they wanted to learn more about **including pornography**, masturbation, consent, and emotional safety in sexual relationships.

[Contribution from Kayelene Kerr at ESafeKids](#)

4. Investigate through a Parliamentary Inquiry the availability of therapeutic service for children who experience family and domestic violence.

Children are victims of domestic and family violence (DFV) in their own right. That is, that children have an experience of domestic violence that is unique to them. The impact of DFV for children is different from that experienced by adults. The issues that arise for children during and subsequent to DFV are specific to them.

There is general acknowledgement that children suffer as a consequence of DFV, and research confirms this. The national and state plans seeking to end domestic violence clearly establish the concept of children as victims in their own right. However, apart from general statements about children and the impact of DFV on them, there is little in-depth examination of what this means for children and the creation of an effective response to their needs.

In discussions with service providers in Western Australia (WA), the consensus is that the DFV service systems, as they are currently conceived and implemented, does not adequately respond to children. There is no reason to believe that this perception is dissimilar to service providers in other Australian states.

There have been some voices signalling that unless the psychological and experiential needs of children subjected to DFV are effectively addressed, then the inter-generational trauma created, will inevitably lead to ongoing family violence in future generations.

To date, there has been little focus on prioritising the therapeutic needs of child victims. Although there is a clear acknowledgement of the impact of DFV on children, the service systems that we currently have remain primarily focused on the needs, both physical and emotional, of the adults involved. Those working in refuges and support services regularly bring the special needs of children to the attention of government but their pleas for additional resources are largely left unanswered. The current system, intended to provide support and care for those escaping DFV is failing children. As an experienced CEO said to me “we’re still not responding to children in their own right.”

Every child that is the victim of DFV needs to have access to therapeutic services as early as possible. Such services need to be delivered, whenever practicable, in association with parents, given that both are inevitably in need of emotional recovery and healing.

There are very few services that specialise in dealing with children who have experienced DFV. There are government funded counselling programs, but these are few, very limited in their capacity and insufficient, given the large number of children requiring assistance. There is a desperate need for the development of a high quality, best practice service system in this area.

[Read *Victims in their Own Right* by Adj Professor Tony Pietropiccolo AM](#)

5. Develop and fund a state-wide child and youth voice engagement process in every government department

Children deserve to be recognised as citizens, unique individuals, and significant community members. To enable their right to voice we must create appropriate opportunities for children to express themselves and their views, to be heard in meaningful ways, and to actively participate in their contexts and communities. It is important to recognise the contributions that children can make. As we look to planning and decision-making for the future, we must elevate children to be included, as it will be their lives that are most influenced and impacted.

*Often our world is designed by adults, for adults, and run by adults as major decision makers. Therefore, children and young people are generally expected to abide by and/or adapt to adult designs and systems. Yet when thinking is altered and children are included from the start of decision-making, outcomes can be improved.⁴ **Be Beside Me** (Dobson, Absalom-Hornby and Baca 2023).*

The above statement from research paper, ‘Be Bedside Me’ epitomises the goals of the Valuing Children Initiative in all the work we do for all children, no matter their age.

Children and young people are yearning for the opportunity to be asked their experiences of the world, particularly those who fall into systems and particularly those that are apparently designed for them.

However, many of these systems, like the Family Court system, child protection system, housing and homelessness, education, health and mental health, child protection and the youth justice system, don’t provide consistent avenues for children and young people to provide their feedback on their experiences.

Research has revealed that children are ‘treated in a rude, dismissive or hostile manner by the adults in their communities.’⁵

⁴ [dobson.pdf \(iier.org.au\)](#)

⁵ [Children-Communities-and-Social-Capital-Report.pdf \(anu.edu.au\)](#)

It is not enough to just bring a group of children or young people together and ask their opinion, action must also be taken and then reflected back to those participants to show they have been heard.

Example of adults misunderstanding children from *PUTTING THE PIECES IN PLACE: CHILDREN, COMMUNITIES AND SOCIAL CAPITAL IN AUSTRALIA* Sharon Bessell, *The Australian National University*

E raised the concern that the cost of housing is too high and leaves families without enough money for other necessities. The group discussed the problem of not having enough money 31 within a family for several minutes, when E brought the discussion back to the cost of housing. This time, she said that both rents and mortgages are too expensive and argued that both should be capped, so people only have to spend a certain amount of their income on housing. This suggestion triggered considerable debate. H said the idea would not work because builders' wages might go down if the prices of houses go down. M agreed with H's concern and said that if builders earned low wages they might look for other jobs, causing a shortage of builders. E continued to argue her case, and both D and F agreed with her that high housing costs are a problem that should be addressed. F observed that costs had been increasing in recent times. E shared with the group that in her family the high cost of rent was a serious problem and at times her mother was unable to afford food. The children agreed there was a problem and continued to debate what could be done for over ten minutes. As the discussion receded, the researcher asked how they knew so much about the issues. M replied, "We see the paper and we watch the news. We know what's going on. It's just that adults think we don't."

Table 2: Participants' reflections on care and support

Stage	Illustrative quotation
Early childhood	Be beside me. Love me and take care of me. There's too many ways. Listen to us more.
Primary	By listening and supporting us in all things that we do. Help me let my creative side out! Talk to you peacefully, believe in you.
Lower secondary	Help me and guide me.
Upper secondary	They can be open to listening to your ideas and being there to support you. Just ask how you are going from day to day life. Value student mental health more.

[Adults can value me] by including me in conversations and treating children more sensibly, because often I think adults can judge a teen or a child as being silly when some kids are really smart kind and funny and have amazing qualities. For parents, they need to be a good parent [by] listening to their child and actually try and help them. – Be Beside Me.

6. Adopt a Child and Youth Impact Assessment Tool in all decision-making areas of government

The Valuing Children Initiative has long called for Government at all levels, private and public organisations and community groups to consider children and young people in the planning process of any project, regulation or legislation.

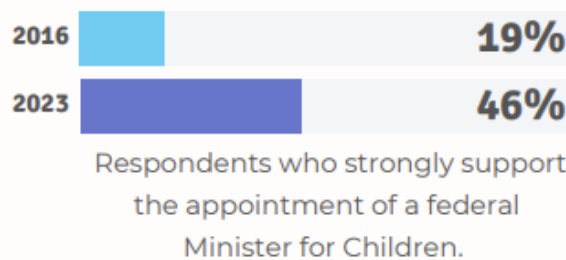
A Child and Youth Impact Assessment Tool in the Western Australian State Cabinet would send a strong signal to the community that the WA State Government values children and young people seriously.

The Adults Attitudes Towards Children Survey also revealed when it comes to giving children and young people a voice, 56.6 per cent of adults thought the government gave ‘too little’ consideration to children and young people when making decisions. For the same question, adults said, that governments give ‘too much’ consideration to large businesses at 55 per cent.

[Read our Child and Youth Impact Assessment Tool here](#)

7. Appoint a Minister for all Children with a dedicated Children’s Budget – 0-17 years old.

Appointing a Children’s Minister is a significant step in many countries that underscores the importance of children’s welfare, development, and rights. Whilst a Minister of Youth was established to provide a whole-of-government approach to youth issues, the United Nations define youth as persons between the ages of 10 and 25 meaning children below the age of 10 do not have a dedicated minister in Western Australia. The Victorian Labor Government recently appointed their first Minister for Children in October 2023. A Children’s Minister could be responsible for developing and implementing policies with the dedicated Children’s Budget to fund programs focusing on children’s needs and will ensure that regular monitoring and evaluation of the policies and programs are meeting goals.



VCI Attitude Survey 2023

Minister for Children in Victoria still focuses on early childhood and select portfolios. Western Australia could have the nation’s first dedicated Minister for Children.

Victoria’s early childhood education and care system and the delivery of the nation-leading Best Start, Best Life reforms, including universally funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten and Pre-Prep. Access to quality early childhood education for all Victorian children is critical, including for children with disability or developmental delay. The Minister is also responsible for driving improvements to Victoria’s child protection and family services system, and the maternal and child healthcare system, providing a whole-of-government focus on child development and wellbeing.ⁱⁱ

Appendix

[UN Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is a legally binding international agreement setting out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of every child regardless of their race, religion or abilities. Australia ratified the UNCRC in December 1990, which means that Australia has a duty to ensure that all children in Australia enjoy these rights.

[Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse](#)

Final Report: Children with harmful sexual behaviours

“We are of the view that, as an important part of the preventative approach to children with harmful sexual behaviours, sex education programs for children should address the issue of pornography and its impact on children’s attitudes around sexuality, gender and relationships.”

[National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022 - 2032](#)

Key areas of focus for addressing gender-based violence in Australia: Pornography

“With pornography now overwhelming consumed online and via mobile devices, it is both prevalent and pervasive, perpetuating sexist, misogynistic and degrading views about women. This is a serious concern in addressing the drivers of violence against women and children.”

[Protecting the age of innocence: Report of the inquiry into age verification for online wagering and online pornography](#)

Australian House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs

2020 - The Committee’s inquiry considered the potential role for online age verification in protecting children and young people in Australia from exposure to online pornography. The Committee recommended the Australian Government direct and adequately resource the eSafety Commissioner to expeditiously develop and publish a roadmap for the implementation of a regime of mandatory age verification for online pornographic material.

The Committee concluded: “... age verification can create a significant barrier to prevent young people - and particularly young children - from exposure to harmful online content. The Committee’s recommendations therefore seek to support the implementation of online age verification in Australia.”

In March 2023, [eSafety](#) submitted a roadmap on age verification to the Australian Government for consideration. It included complementary measures to prevent and mitigate harm to children from online pornography.

Subsequent to this the Australian Government stated it would not implement an age verification system for online safety.

ⁱ [Australian Child Safe Standards - A State By State Guide 2024 \(safespacelegal.com.au\)](#)

ⁱⁱ <https://www.vic.gov.au/ministers-key-staff-department-education>