

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Enquiries](#)
Subject: Submission FW: Attention: Australian STOP Domestic Violence Conference Committee
Date: Thursday, 28 May 2015 4:35:28 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Subject: Attention: Australian STOP Domestic Violence Conference Committee

Date: Thu, 28 May 2015 10:50:38 +1030

Dear Australian STOP Domestic Violence Conference committee members,

I am contacting you to beg for your urgent and immediate attention to and assistance with a particular aspect of violence against Australian women and their children that has been ignored, condoned, colluded with, covered-up and kept secret for many, many years!

My children and I, and many other unknown, un-named and uncounted innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children have and are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations overseas that is ignored, condoned, cover-up and kept secret!

We are denied any and all of the care, concern, compassion, advocacy, resources, attention and support readily provided to Australians who have been arrested for, charged with or found guilty of criminal activity overseas.

For more than fifteen years my desperate pleas for justice, judicial fairness and human rights for my children, myself and other Australian women and children who have and are experiencing a similar trauma and injustice have been ignored!

Despite public rhetoric of "zero tolerance of violence against women" the violence and subsequent injustices we have experienced have been "tolerated" and condoned!

Therefore, I am desperately begging each and every one of you to share any and all of the information provided in this email and as attachments as widely, as publicly and as immediately as possible.

Although the federal government cares enough to track and count Australians who are in goal

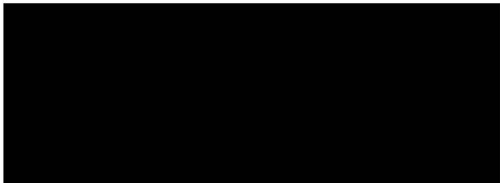
overseas, Australians who are harmed or killed in natural disasters overseas, Australians who travel overseas to fight for terrorist organisations overseas, the federal government has no idea of how many innocent and vulnerable Australian women and their Australian citizen children have been killed or harmed by domestic violence - "domestic terrorism" - overseas, and have no idea of how many Australian women have begged for and been denied Australian Consulates assistance and support readily provided to other Australians!

No-one knows how many Australian women overseas have been killed as a result of domestic violence because up until now no-one, except victims such as me, have cared! I am begging and hoping that you are readily available to change this immediately.

Please, help make all Australian citizens count and speak up for justice, judicial fairness, human rights, safety and security for Australian citizens who are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations wherever they live!

Thank you.

Sincerely,



SUPPLEMENTARY SUBMISSION by Andrew Farran and Paul Barratt in response to the Foreign Minister's Invitation to Comment on Consular Strategy 2014-16

Further to our Submission dated December 7, 2013 we wish to make a Supplementary Submission on an area of Consular practice that has come to our attention, one which derives from one of the matters noted by the Foreign Minister in her Invitation to Comment, namely the fact that one of the factors contributing to the international mobility of Australians and hence the consular workload is the number of Australians marrying overseas – or more generally, we would suggest, the number of Australians living with non-Australian spouses in foreign jurisdictions, which takes in Australians who may marry a foreigner in Australia and subsequently move overseas.

The matter we wish to raise in this Supplementary Submission is the plight of Australian women fighting custody battles in foreign jurisdictions, often involving domestic violence and/or child abuse, sometimes involving abductions. While these cases must of course be governed initially by the law of the country concerned, the women fighting them can face a number of potential problems in their efforts to obtain a just outcome – one which is just not only for them but for their children, who depending upon the circumstances may or may not be Australian citizens. These may involve a failure to deliver on an agreed/negotiated process for considering custody, or a failure to accord natural justice, or even allegations of failure on the part of the relevant assessment authorities to bring all of the relevant information before the court. All of these would seem to be matters warranting consular assistance.

In raising this kind of matter we are not advocating that the Department should deploy its consular capacities on the merits of the custody claims per se. Our concern is that the deliberative processes that determine custody should observe the basic principles of natural justice and not involve any abuse of process. If such be the case then the provisions of and rights arising from relevant international treaties come into play. Their observation should be a matter of the government's responsibility to uphold in so far as they apply to Australian citizens. These provide a basis from which the government can and should rely in its interventions when seeking other governments to uphold and discharge their responsibilities in their own jurisdictions.

While the Convention on the Rights of the Child clearly applies in many such cases, so might the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction. Such abduction might not only arise from the actions of a parent. It could be the consequence of judicial abuse of process. Whether that might or not be argued we come back to the citation from Oppenheimer in our original submission where it is stated that: **"It has been repeatedly laid down that there exists ... a minimum standard of civilisation, and that a State which fails to measure up to that standard incurs international liability"**.

An international legal system committed to order and security is the strongest safeguard of Australia's long-term interests. Naturally if we do not respect and observe our obligations under the system we should not be surprised if other nations do not reciprocate. The fact that some do not do so regardless, is not a reason for Australia to take lightly its own commitments, both to the international community and to its own citizens. Without consular support their rights may prove illusory.

One hears of such cases. Because of their potential complexity (involving both treaty and domestic law) they may be beyond the resources of the Consular Section of the Department to address. Perhaps there should be a dedicated section within DFAT to handle these cases in conjunction with professional consular staff overseas. A private person having initially sought legal assistance in the relevant jurisdiction could not possibly be expected to manage and pay for all that is involved across jurisdictions in these matters to secure a just outcome particularly in circumstances where they have felt obliged for the safety of themselves and/or their children to exit the family home.

We commend to you these additional observations.

Andrew Farran and Paul Barratt

Andrew Farran is a former Australian diplomat, senior law academic (Monash University: 1972-86), and trade policy adviser. Previous vice-president of the Australian Institute of International Affairs. Currently, company director (UK and Australia).

Paul Barratt is a former Secretary of the Department of Defence, former Deputy Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and former Executive Director, Business Council of Australia.

Submission on Development of a new Consular Strategy 2014-16

This submission seeks to raise awareness of the plight of Australian women who are victims of domestic violence in foreign jurisdictions and in the course of attempting to deal with that have received inappropriate treatment by the relevant authorities (including judicial authorities), and the need for the Australian Government to provide prompt and effective consular support to people in this situation.

The current Charter is specific in stating that Consular assistance cannot be given in matters of Family Law, however that is inconsistent with:-

- . the reasonable expectations of the Australian community;-
- . Consular assistance and intervention provided in other legal matters including Criminal offences;-
- . the expression of the Foreign Minister Julie Bishop, who in her invitation to submit to this review identified that Australians 'living, studying, working and marrying overseas' were situations that give rise to Consular cases.

While in general governments should defer to the due legal processes of a foreign country, where there is evidence of a failure of natural justice it would be appropriate for the Department to intercede on an Australian citizen's behalf.

Considering also that women in these situations are most likely to have limited social and financial resources, are far from family, and generally have had to leave their place of residence for their own and their children's safety and welfare would seem to be matters warranting Consular assistance.

I ask that the review of the charter include an acknowledgement that this situation does occur to Australian women and children living overseas, and that Consular assistance is appropriate. A review of the Australian Consular Operations Handbook to reflect this should also occur.

I would also ask that the Department review cases previously referred to it, where miscarriage of justice has been identified.

Please contact me for specific information of a case which I have knowledge of, but would be inappropriate to detail in this submission.



Submission in response to the Foreign Minister's Invitation to Comment on Consular Strategy for 2014-16

Please accept my Submission regarding Consular Assistance which addresses the specific issue of Australian women and children who have experienced or are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse, or legal discrimination overseas, and who have or might have been denied proper Consular care and support in their distressful and harmful situations.

Currently, the Australian government quite rightly provides prompt consular assistance to Australian citizens who have been accused of, incarcerated for or convicted of criminal offences overseas. At the same time, the government espouses the common view that it and its representatives overseas cannot “intervene” in internal matters regardless of the circumstances. This leaves Australian women and children who have experienced and are experiencing domestic violence, and are attempting to resolve the situation, having to do so on their resources even in the face of systemic and judicial abuse or legal discrimination, in such jurisdictions. The fact that this may be occurring in a modern, Western state and not an alien state in the wider sense does not change the nature of the issue.

This policy clearly affects women more than men. It fails Australian women and children at such a very dangerous and vulnerable time. In that regard, I note the comment in your discussion paper about enabling “service levels to be tailored to the most vulnerable clients”. Women with dependent children who find themselves in a situation where they are forced to leave home for the safety of themselves and their children, and find themselves not only homeless and far from the support of family and friends, are all the more vulnerable if the legal processes involved denies them natural justice or is in other respects tainted or corrupt.

Relevant research and data make clear that leaving or having left an abusive relationship can be the most dangerous and lethal time for women and their children. Withholding or not providing effective consular support for such Australian women and children overseas simply compounds their troubles.

For information about my experience and that of my children (all Australian citizens by descent), please see: “Situation Synopsis” on my Facebook page *Domestic Violence Despair* and also my blog: www.dv-despair.blogspot.com.au These tell of an abuse of court process whereby my former spouse, the father of my children, and certain court officials, connived to bring about a miscarriage of justice. Initially the Australian Consul in Ottawa, Canada, wrote to the provincial Justice Department conveying my concerns and requesting that they be given appropriate attention, thus acknowledging that my case was in principle one deserving of consular assistance. When that “appropriate attention” failed to materialise I could obtain no further support.

I question why I was denied appropriate assistance in these circumstances, the nature or truth of which was never questioned.

Australia is a signatory to United Nations Conventions such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, and the Convention on Legal and Political Rights. How does refusing to provide any meaningful assistance and support for innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse overseas, conform to these international obligations?

Australia has appointed a Global Ambassador for Women and Girls whose primary objective is to intervene and advocate regarding domestic violence against women in other countries, but yet, or so it appears to me, it continues to maintain that it cannot “intervene” for Australian women and children on grounds of domestic jurisdiction, even when the upholding of international legal commitments is at stake.

Last year the Australian government sent delegates to the United Nations Convention on the Status of Women. The priority theme was violence against women and children but still the Australian government refuses to provide support or assistance for us and other Australian women and their children who have experienced similar traumas and injustices.

Given the publicity and media attention given to assistance provided to Australian citizens charged with or convicted of crimes overseas why does DFAT and the Australian government not inform women that if they are the victims of domestic violence and injustice overseas, they cannot expect anything like the same level of consular support as is afforded to common criminals?

The Australian government recognises the increased challenges, dangers and barriers experienced by Australian women in relationships overseas. It makes no sense, indeed it is irresponsible, to ignore or understate their plight where violence and judicial abuse may be involved.

Information about my plight can be found as noted on my blog www.dv-despair.blogspot.com.au in a post titled *Milgaard Inquiry*. I should mention here that because of these long-running circumstances one of my children attempted suicide, and last year I was involuntarily hospitalised as a suicide risk. This is by no means unusual. While I was going through my problems I met another Australian woman in the same Canadian province who with her four children was in a similar situation to me.

Finally, I would draw your attention to the gap between the reality where the government recognises the challenges, traumas, barriers and difficulties experienced by women who as immigrants in Australia experience domestic violence here (from their also immigrant spouse or Australian spouse) and finances special services particularly directed to their needs, but does not provide a corresponding level of support through the consular system for expatriate women facing similar difficulties overseas.

Should you have any questions or require further information regarding my submission I am available to answer your questions and/or provide further information as well as copies of supporting documentation, correspondence and research, including letters from professionals – a doctor, a social worker from a domestic violence support program, a counsellor and a preschool teacher – written directly to the overseas provincial Justice Department where we were residing, about their concerns for our circumstances and the court proceedings which so adversely affected our lives.

Thank you for receiving my Submission,

Sincerely,

(Name and address provided, but withheld from publication at the request of the individual lodging the submission.)

Australian Children and Women Trapped Overseas by Domestic Violence & Systemic & Judicial Failures – Situation Synopsis

I met my former spouse in Australia in late [REDACTED] through mutual friends, it was his [REDACTED] trip to Australia and he informed me he wanted to live in Australia permanently and thought Australia a better place to bring up children than [REDACTED].

We were married in Australia in [REDACTED], moving to [REDACTED], where our [REDACTED] daughters were born, supposedly for ten years. In [REDACTED], because of his sustained abusive and controlling behaviour, I left my husband, taking my children with me, and in [REDACTED] we divorced. Thereafter followed protracted adjudication of our custody rights and as part of those proceedings a judge ordered a custody and access home study and this was duly completed by Mr [REDACTED], assessor, Family Law Division, [REDACTED] Department of Justice.

A number of professionals and senior staff of advocacy groups expressed serious concerns regarding the custody and access report. The justice department assessor, [REDACTED], not only misrepresented my children's and my information regarding our family situation and the abuse we experienced, but also information from a doctor, social worker with the Domestic Violence Support Group, counsellor and preschool teacher. He also refused to speak with others including the social worker from the Child Witnesses Support Group my eldest [REDACTED] attended and experts such as Dr [REDACTED], international expert on child witnesses to domestic violence. My [REDACTED] wrote a story called "[REDACTED]", based on [REDACTED] experience of violence in [REDACTED] family which was used by counsellors and in the educational documentary "[REDACTED]".

Some concerns as articulated in a letter regarding our experience to [REDACTED] Q.C. Director Policy Planning and Evaluation Branch, [REDACTED] Justice, from [REDACTED], Psychologist, [REDACTED] Family Service Bureau dated May [REDACTED] include ...

"We want to take this opportunity to let you know, from our point of view, Ms ...'s case is not unique except insofar as she has had the persistence and financial resources to pursue her dissatisfaction with the assessment process and its impact on her and her children. Members of our staff have worked with at least five (5) women who reported similar experiences to that of Ms ..."

Common themes among the women were as follows:

- i Failure on the part of the male assessor to understand or believe the impact that spousal violence had on the women*
- ii Failure on the part of the male assessor to understand or believe the impact that their father's physical and/or verbal violence had on the children*
- iii A propensity on the part of the male assessor to include as part of his report, those witnesses who minimized or denied the existence of violence and to minimize or exclude witnesses who reported violence as a factor that may contraindicate the advisability of joint custody arrangements."*

The assessor's actions were also in direct contravention of the [REDACTED] Justice Department's core standards of practice outlined in the "Model Standards of Practice for Child Custody Evaluations" in place at that time, and in our case despite the specific instructions from the judge to the assessor to investigate any evidence of domestic violence.

Eventually, as a result of our concerns being continually raised with the Justice Department, parameters for a review of the case were cooperatively developed by myself, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Executive Director Policy, Planning and Evaluation and [REDACTED], Executive Director, Family Law Division. The 'parameters' document ([REDACTED]) clearly called for a check on whether the custody/access assessment accurately reflected the views of the professionals consulted and my children and myself, and whose views were included and excluded from the report. Appropriate coverage of these requirements necessitated re-contacting the sources of information cited in the report and the 'parameters' document clearly specified contact with the referees used for the assessment. None of these processes, all of which accord with the "Model Standards of Practice for Child Custody Evaluations" were observed. Instead, two individuals who were appointed to conduct the review based their findings solely on the Family Law Division employee's notes and report. Illogically, and in bad faith given the earlier undertakings, the alleged bias and misrepresentation in the report was tested by using the material case notes being called into question.

The failure to implement the comprehensive custody and access home study review in its negotiated and agreed form exacerbated the intense personal stress I was experiencing. My ongoing requests for assistance, support, safety and security for my children and myself were ignored and eventually my abusive former spouse

gained custody of our children and used this opportunity to undermine my relationship with my daughters, alienating us and contributing to my eldest daughter's attempted suicide.

My former spouse set out to silence and destroy me because I left, wouldn't come back when he insisted and spoke up about the abuse. The Justice Department condoned and colluded with my former spouse's violence and abuse by having their employee misrepresent information about it, not dealing with this when they were made aware, having not dealt with this known problem previously (as Family Service Bureau letter said they had worked with at least 5 other women who had same experience). Neither my former spouse nor the Justice Department cared about the consequences for my children or me and the department obviously had not been concerned about the consequences for any other children and women that their employees had previously misrepresented information about in court in regards to the abuse they experienced. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Justice, said to me when she introduced herself at a Justice Department focus group on how to deal with domestic violence and custody and access, "What happened to you should never have happened to anyone". Then she used all her department's resources and power to fight me and not deal with, but cover-up the situation. Eventually I lost custody because I was no longer able to survive as a result of their joint efforts and my inability to get the assistance, safety, security and justice we needed and deserved. Like other "whistleblowers" I have been depressed, suicidal and unable to work as a consequence of the fight and the backlash.

The new "Model Standards of Practice" for the Justice Department regarding custody and access home studies show the influence of my information; for example, they now state that the assessor must not directly contact the judge out of court. [REDACTED] not only misrepresented information in his report and court testimony but he also contacted the judge out of court, behind the scenes, to share misrepresented information. I only found out about this a long time afterwards. None of the changes made assisted or applied to us.

More recently I was put in contact with another Australian mother, originally from [REDACTED], who with her [REDACTED] children had suffered a similar, traumatic injustice in the same [REDACTED] province.

As Honorary Professor [REDACTED] Faculty of Education and Social Work, [REDACTED] states in a letter of support dated 27.7.2008, "From my reading of the documents surrounding this case I believe there is sufficient evidence of a factual basis to Ms ...'s claims to warrant serious consideration by the [REDACTED] Justice authorities." These concerns, raised many times before and again in Professor [REDACTED]'s and my recent letters to [REDACTED] authorities have once again been dismissed. No one, including the Australian Government, is holding any [REDACTED] authority publicly accountable to providing justice in our case – unlike the Australian governments provision of resources, advocacy and intervention to ensure "judicial fairness" for David Hicks, Schapelle Corby, the "Bali Nine", Australians arrested in Canada while protesting against the seal slaughter/hunt, Australians who boarded Japanese whalers and many others. This lack of assistance is not congruent with public government statements regarding domestic violence or statements made in the recent government media release regarding acceding to the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

Experiencing domestic and family violence is traumatic. Experiencing systemic and judicial failures, discrimination, inadequacies and inequities is traumatic. Discovering that your country and government will provide assistance and advocacy for criminals and other Australians overseas but not innocent and vulnerable Australian children and women is another indescribably traumatic experience.

I have now used all my resources to fight the systems that should have protected us; I no longer have the resources, finances, hope or capacity to continue. I am desperately concerned about my children, myself, the other Australian woman mentioned above and her children's safety and wellbeing, my personal possessions and some documents still in [REDACTED] none of whom or which I have any resources or ability to advocate for or try to protect any longer. Despite Dr [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], [REDACTED], telling me I have done more than any other mother he knows to try and protect my children, despite bringing information to [REDACTED] Justice that made change (for others after us), despite being a woman who has gone parachuting, done her own organic farming, run a business, taken on a justice department ... I am now financially, physically and emotionally bankrupt, afraid, have no sense of success or accomplishment, not able to clearly articulate information, no longer able to be a creative problem solver, not sure how to proceed or what to do next.

Prepared December 2008, "Merinda"

For further information please go to www.womenwhowant2gohome.blogspot.com the online resource I created in the form of a blog.

May 13, 1999

Ms [REDACTED]
Director, Policy, Planning and Evaluation Branch
[REDACTED] Justice
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

We, at the [REDACTED] Family Service Bureau, are pleased that [REDACTED], Executive Director of Court Services and you, Director of Policy, Planning and Evaluation will be reviewing the child custody and access assessment produced for the Family Law Division by [REDACTED] as it pertains to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is a client of our agency and has expressed her dissatisfaction with the Family Law Division's assessment.

We want to take this opportunity to let you know that, from our point of view, [REDACTED] case is not unique except insofar as she has had the persistence and financial resources to pursue her dissatisfaction with the assessment process and its impact on her and her children. Members of our staff have worked with at least five (5) women who reported similar experiences to that of [REDACTED]. Common themes among the five women are as follows:

- i. Failure on the part of the male assessor to understand or believe the impact that spousal violence had on the woman
- ii. Failure on the part of the male assessor to understand or believe the impact that their father's physical and/or verbal violence had on the children
- iii. A propensity on the part of the male assessor to include as part of his report, those witnesses who minimized or denied the existence of violence and to minimize or exclude witnesses who reported violence as a factor that may contraindicate the advisability of joint custody arrangements.

We sincerely hope that all of these factors will be taken into account in the review of [REDACTED] case.

We also want to take this opportunity to express our hope that an independent person cognizant of the impact of violence against women and children be selected to conduct this review of the assessment procedure and of [REDACTED]'s assessment in particular. Further review without this perspective will only do more harm.

AY-13-1999 14:02

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This letter has not attempted to address all of the issues that [REDACTED] has brought to our attention but has rather attempted to focus on the custody and access assessment process.

If it would be helpful to have someone on our staff consult with you regarding this review, please do not hesitate to contact us. We trust this will be a speedy and fair process that will redress the wrong done to [REDACTED] and her children.

Sincerely,



[REDACTED]

To Whom It May Concern:

[REDACTED] came to speak to Year 2 NEPS students in February 2001. She presented a one hour class related to family violence and abuse to two separate groups of about 50 students each.

She provided students with up to date resources for [REDACTED] areas, pointing out the "peach pages" website in the [REDACTED] directory as a resource for abused persons.

She also provided specific real life examples of situations women might be in, as well as examples of places where the Justice and social systems might fail to provide help to women in abusive situations.

The students remarked that her examples provided them with a better understanding of how an abused woman might feel, and also an understanding of specific, useful tools to provide to women, as well as sources for information.

She strongly encouraged students to include an assessment for abuse in their assessments of women. She noted that women are not likely to bring up the subject of abuse unless encouraged.


This presentation was useful and informative.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Dear .

We would like to thank you for taking the time to share your insights and experiences for the  VIDEO. Although domestic abuse is widespread, few are able to tell their story, so the silence continues. It creates a spark of hope for all of us when someone like you does speak out.

We hope that this video will help to change that silence and create new myths about escape and hope for the future for the abused. We admire your courage to step forward and express your feelings candidly for the many men and women who need to hear what you've said.

It is with thanks that we present you with a small honorarium as a token of appreciation for your initiative and inspiration.

Sincerely,





November 4, 1998

To Whom It May Concern:

I, [REDACTED], as [REDACTED] Coordinator, present educationals on Domestic Abuse to students of the College [REDACTED] of [REDACTED]. As one element of those educationals, I invite a woman who has experienced abuse in an intimate relationship to come and tell her personal story to the students. This affords the students the opportunity to apply information presented to them by me (on the dynamics of abuse, and on screening, assessment, and follow-up) to an immediate case history, and to hear first hand what an abused women does and does not find helpful. O [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 1998, [REDACTED] was the volunteer who told her story to the students. The feedback on the evaluations of the educationals attested to my opinion that [REDACTED]'s contribution was very useful to the students, and was excellently done and well received.

Sincerely yours,



Dec. 2 '99 15:13

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION
OTTAWA

25 November 1999

Ms [REDACTED]
Executive Director
Court Services
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to you in connection with contact I have had over the last 6 months with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] concerning the custody arrangements for her Australian children [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I have advised [REDACTED] that custody issues are normally private legal matters to be settled through legal channels. However the Australian government does have a strong interest in the welfare of Australian children abroad.

[REDACTED] has provided me with a copy of your letter of 12 November 1999 about the conduct of an independent review into the custody and access assessment in her case. I note that the review is to be completed by the end of November 1999. [REDACTED] has advised me that she understands the review will not now be completed by the end of November and is unable to obtain any indication of the current timetable for completion of the review from the Justice Department. A copy of [REDACTED]'s most recent letter to me is attached.

We draw [REDACTED]'s concerns to your notice and ask that they receive appropriate attention.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Bill Jackson
Consul

Suite 710, 50 O'Connor Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 6L2, Canada
Telephone: 1 613 783-7609 Facsimile: 1 613 236-4376

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Emily Feels Left Out

Let me tell you about Emily, who is six years old. One night her mother tucked her into bed. When Emily's mom went out of the room the same thing happened that had been happening every night. Emily's mom and dad started fighting. It was Emily's dad that was hitting Emily's mom. Then without one word Emily's dad hit Emily's mom. Emily ran into her Mom and Dad's bedroom and said, "You say sorry to mommy, right now, Daddy." Emily's Daddy didn't know what to say so he just went out of the room. Emily felt sad for her mom.

Then Emily's Mom, who was crying, said, "Emily, I'm afraid that something sad is going to happen. Your dad and I are going to separate."

"What does *separate* mean, Mommy?" said Emily.

"It means go apart, not live in the same house together any more. Now I think it is time for you to go back to bed."

"Good night, Mom."

Emily was surprised that her Mom and Dad wouldn't live together any more. Emily was glad her Dad wouldn't get to hurt her Mom anymore. The next morning Emily questioned her Mom again. Emily said, "Where will we live? Will I still have all my toys?"

"We will live in Duckvillage and you will still have all your toys. Now, quick, dear, you don't need to be late for the bus."

Emily was feeling sad that her Mom and Dad were going to separate. At recess Emily told all her friends. At school time she told her teacher. After school Emily said, "Where is Duckvillage?" Emily pretended she had forgotten where Duckvillage was because she was frightened and

concerned and about moving. "You know where it is, don't you Honey," said Emily's Mom. "It's where your school is."

"When will we be moving?" asked Emily.

"We will be leaving in a week. Now it is time for you to go to bed." Her Mom and dad started fighting. This time Emily's Mom said, "We are going out of this house right now!" She took Emily out to their family car and drove until she could drive no more. Then she went to sleep. In the morning they went back to the house and Emily went to school.

At recess all of Emily's friends came running to her saying, "You did something wrong! You did something wrong!" Emily began to cry. Emily felt left out. On Emily's bus nobody wanted to sit next to her.

In the morning Emily told her Mom that she thought that it wasn't fair that she was the only one in her class that had their Mom and Dad apart. Her Mom agreed.

The next day Emily's Mom asked her if she had any more questions. Emily asked if she did anything wrong.

"No, you did not do anything wrong. I love you just the same way you are. It is time to go to bed." Then Emily asked her Mom if anybody was going to help them move.

"Yes, Amanda's family is going to help us move."

After breakfast, the next day, Amanda's family came to help move. At Emily's house Amanda said, "I'm sorry that I said you did something wrong. Know what? My Mom and Dad are fighting, too. My Mom told me that we are going to move."

"Where are you going to move to?"

"We are going to move to Duckvillage," said Amanda.

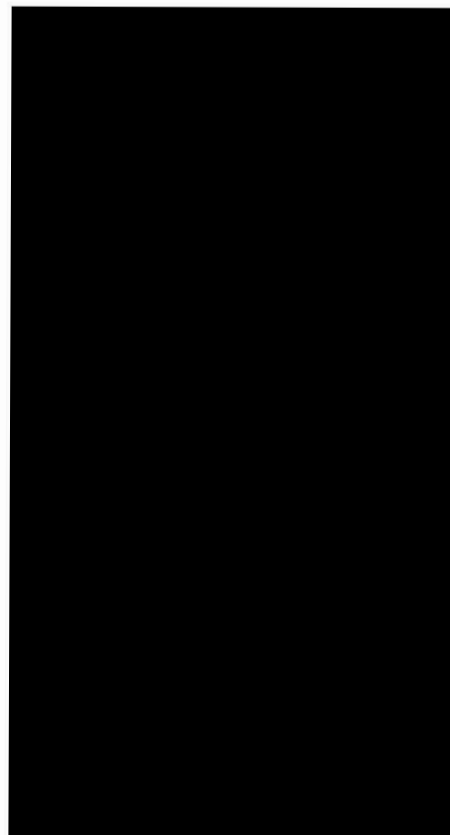
"What street are you going to live on?" asked Emily.

"We are going to live on Dinosaur Street," said Amanda.

"That's the same street I'm going to live on," said Emily excitedly.

"Great!" squealed Amanda and Emily.

"Well, then let's get moving," said Amanda.



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Enquiries](#)
Subject: Submission - Urgent Attention Jane Singleton Re: "Go hard, girls: gutsy interviews serve the nation!"
Date: Thursday, 28 May 2015 4:37:57 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Urgent Attention [REDACTED] Re: "Go hard, girls: gutsy interviews serve the nation!"
Date: Thu, 28 May 2015 12:29:33 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Urgent Attention [REDACTED] Re: "Go hard, girls: gutsy interviews serve the nation!"
Date: Wed, 27 May 2015 13:33:37 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Attention [REDACTED] Re: "Go hard, girls: gutsy interviews serve the nation!"
Date: Tue, 26 May 2015 11:25:37 +1030

Dear Ms [REDACTED],

I am contacting you after reading your recent article "Go hard, girls: gutsy interviews serve the nation" in the hope that with your experience and contacts you might be able to assist me to have attention brought to a very important personal issue – that is the issue of my children's and my experience of domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations overseas that continues to be ignored, condoned, covered-up, colluded with and kept secret.

I have no way of knowing how many other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children have had a similar experience or trauma, abuse and injustice overseas because no-one else will speak about this issue!

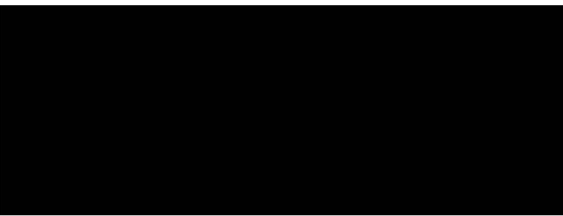
We are denied any and all of the support, care, concern, compassion, advocacy, resources and public, political and media attention we have all seen provided to Australian cattle abused overseas and Australians who have committed crimes overseas!

Please see following other correspondence requesting assistance. Please see attached supporting information and documentation.

You are welcome to share any and all of this information as you feel is appropriate or might be helpful.

Any assistance and support would be greatly appreciated and could make such a difference for my children, myself and many other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children.

Kind regards,



From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Attention Dr [REDACTED]
Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Sun, 17 May 2015 20:53:57 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED];
[REDACTED]
Subject: Attention [REDACTED]-Domestic
Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Fri, 15 May 2015 13:33:24 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED] - Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Tue, 12 May 2015 20:23:11 +1030



Dear Sir,

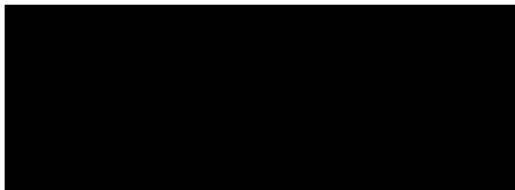
Desperately seeking immediate assistance, support and advocacy for my children, myself and all other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations overseas!

We are denied any and all of the care, concern, compassion, advocacy, support and resources readily provided to Australians who commit crimes overseas!

The domestic violence, injustice, trauma and deliberate harm we have experienced has been ignored, condoned, colluded with, covered-up and kept secret for many, many years.

Therefore I implore you to read the following email and attachments, please share any and all of this information as immediately and as widely as possible with who ever you think is appropriate! Please speak publicly about this information to bring these domestic violence issues into immediate public and political attention!

Thank you.



From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Immediate advocacy & assistance requested - Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Mon, 11 May 2015 18:14:35 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Attention [REDACTED] - Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Mon, 11 May 2015 18:11:28 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
 To: drum@abc.net.au
 Subject: Attention [REDACTED] - Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
 Date: Mon, 11 May 2015 17:22:43 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
 To: [REDACTED]; infoservice@humanrights.gov.au; communications@humanrights.gov.au; [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au
 Subject: Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
 Date: Fri, 8 May 2015 13:59:30 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
 To: infoservice@humanrights.gov.au; communications@humanrights.gov.au; [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au; [REDACTED]
 Subject: Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
 Date: Fri, 8 May 2015 13:45:22 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
 To: dssfeedback@dss.gov.au; media@pmc.gov.au; manly@parliament.nsw.gov.au; cheltenham@parliament.sa.gov.au; thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au; wa-governement@dpc.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]; barr@act.gov.au; chief.minister@nt.gov.au
 Subject: Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
 Date: Thu, 30 Apr 2015 22:45:42 +1030

Dear Australian Leaders,

In light of priority given to the issue of Reducing Violence against Women at your recent Council of Australian Governments meeting in Canberra and your subsequent communiqué I am contacting you to beg for your urgent and immediate attention to and assistance with a particular aspect of violence against Australian women and their children that has been ignored, condoned, colluded with, covered-up and kept secret for many, many years!

My children and I, and many other unknown, un-named and uncounted innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children have and are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations overseas that is ignored, condoned, cover-up and kept secret!

We are denied any and all of the care, concern, compassion, advocacy, resources, attention and support readily provided to Australians who have been arrested for, charged with or found guilty of criminal activity overseas.

For more than fifteen years my desperate pleas for justice, judicial fairness and human rights for my children, myself and other Australian women and children who have and are experiencing a similar trauma and injustice have been ignored!

Despite public rhetoric of "zero tolerance of violence against women" the violence and subsequent injustices we have experienced have been "tolerated" and condoned!

Therefore, I am desperately begging each and everyone of you to share any and all of the information provided in this email and as attachments as widely, as publicly and as immediately as possible.

Although the federal government cares enough to track and count Australians who are in goal overseas, Australians who are harmed or killed in natural disasters overseas, Australians who travel overseas to fight for terrorist organisations overseas, the federal government has no idea of how many innocent and vulnerable Australian women and their Australian citizen children have been killed or harmed by domestic violence - "domestic terrorism" - overseas, and have no idea of how many Australian women have begged for and been denied Australian Consulates assistance and support readily provided to other Australians!

No-one knows how many Australian women overseas have been killed as a result of domestic violence because up until now no-one, except victims such as me, have cared! I am begging and hoping that you are readily available to change this immediately.

Please, help make all Australian citizens count and speak up for justice, judicial fairness, human rights, safety and security for Australian citizens who are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations wherever they live!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.



From: [REDACTED]
To: policemedia@police.vic.gov.au; onlinecommsunit-mgr@police.vic.gov.au
Subject: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!
Date: Mon, 20 Apr 2015 21:08:46 +1030

Ken Lay
Chief Commissioner of Police
Victoria

Dear Sir,

I am contacting you because you are someone who has been announced by the Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, as a founding member of a national advisory panel on preventing violence against women and as a result of reading many of your public comments, to beg for your immediate assistance to bring into immediate public and political discussion the issue of innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children, such as my children and myself, who have and are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial discrimination and human rights violations overseas that have been ignored, condoned, colluded with, covered-up and kept secret!

Despite my communication, information sharing and best efforts over more than fifteen years, since last century, I have not been able to find any politician, political party, academic, domestic violence advocate or organisation, journalist (public or private media), White Ribbon ambassador, clergy or anyone else who will speak up publicly and bring these issues in to public and political attention and discussion!

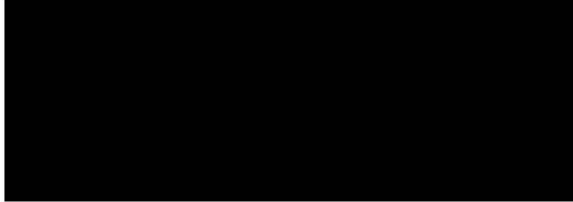
Australian citizens who are arrested for, charged with or convicted of crimes overseas are provided with care, compassion, concern, support, advocacy, resources and attention that is denied to my children, myself and other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and their children who have and are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial discrimination and human rights violations overseas!

I would like to mention that I too would like to be a member of a national advisory panel on preventing violence against women (please see attached references and c.v.)

Any and all immediate assistance regarding this domestic violence issue would be greatly appreciated by me and many others!!!!

(I had left a phone message for the Victoria Police Domestic Violence number but no-one returned my call/message.)

Kind regards,



Natasha Stott Despoja AM
Ambassador for Women and Girls
R.G. Casey Building, John McEwen Crescent
Barton ACT 0221
Ph: 02 6261 2523, Email: ambwomengirls@dfat.gov.au

Dear Ms Stott Despoja,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me at the recent Inaugural Asia-Pacific Conference on Gendered Violence and Violations at the University of New South Wales. Thank you also for sharing your business card with me and for receiving my printed information regarding my children's and my, and many other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and their children's experience of domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse, discrimination, inadequacies and inequities overseas.

As I had mentioned to you during our brief discussion, your comments from your address to Conferences delegates that had special meaning for me included your statements regarding your role as Ambassador for Women and Girls and with Our Watch and the opportunity and responsibility to comment on and bring about changes in regards to "public policy", "human rights for Australian women" and "International advocacy"!

Therefore, I beg you to be an ally and provide desperately requested support to obtain justice, judicial fairness and human rights for my children, myself and all other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse, discrimination, inadequacies, inequities and inequalities overseas that have been condoned, colluded with, covered-up, ignored and kept secret for many, many years!

Please bring these issues and my information into immediate public and political attention!

What I am begging for is;

Immediate investigation of the domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse my children and I experienced overseas, including the information provided by a doctor, domestic violence support social worker and counsellor regarding their concerns for my children's and my safety that was deliberately misrepresented in court by a justice department employee to hide, keep secret, deny and condone the violence my children and I witnessed and experienced. (Please see attached relevant documentation and letters)

Immediate provision of resources, support, safety, security, concern and compassion to heal the deliberate harm caused to my children's and my relationship by the foreign jurisdiction condoning and covering up that they were aware their employee misrepresented information and lied in court about the domestic violence we witnessed and experienced to deny us the justice, judicial fairness, human rights, safety and security we needed and deserved.

Immediate restorative justice process for my children and myself

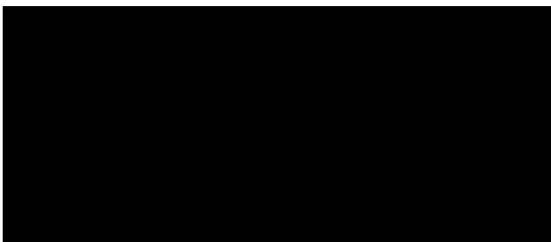
Immediate re-evaluation of the Department of Foreign Affairs contention that it cannot "interfere" or provide any form of support, assistance, resources, advocacy, care, concern or compassion for innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse, discrimination, inadequacies, inequities and inequalities overseas, despite the very public provision of such to aid and assist those who choose to commit crimes overseas!

Immediate evaluation of my research, first person action inquiry and domestic violence advocacy in relation to my children's and my experience for appropriate academic recognition.

Immediate consideration of the appropriateness of including "experts by experience" such as myself on any and all boards, committees, projects and councils involved with issues of violence against children and women (please see attached c.v. and references)

Your immediate assistance and response to the above requests would align with your comments at the Inaugural Asia-Pacific Conference on Gendered Violence and Violations and would provide my children, myself and many other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse overseas the justice, judicial fairness and human rights we all deserve!

Kind regards,





The University of Sydney

Social Work and Policy Studies
Faculty of Education and Social Work
Education Building, A35 NSW 2006 Australia



27.7.2008

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am aware that [REDACTED], currently a resident of New South Wales, Australia, is forwarding a request to [REDACTED] legal authorities seeking an acknowledgement of a procedural short-coming in the appraisal of her custody entitlements in relation to her three children, now living with their [REDACTED] father. Her concern is that a review of a custody and access home-study undertaken following her divorce did not in any sense comply with the parameters for that review established by careful and agreed negotiation between relevant authorities.

From my reading of the documents surrounding this case I believe there is sufficient evidence of a factual basis to [REDACTED]'s claims to warrant serious consideration by the [REDACTED] Justice authorities. [REDACTED] believes that the acknowledgement that she seeks could be a decisive element in re-building her connection with her children and hence her request to have the matter re-considered.



27/7/2008

[REDACTED]

March 13, 1998

[REDACTED] Battered Women's Advocacy Network
[REDACTED]

Dear Madam,


I am writing you on behalf of a matter of child custody and access which has given me considerable concern. I am not sure what influence your organization may have in this regard. The case which has brought these issues into fresh focus for me is the case of [REDACTED] I am sharing my concerns in the following manner.

It seems to me that an alternative to the present adversarial court system needs to be found to determine what custodial arrangements are truly in the best interests of the children involved. The present system pits parent against parent, and the outcomes depend too much on the skills and strategies of the respective lawyers. The children are heard only very indirectly if at all. There is real need for the children to be heard and their perspective understood and considered. A panel of mental health professionals (including social workers, counsellors, and psychologists) who have developed a level of expertise in this area with a judge as chairperson might be a better forum to make these kinds of decisions. Lawyers should not be involved in such a way as to make the situation adversarial.

It is also my belief that any decisions regarding custody and access should come under periodic review. This needs to happen so that errors can be corrected. No one, including judges, can be expected to be above error. There are those who are so convincingly slick in their presentations to the court that even the best of us could be fooled and found in error to the devastating detriment of the children involved. It is my hope that a system of study and review can be set up so that the cases of custody and access may be subject to review within a reasonable amount of time.

It is in this context that I am making an appeal to your organization, to use whatever influence you may have to effect the necessary changes to the way custody and access is determined. This would be most timely if it could help [REDACTED] in her present situation.

Yours truly,
[REDACTED]






March 13, 1998

 Action Committee


Dear Sir or Madam:

RE: 

I write to express my support for a review of the judicial process used in the custody proceedings for  of .

It would seem imperative that, in cases where an abusive relationship exists between parents, the judges need a sophisticated and complete understanding of the impact the abuse has on the custody issue. I question whether that has been the case for .

Please refer to my letter dated January 20, 1998 to  regarding the full custody and assessment report.

Sincerely,



Dr. 



Dec. 2 '99 15:13

P. 2

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION
OTTAWA

25 November 1999

Ms [REDACTED]
Executive Director
Court Services
[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to you in connection with contact I have had over the last 6 months with [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] concerning the custody arrangements for her Australian children [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I have advised [REDACTED] that custody issues are normally private legal matters to be settled through legal channels. However the Australian government does have a strong interest in the welfare of Australian children abroad.

[REDACTED] has provided me with a copy of your letter of 12 November 1999 about the conduct of an independent review into the custody and access assessment in her case. I note that the review is to be completed by the end of November 1999. [REDACTED] has advised me that she understands the review will not now be completed by the end of November and is unable to obtain any indication of the current timetable for completion of the review from the Justice Department. A copy of [REDACTED]'s most recent letter to me is attached.

We draw [REDACTED]'s concerns to your notice and ask that they receive appropriate attention.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Bill Jackson
Consul

Suite 710, 50 O'Connor Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 6L2, Canada
Telephone: 1 613 783-7609 Facsimile: 1 613 236-4376

AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION

FAX 11 25 88 99 THU 17 58 FAX

2000

DEC-02-1999 15:56

89%

P.02

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Enquiries](#)
Subject: Submission - Luke Batty Foundation - Domestic Violence
Date: Thursday, 28 May 2015 4:44:07 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
 To: admin@safesteps.org.au; lukebattyfoundation@safesteps.org.au
 Subject: Re Domestic Violence
 Date: Tue, 26 May 2015 13:04:47 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
 To: peace.foundation@sydney.edu.au
 Subject: Attention [REDACTED] Re: "Go hard, girls: gutsy interviews serve the nation!"
 Date: Tue, 26 May 2015 11:25:37 +1030

Dear Ms [REDACTED],

I am contacting you after reading your recent article "Go hard, girls: gutsy interviews serve the nation" in the hope that with your experience and contacts you might be able to assist me to have attention brought to a very important personal issue – that is the issue of my children's and my experience of domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations overseas that continues to be ignored, condoned, covered-up, colluded with and kept secret.

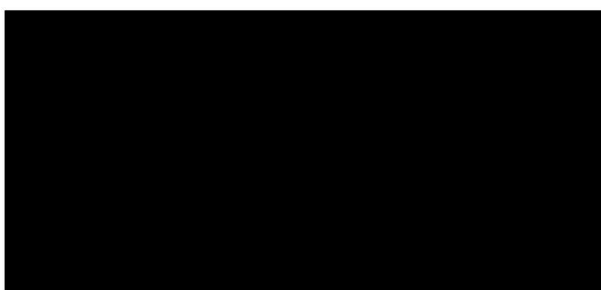
I have no way of knowing how many other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children have had a similar experience or trauma, abuse and injustice overseas because no-one else will speak about this issue!

We are denied any and all of the support, care, concern, compassion, advocacy, resources and public, political and media attention we have all seen provided to Australian cattle abused overseas and Australians who have committed crimes overseas!

Please see following other correspondence requesting assistance. Please see attached supporting information and documentation.

You are welcome to share any and all of this information as you feel is appropriate or might be helpful.

Any assistance and support would be greatly appreciated and could make such a difference for my children, myself and many other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children.



From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Subject: FW: Attention Dr [REDACTED]
Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Sun, 17 May 2015 20:53:57 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: iwhs@swsahs.nsw.gov.au; info@rlc.org.au; [REDACTED]@unsw.edu.au;
[REDACTED]
Subject: Attention Dr [REDACTED]-Domestic
Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Fri, 15 May 2015 13:33:24 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED] - Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Tue, 12 May 2015 20:23:11 +1030



Dear Sir,

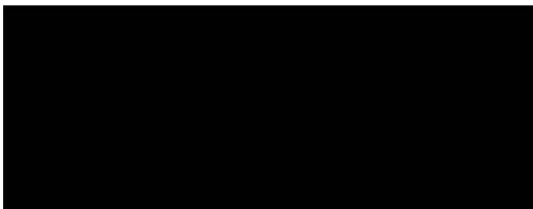
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Thank you.



From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Immediate advocacy & assistance requested - Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Mon, 11 May 2015 18:14:35 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Attention [REDACTED] - Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Mon, 11 May 2015 18:11:28 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Attention [REDACTED] - Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
Date: Mon, 11 May 2015 17:22:43 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
 To: [REDACTED]; infoservice@humanrights.gov.au;
 communications@humanrights.gov.au; [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au
 Subject: Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
 Date: Fri, 8 May 2015 13:59:30 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
 To: infoservice@humanrights.gov.au; communications@humanrights.gov.au;
 [REDACTED]@humanrights.gov.au; [REDACTED]
 Subject: Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
 Date: Fri, 8 May 2015 13:45:22 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
 To: dssfeedback@dss.gov.au; media@pmc.gov.au; manly@parliament.nsw.gov.au;
 cheltenham@parliament.sa.gov.au; thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au; wa-
 gouvernement@dpc.wa.gov.au; [REDACTED]; barr@act.gov.au;
 chief.minister@nt.gov.au
 Subject: Domestic Violence issues requiring urgent attention!!!
 Date: Thu, 30 Apr 2015 22:45:42 +1030

Dear Australian Leaders,

In light of priority given to the issue of Reducing Violence against Women at your recent Council of Australian Governments meeting in Canberra and your subsequent communiqué I am contacting you to beg for your urgent and immediate attention to and assistance with a particular aspect of violence against Australian women and their children that has been ignored, condoned, colluded with, covered-up and kept secret for many, many years!

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For more than fifteen years my desperate pleas for justice, judicial fairness and human rights for my children, myself and other Australian women and children who have and are experiencing a similar trauma and injustice have been ignored!

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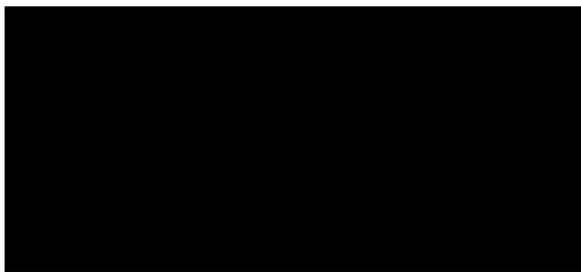
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No-one knows how many Australian women overseas have been killed as a result of domestic violence because up until now no-one, except victims such as me, have cared! I am begging and hoping that you are readily available to change this immediately.

Please, help make all Australian citizens count and speak up for justice, judicial fairness, human rights, safety and security for Australian citizens who are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations wherever they live!

Thank you.

Sincerely,



From: [REDACTED]

To: policemedia@police.vic.gov.au; onlinecommsunit-mgr@police.vic.gov.au

Subject: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!

Date: Mon, 20 Apr 2015 21:08:46 +1030

Ken Lay
Chief Commissioner of Police
Victoria

Dear Sir,

I am contacting you because you are someone who has been announced by the Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, as a founding member of a national advisory panel on preventing violence against women and as a result of reading many of your public comments, to beg for your immediate assistance to bring into immediate public and political discussion the issue of innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children, such as my children and myself, who have and are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial discrimination and human rights violations overseas that have been ignored, condoned, colluded with, covered-up and kept secret!

Despite my communication, information sharing and best efforts over more than fifteen years, since last century, I have not been able to find any politician, political party, academic, domestic violence advocate or organisation, journalist (public or private media), White Ribbon ambassador, clergy or anyone else who will speak up publicly and bring these issues in to public and political attention and discussion!

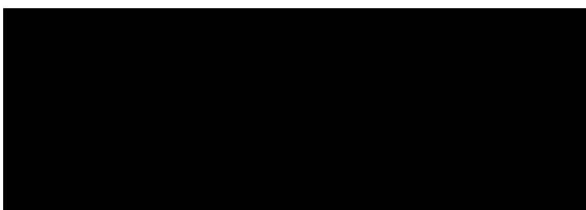
Australian citizens who are arrested for, charged with or convicted of crimes overseas are provided with care, compassion, concern, support, advocacy, resources and attention that is denied to my children, myself and other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and their children who have and are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial discrimination and human rights violations overseas!

I would like to mention that I too would like to be a member of a national advisory panel on preventing violence against women (please see attached references and c.v.)

Any and all immediate assistance regarding this domestic violence issue would be greatly appreciated by me and many others!!!!

(I had left a phone message for the Victoria Police Domestic Violence number but no-one returned my call/message.)

Kind regards,



Natasha Stott Despoja AM
Ambassador for Women and Girls
R.G. Casey Building, John McEwen Crescent
Barton ACT 0221
Ph: 02 6261 2523, Email: ambwomengirls@dfat.gov.au

Dear Ms Stott Despoja,

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As I had mentioned to you during our brief discussion, your comments from your address to Conferences delegates that had special meaning for me included your statements regarding your role as Ambassador for Women and Girls and with Our Watch and the opportunity and responsibility to comment on and bring about changes in regards to "public policy", "human rights for Australian women" and "International advocacy"!

Therefore, I beg you to be an ally and provide desperately requested support to obtain justice, judicial fairness and human rights for my children, myself and all other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse, discrimination, inadequacies, inequities and inequalities overseas that have been condoned, colluded with, covered-up, ignored and kept secret for many, many years!

Please bring these issues and my information into immediate public and political attention!

What I am begging for is;

Immediate investigation of the domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse my children and I experienced overseas, including the information provided by a doctor, domestic violence support social worker and counsellor regarding their concerns for my children's and my safety that was deliberately misrepresented in court by a justice department employee to hide, keep secret, deny and condone the violence my children and I witnessed and experienced. (Please see attached relevant documentation and letters)

Immediate provision of resources, support, safety, security, concern and compassion to

heal the deliberate harm caused to my children's and my relationship by the foreign jurisdiction condoning and covering up that they were aware their employee misrepresented information and lied in court about the domestic violence we witnessed and experienced to deny us the justice, judicial fairness, human rights, safety and security we needed and deserved.

Immediate restorative justice process for my children and myself

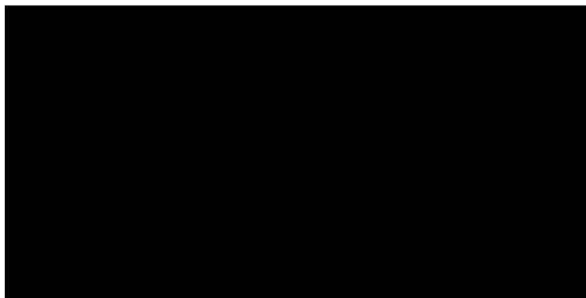
Immediate re-evaluation of the Department of Foreign Affairs contention that it cannot "interfere" or provide any form of support, assistance, resources, advocacy, care, concern or compassion for innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse, discrimination, inadequacies, inequities and inequalities overseas, despite the very public provision of such to aid and assist those who choose to commit crimes overseas!

Immediate evaluation of my research, first person action inquiry and domestic violence advocacy in relation to my children's and my experience for appropriate academic recognition.

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Your immediate assistance and response to the above requests would align with your comments at the Inaugural Asia-Pacific Conference on Gendered Violence and Violations and would provide my children, myself and many other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse overseas the justice, judicial fairness and human rights we all deserve!

Kind regards,



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Enquiries](#)
Subject: Submission- White Ribbon, Luke Batty Foundation etc Personal domestic violence issues & desperate support requested!!!!
Date: Thursday, 28 May 2015 4:47:09 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: lukebattyfoundation@safesteps.org; admin@whiteribbon.org.au;
admin@dvns.org.au
Subject: FW: Personal domestic violence issues & desperate support requested!!!!
Date: Tue, 19 May 2015 19:59:28 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Personal domestic violence issues & desperate support requested!!!!
Date: Tue, 19 May 2015 19:58:28 +1030

From: merindasfr@live.com.au
To: [REDACTED]@parliament.nsw.gov.au; malcolm.turnbull.mp@aph.gov.au;
[REDACTED]; admin@dvns.org.au; administration@awcaus.org.au;
admin@whiteribbon.org.au; lukebattyfoundation@safesteps.org;
info@womenscouncil.com.au; ambwomengirls@dfat.gov.au; president@awcaus.org.au;

Subject: Personal domestic violence issues & desperate support requested!!!!
Date: Tue, 19 May 2015 16:59:40 +1030

[REDACTED]

Dear Ms [REDACTED]

Are you aware of the recent announcement by the Prime Minister Tony Abbott of a new Domestic Violence advocacy panel?

The announcement of newest national Domestic Violence advisory panel, has confused and concerned me , the chairperson is a male, 3 of the 11 members are male, there is only 1 "expert by experience" Rosie Batty, newly announced members include people I have contacted over the years, and even spoken with face-to-face but have chosen to ignore my pleas for support and assistance for my children, myself and all Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations overseas.

There are members of the Prime Minister's new domestic violence committee who believe they have the right to pick and choose which Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence get attention, care, compassion, concern, support, assistance and resources. There are members of the Prime Minister's newest domestic violence committee who believe it is acceptable to ignore, condone, collude with, cover-up and keep secret issues of domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations against Australian women and their children!

There is no way of knowing what trauma and harm to innocent and vulnerable Australian mothers and their children could have been prevented if the advisory panel members I had shared information with over the years had not chosen to ignore, condone, collude with, cover-up and kept secret this issue and my information.

I hope you can understand how devastating it is for me that as an "expert by experience" I am ignored and deliberately excluded from committees and advisory panels regarding domestic violence whereas those who ignore me and unknown and un-numbered women and mothers and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence are rewarded with the prestige of these public positions!

Am I excluded because I speak the truth about domestic violence? Are they rewarded because they will hide the unpleasant truth about violence against Australian women and children!

Please see attached c.v., references and story "Emily Feels Left Out" by [REDACTED], which has been used by many counselors.

I really appreciated how caring and supportive your staff person [REDACTED] was when she phoned me on Monday morning.

What I would like to share with you is the extremely serious and precarious personal

position I am in as a consequence of the domestic violence, trauma, injustice and human rights violations that my children and I have experienced for many, many years and has been ignored, condoned, colluded with and kept secret!

I am currently on [REDACTED] enforced leave from my workplace (as I am employed at the [REDACTED], privately run by [REDACTED], officially I am not supposed to discuss my workplace with anyone else but am in a situation that is serious and where I am desperate for support. I have contacted my workplace [REDACTED] representative for assistance and support).

[REDACTED] last week I presented at work very much under the influence of alcohol. I was breath tested and driven home [REDACTED]. When I returned to work last [REDACTED] I had a meeting with the HR Manager who informed me that they were putting aside the issue of me being at work intoxicated, but were putting me off on paid leave because of my comments that "I wake up every morning wishing I was dead". What was not included in the written statement was that I had actually said "I wake every morning wishing I was dead rather than have to come to work here!". The bullying and harassment that I and other mainly female employees have experienced and I have spoken up about is being totally ignored. The domestic violence that I have experienced and asked for help and support with is being totally ignored. I am supposed to attend for a mental health assessment next [REDACTED] to determine my fitness to be an employee of [REDACTED].

I informed the HR manager, as I informed your staff person [REDACTED], that I was very stressed and depressed regarding both Mother's Day and the upcoming marriage of my eldest daughter [REDACTED], which neither I or any of my family are invited to.

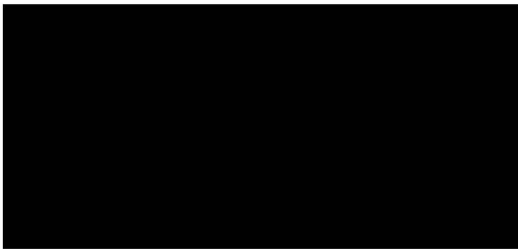
Over my [REDACTED] years working at [REDACTED] I have become a problem to some members of management because of speaking up about bullying and harassment in the workplace, I have also been involved in workplace EBA negotiations for Administrative Support Officers (ASO's) 99% of whom are female and are underpaid and under-valued. To other staff, including ASO's I am appreciated as a dedicated, hardworking, encouraging and supportive co-worker who for [REDACTED] years has tried to acknowledge others by being the [REDACTED] I have volunteered with the [REDACTED] program, on the [REDACTED] Committee, and the [REDACTED] Committee.

Over the last [REDACTED] years I have asked for help and support at work from the visiting psychiatrist, former senior psychologist and [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Over the last few months I have specifically asked my manager 3 times for support and assistance and shared with her my Facebook page [REDACTED] and other information particular to my children's and my experience of domestic violence and injustice.

At the moment I am extremely concerned that my current employer will use this situation to get rid of me as an employee. My fight against the domestic violence and injustice my children and I have experienced has cost me everything! I have no savings, I do not own my own home, I drive a car lent to me by a sibling! Financially I cannot afford to lose my job – emotionally I cannot see how I can continue to work for an employer who profits from violence against women and children and at the same time ignored repeated requests for support from employees who have experienced domestic violence.

Therefore I am begging for your immediate assistance and support to bring my issues and information into immediate political and public attention.

Thank you.

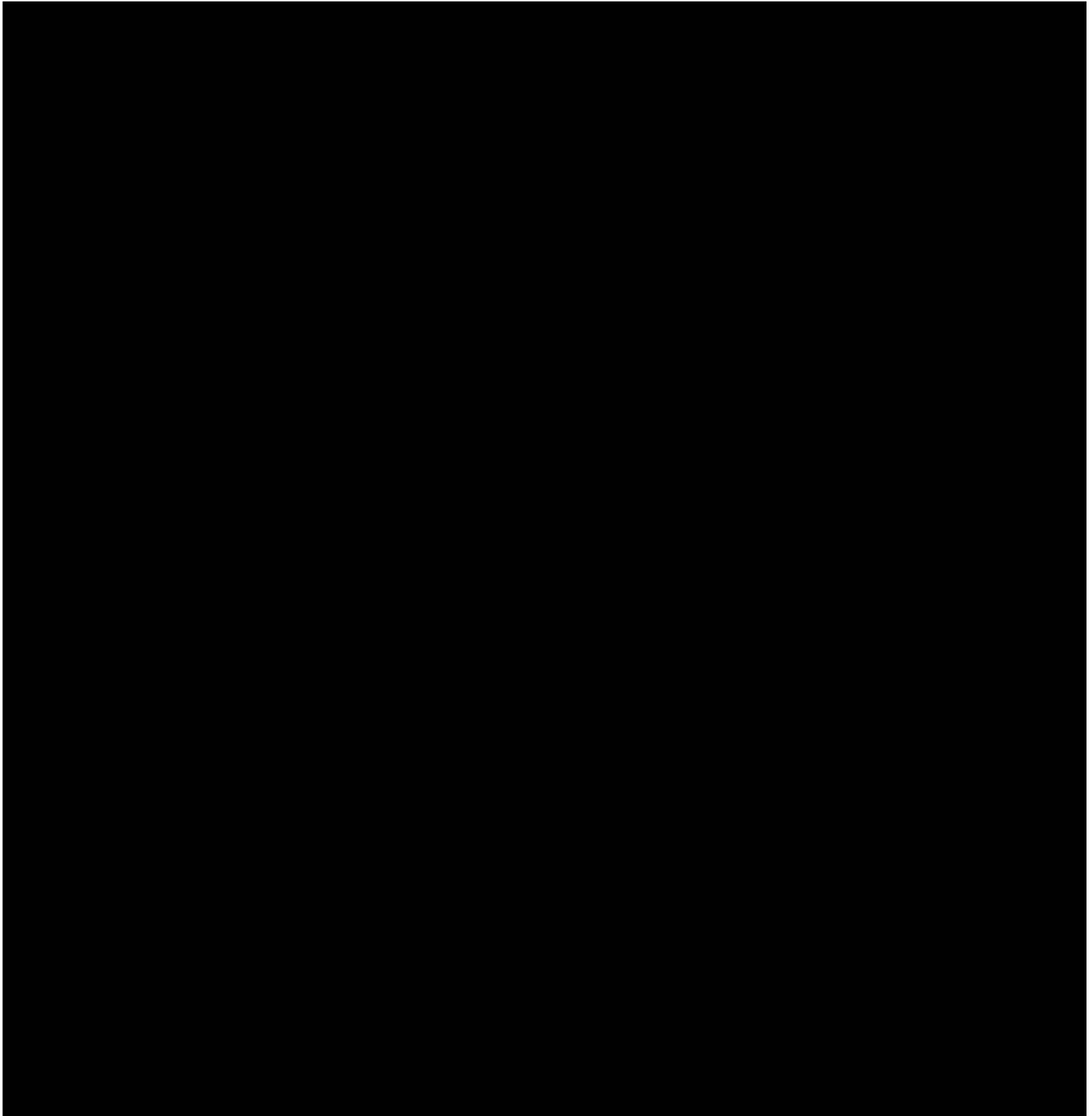


Curriculum Vitae



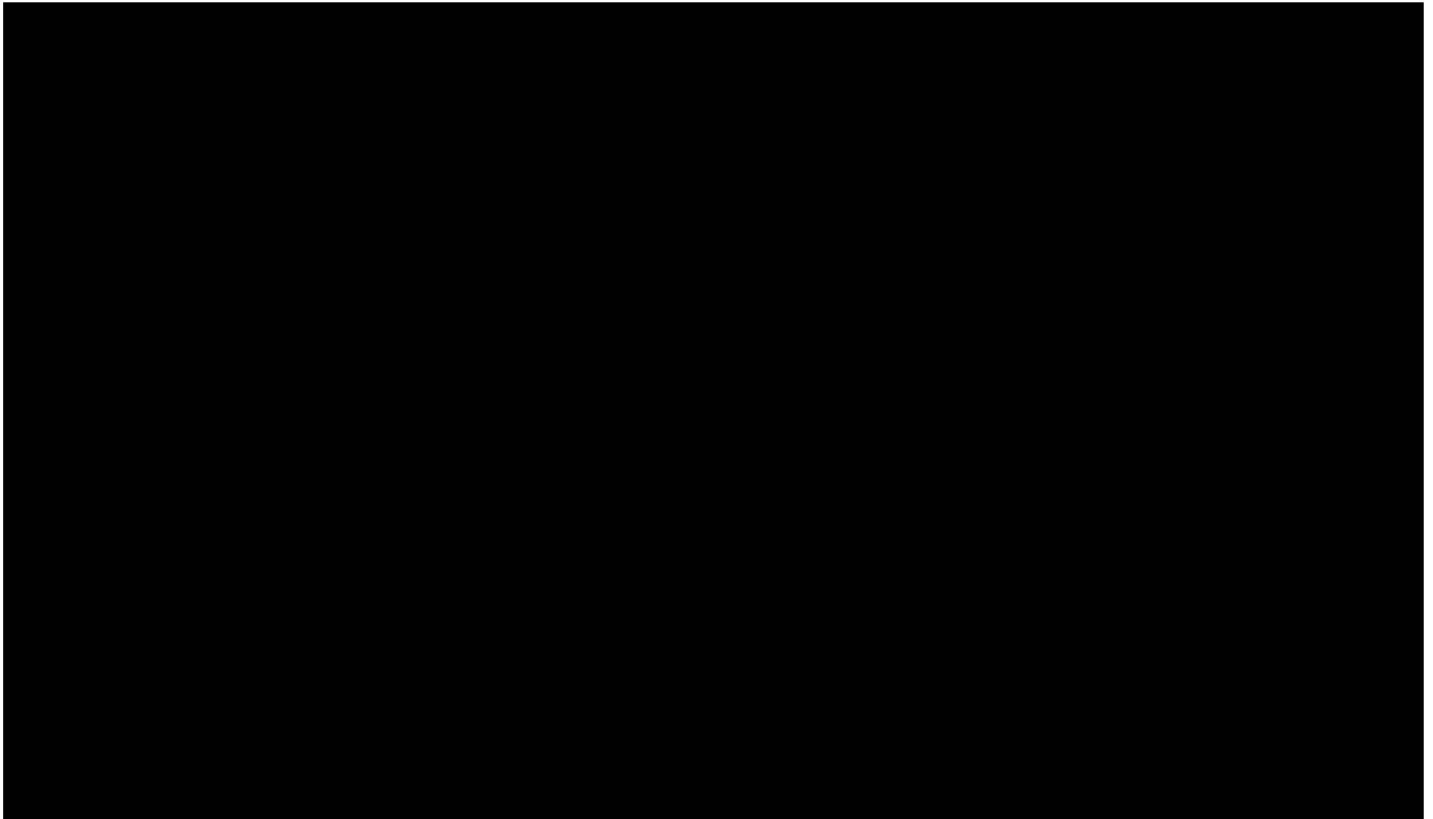
EDUCATION

Leadership and Communication

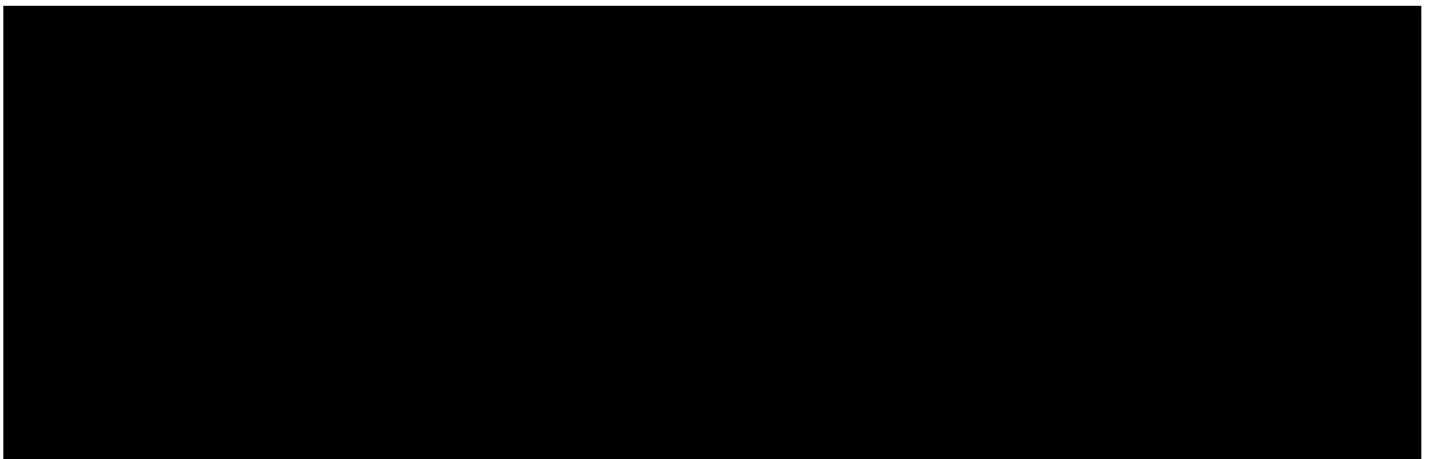




Health and Community Development



Entrepreneurship



[REDACTED]

Environment

[REDACTED]

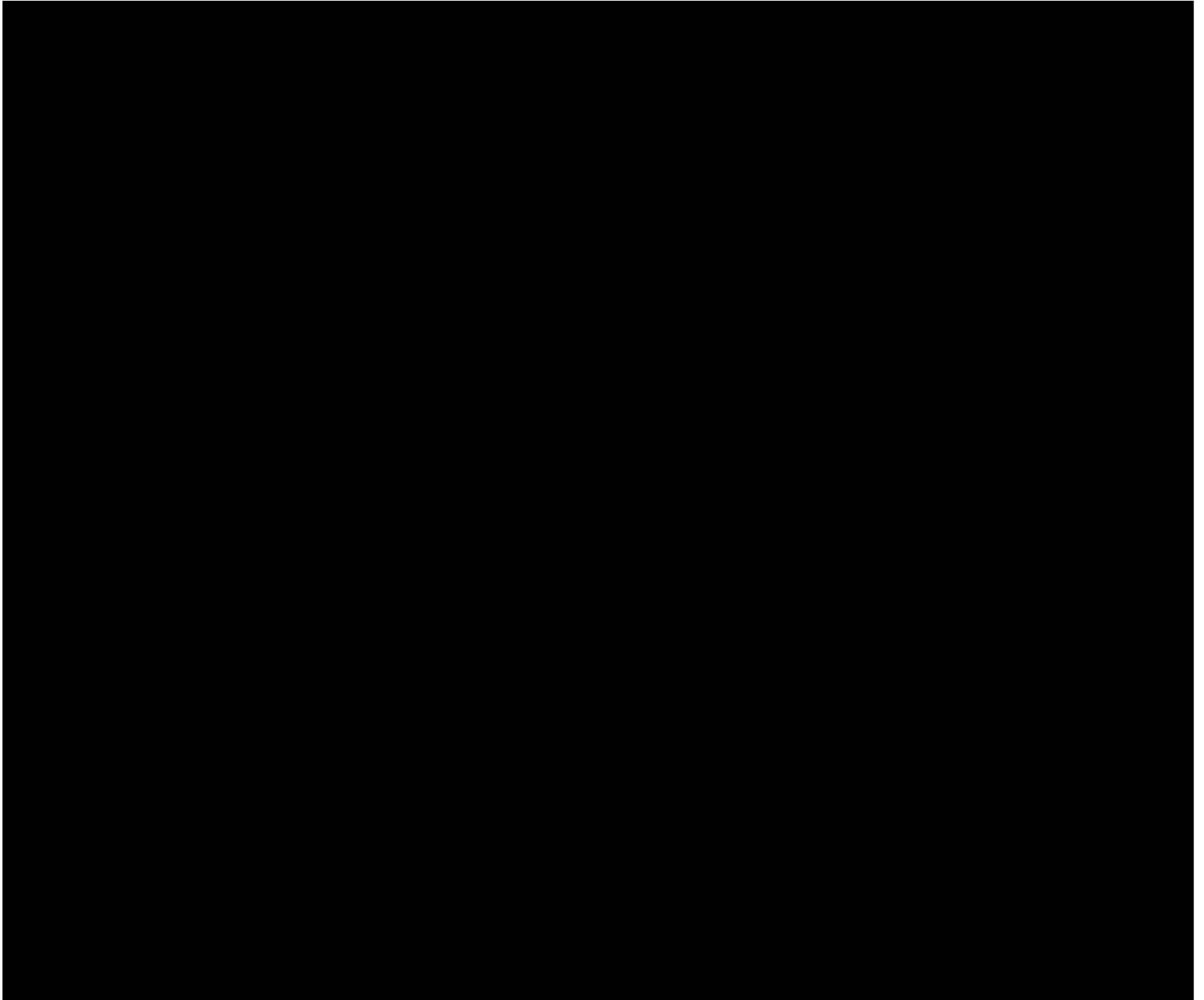
Technical

[REDACTED]

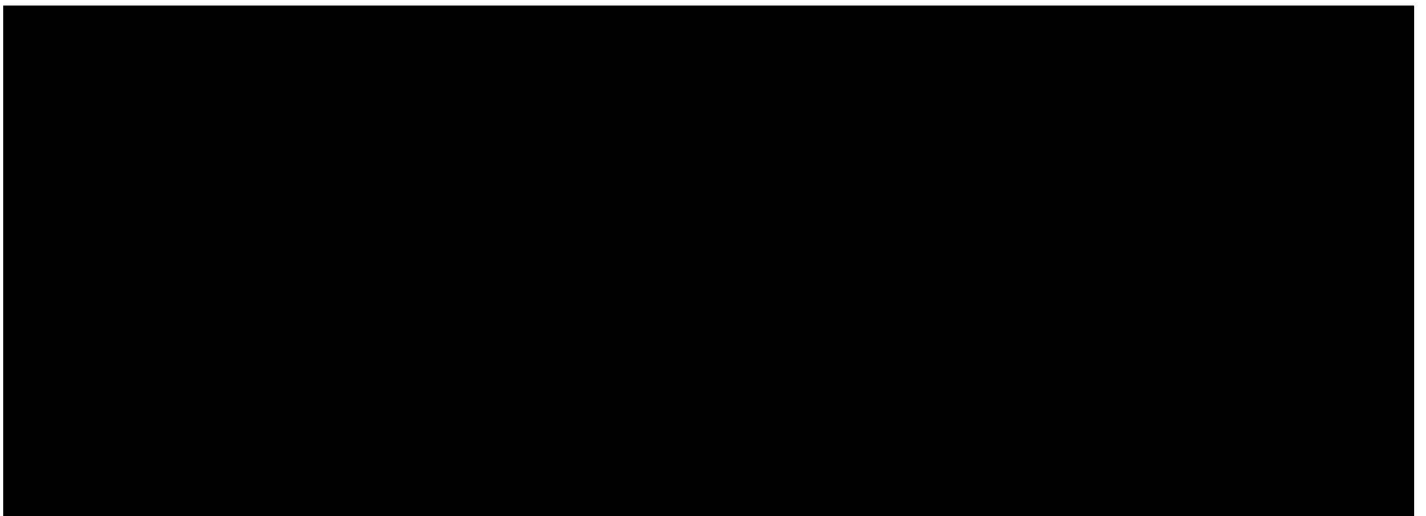
Adult and Parent Education

[REDACTED]

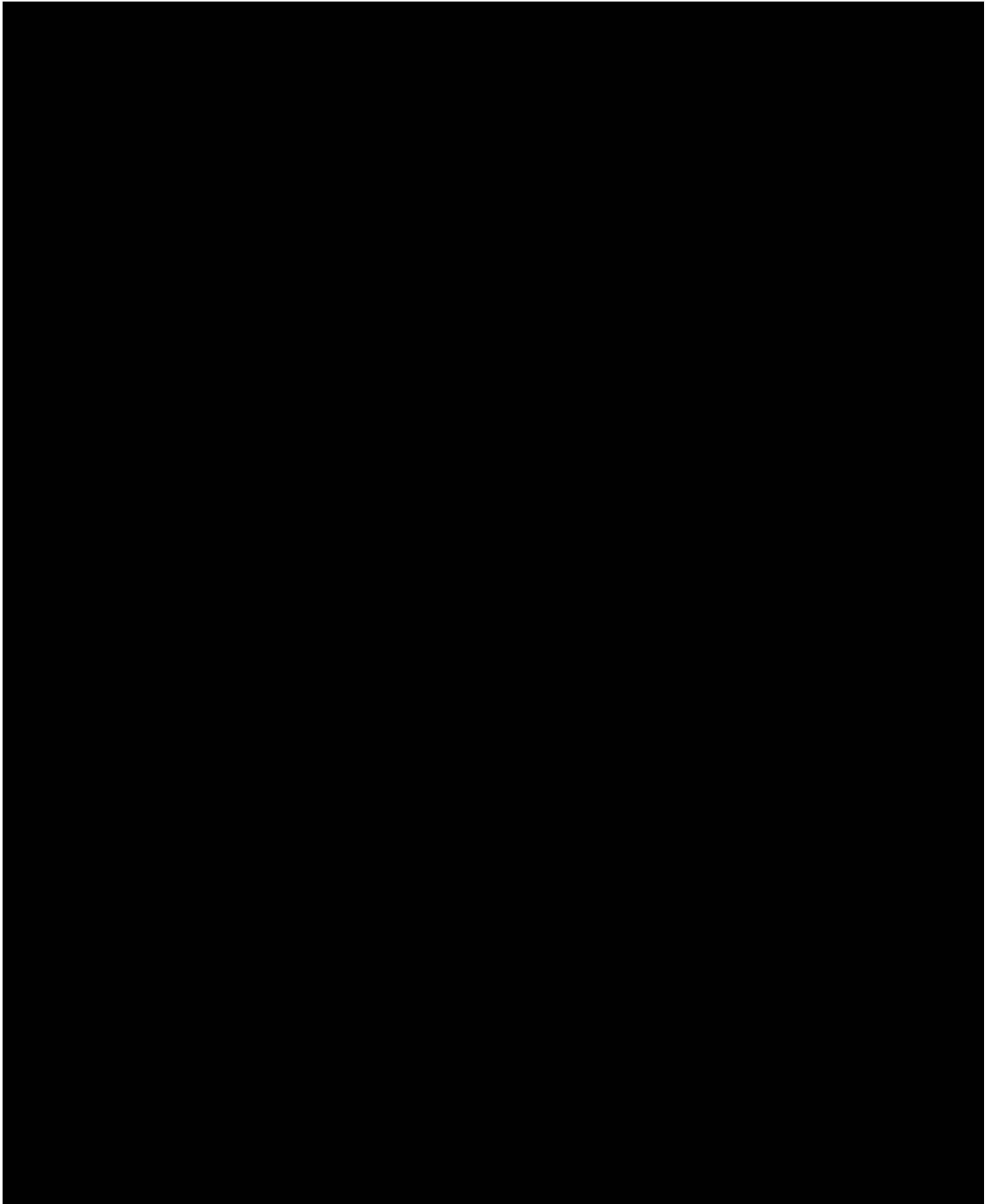
Personal and Professional Development

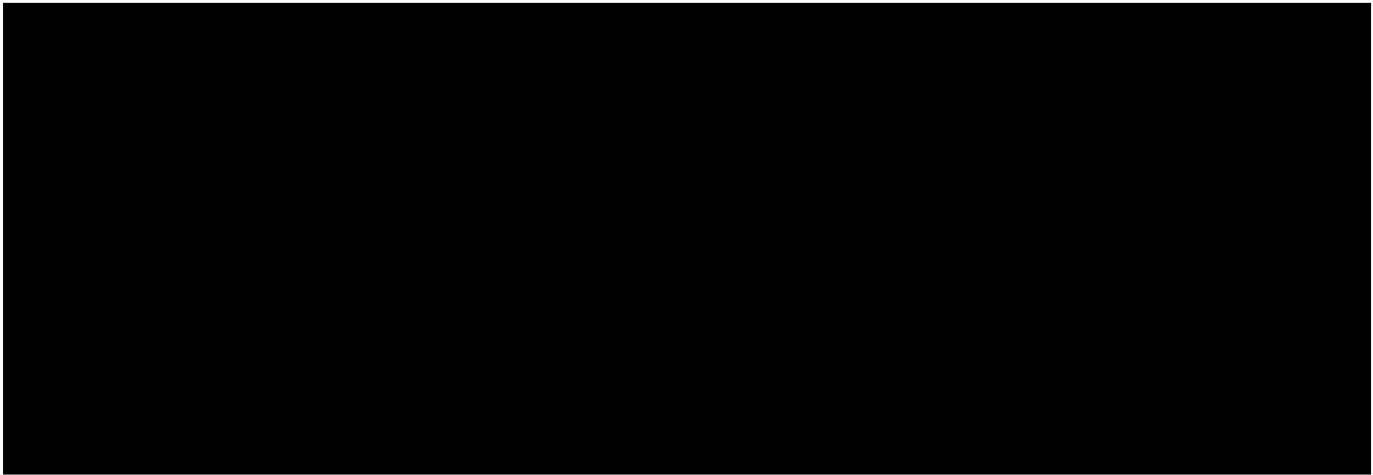


PRESENTATIONS GIVEN

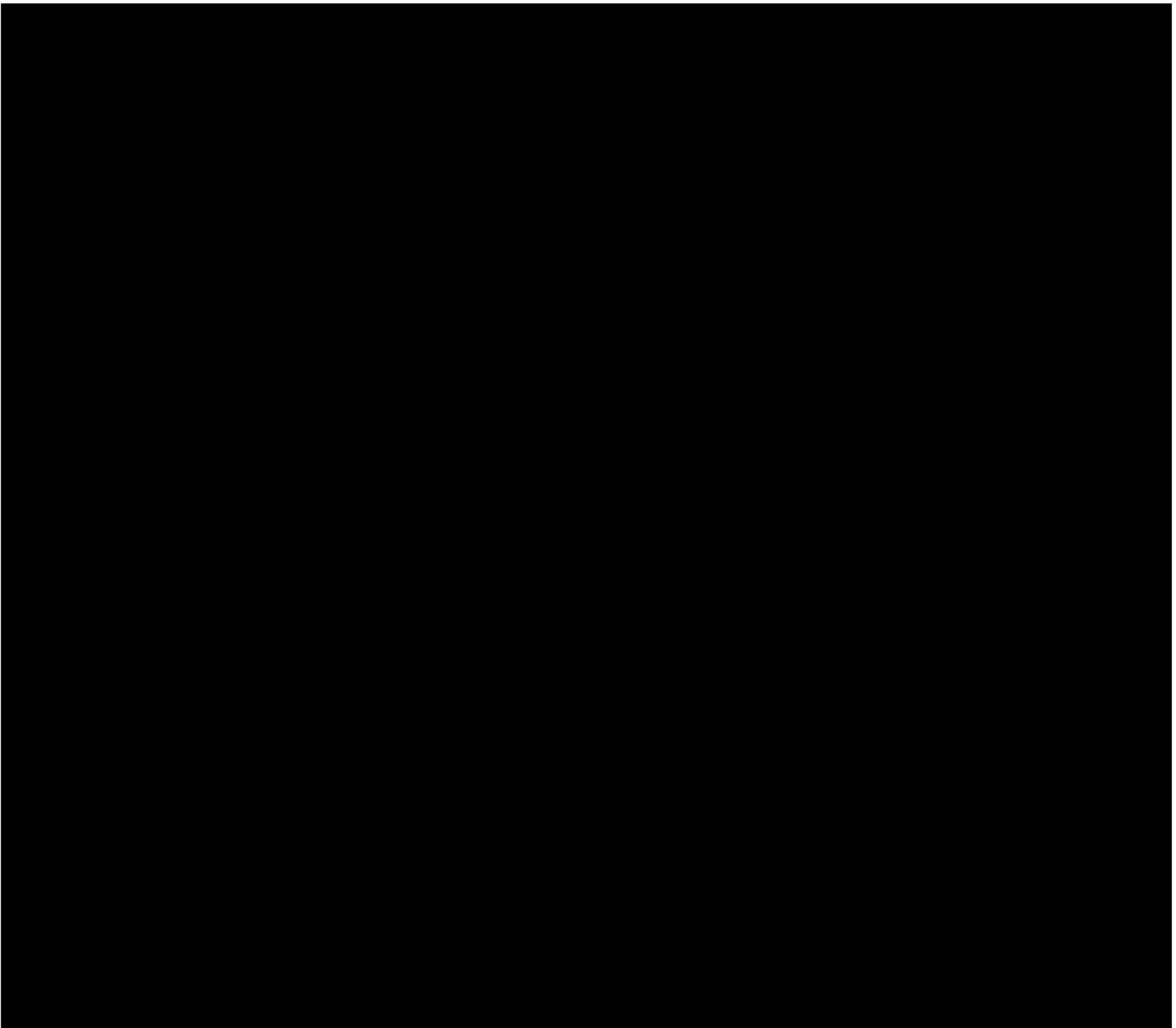


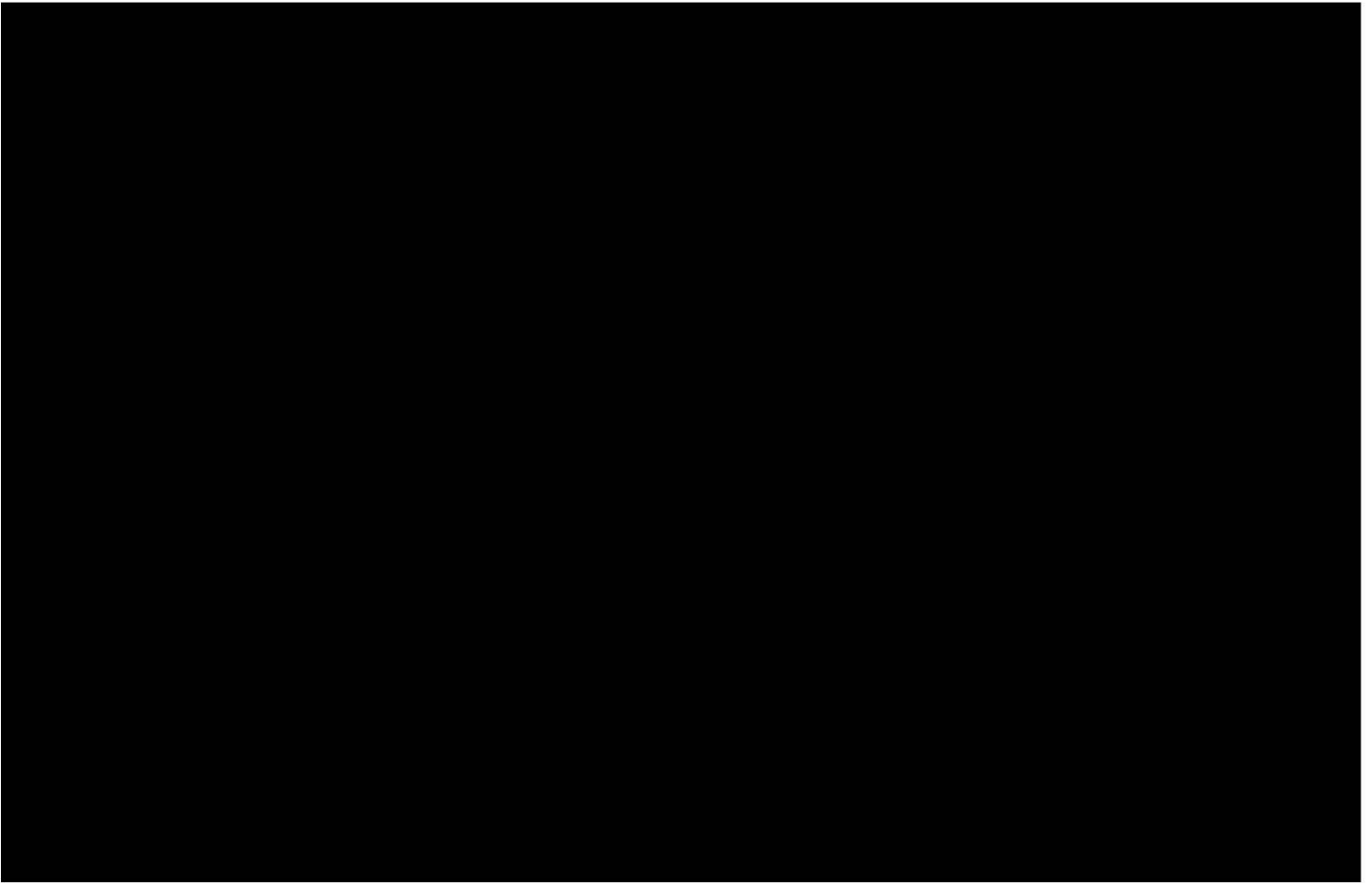
EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE



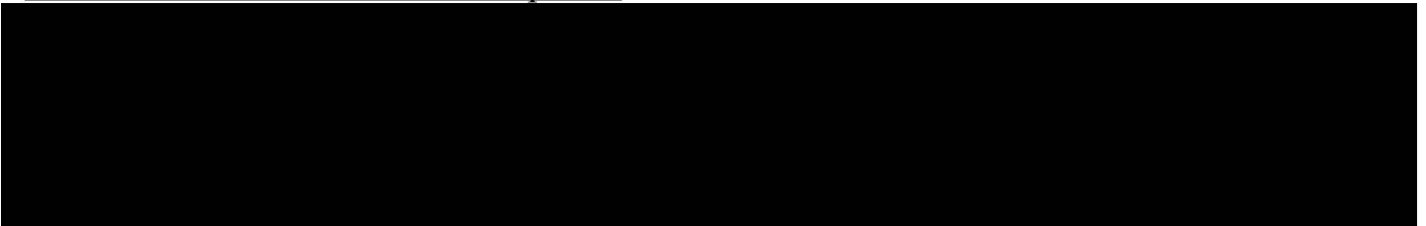


CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

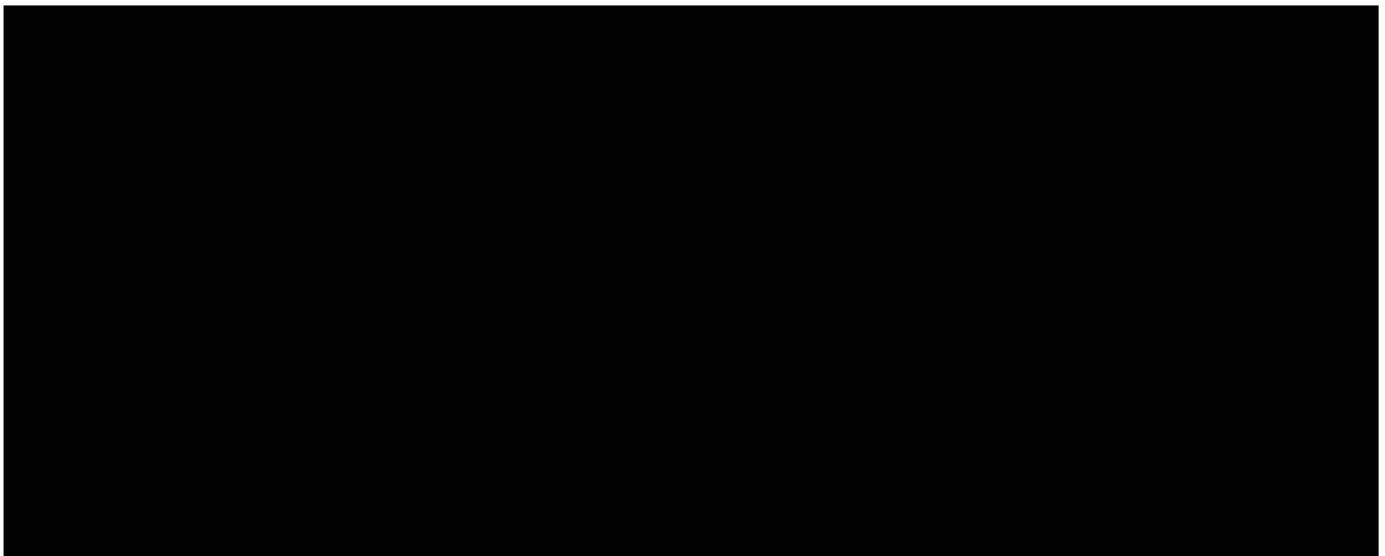


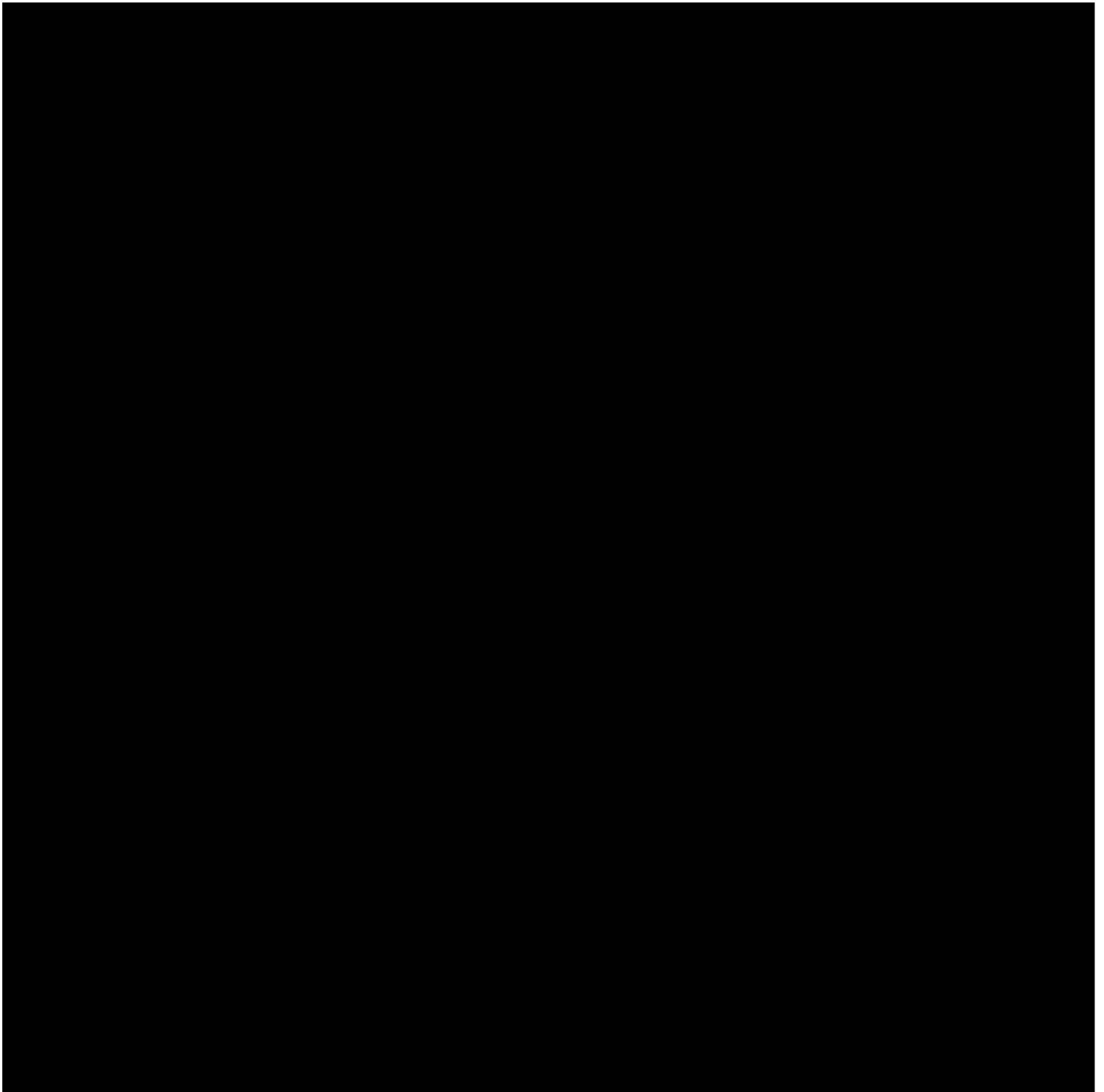


Personal and Professional Development



VOLUNTEER/LEADERSHIP/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

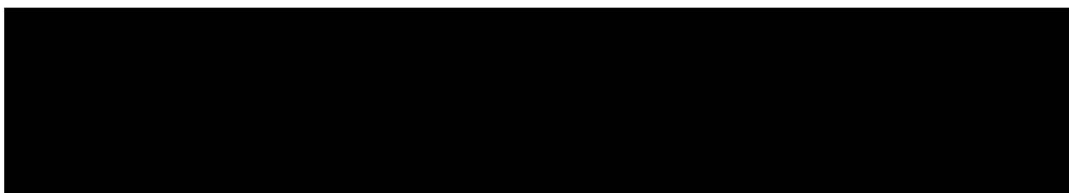




CITIZENSHIP



ACTIVITIES and INTERESTS





REFERENCES

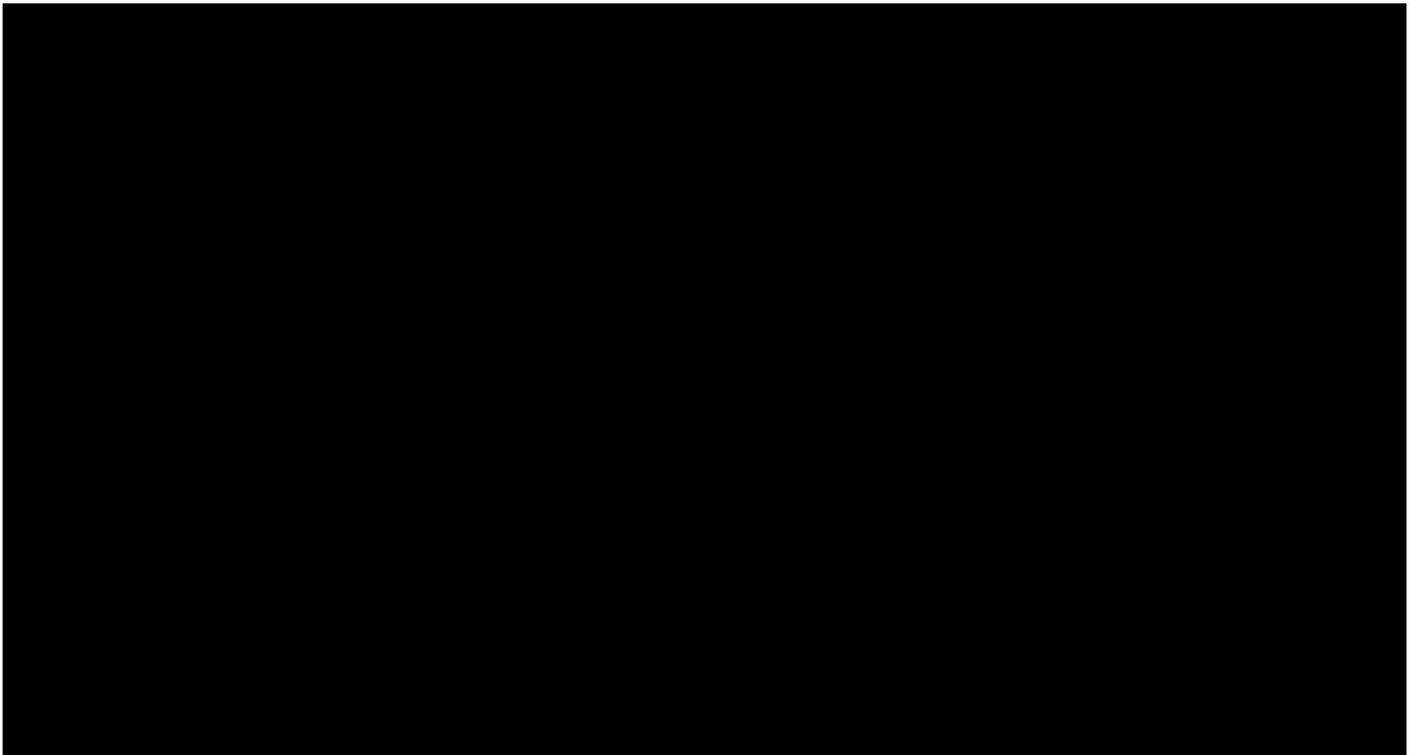


Curriculum Vitae



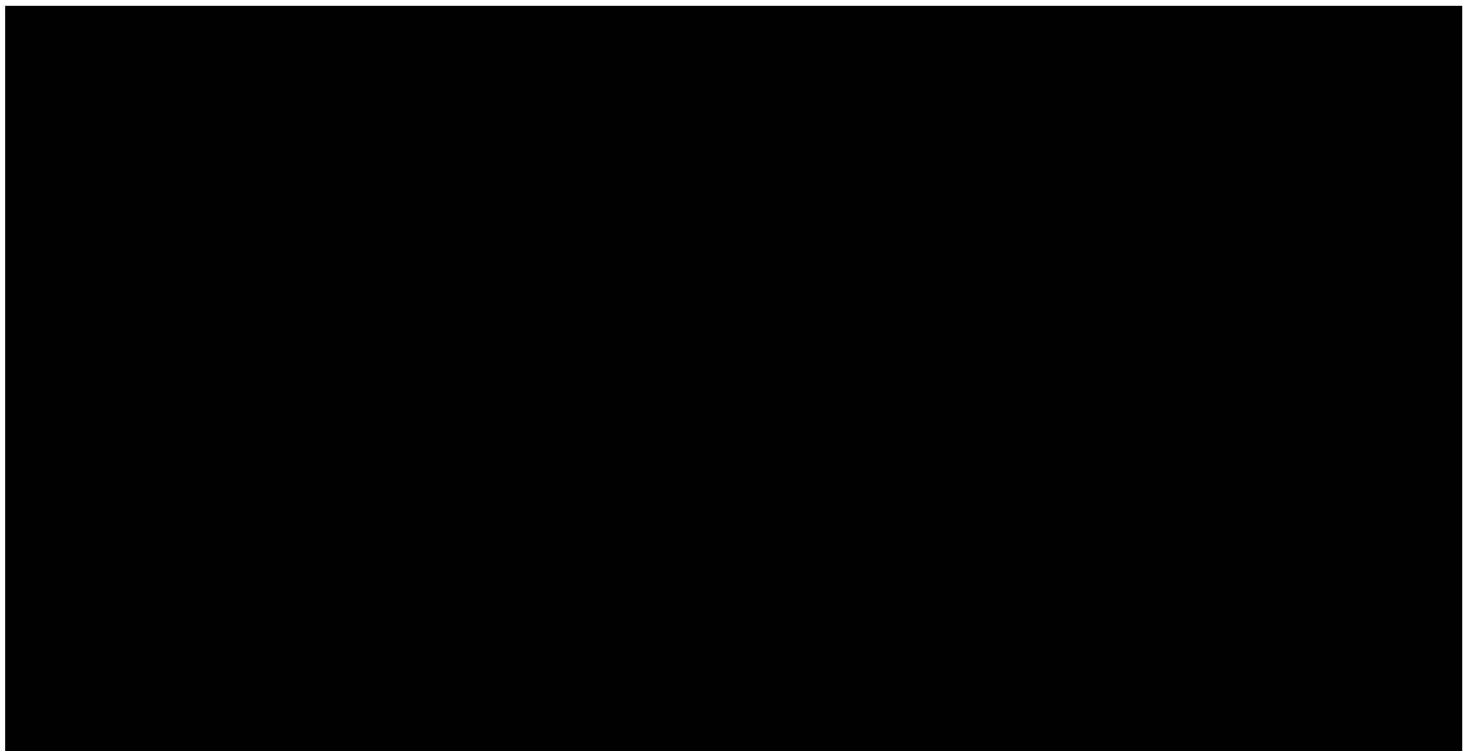
EDUCATION

Leadership and Communication



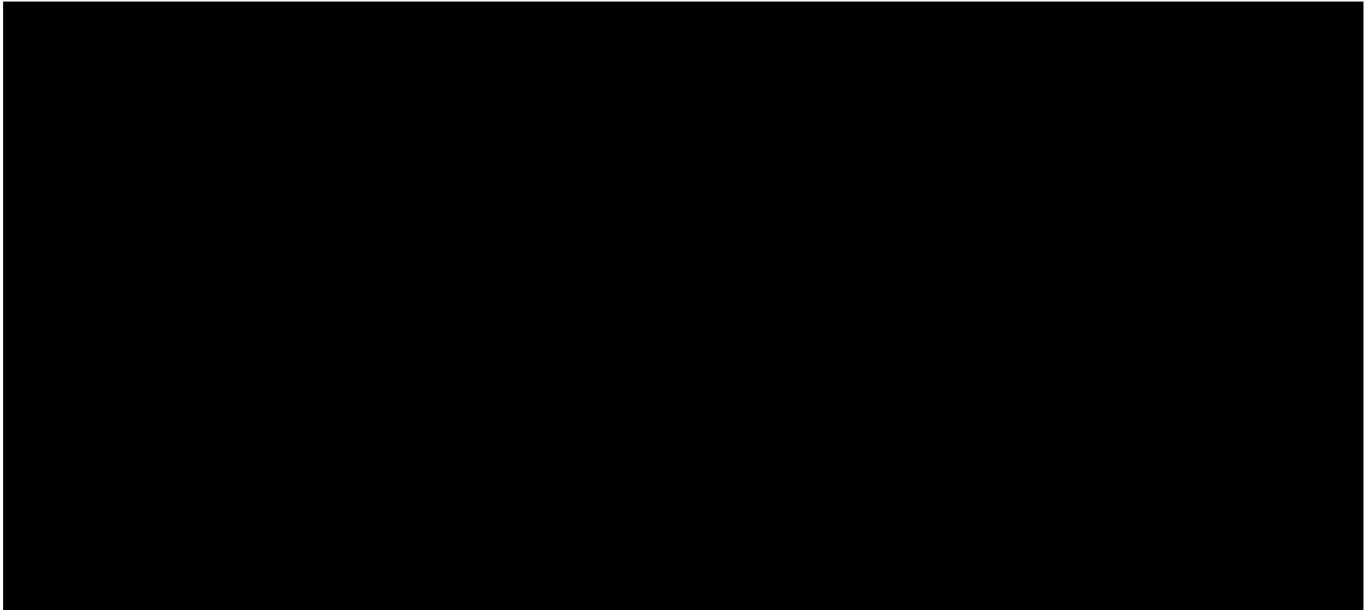


Health and Community Development

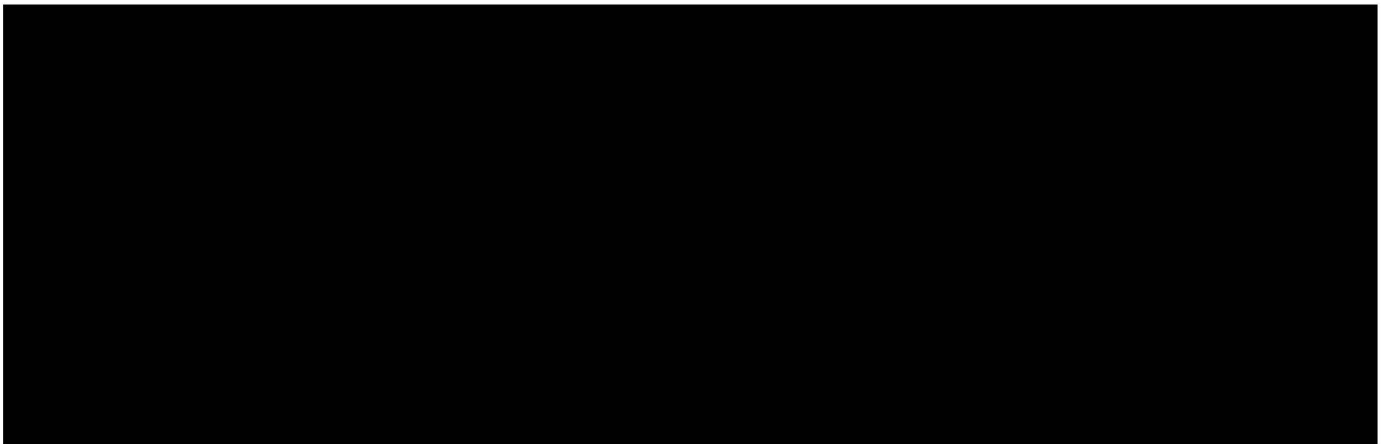




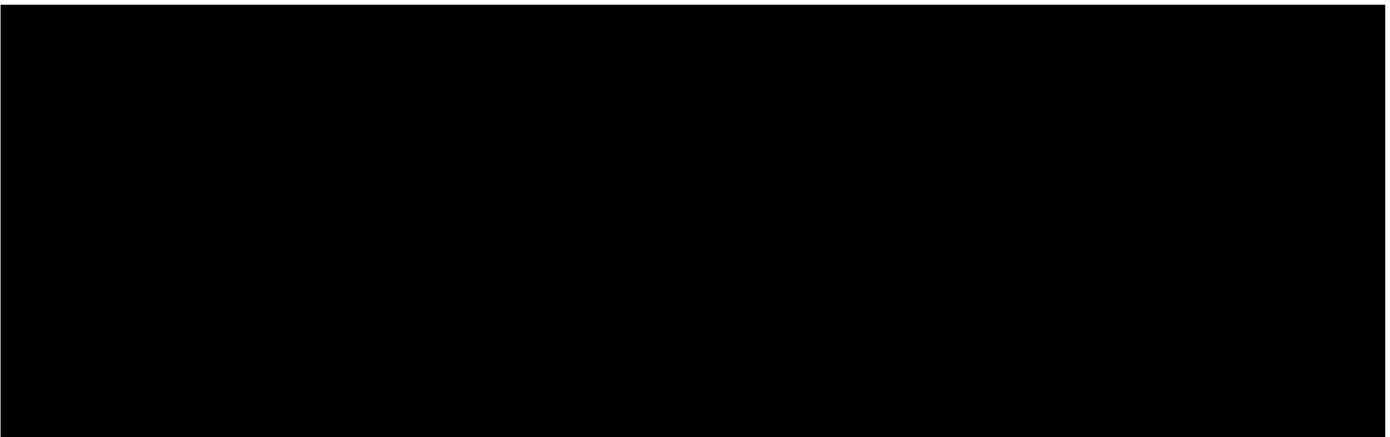
Entrepreneurship



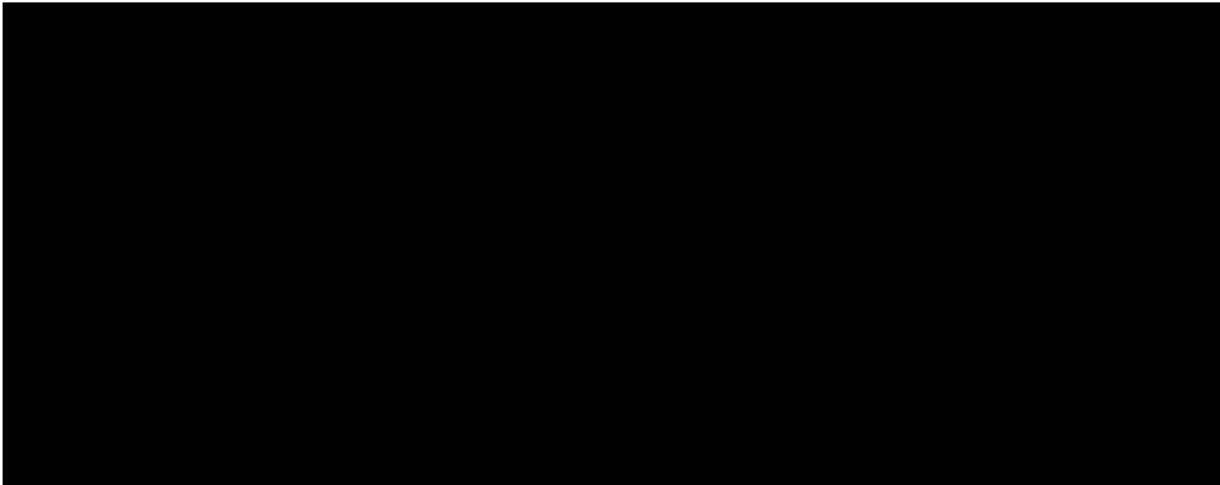
Environment



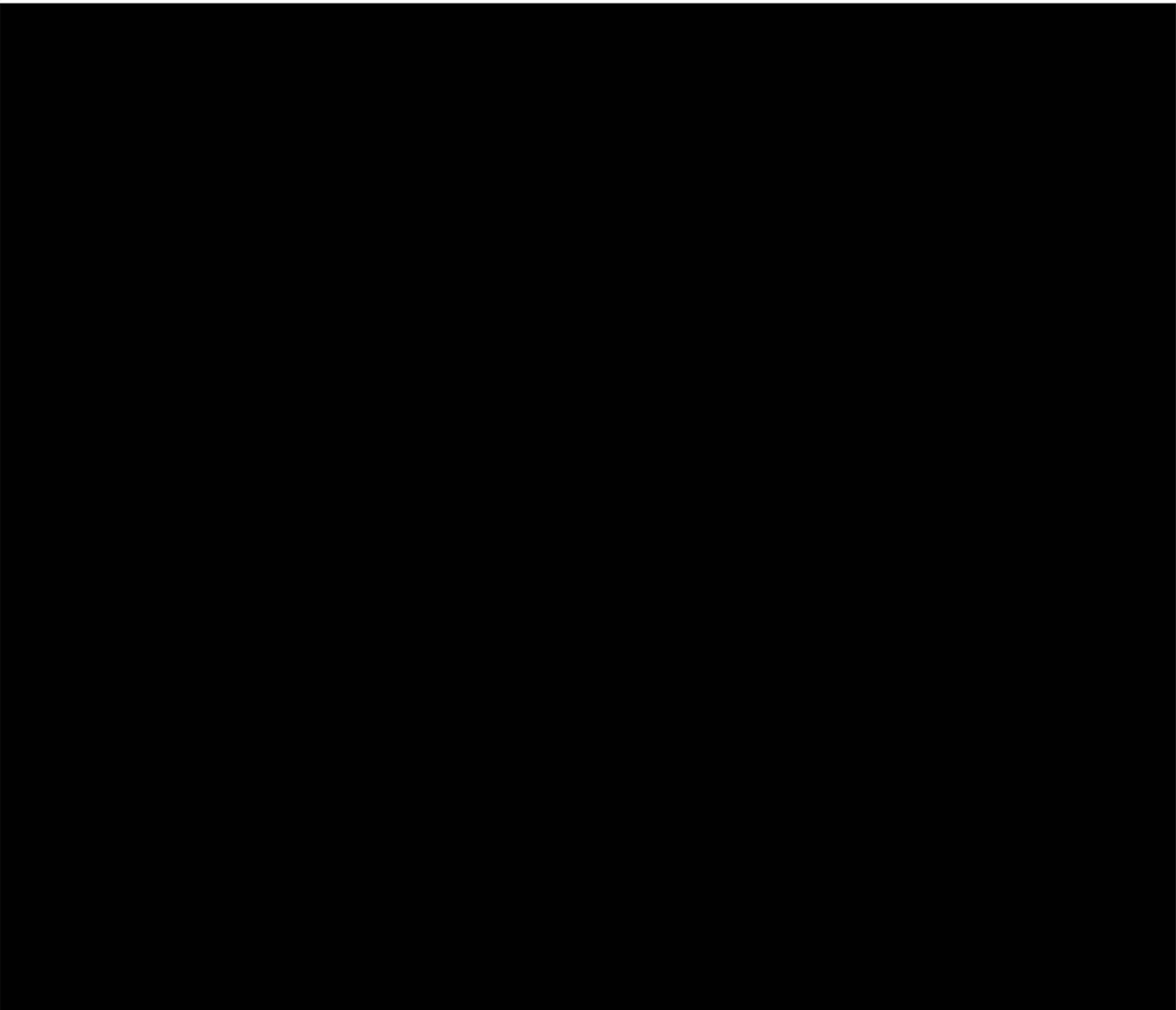
Technical



Adult and Parent Education



Personal and Professional Development

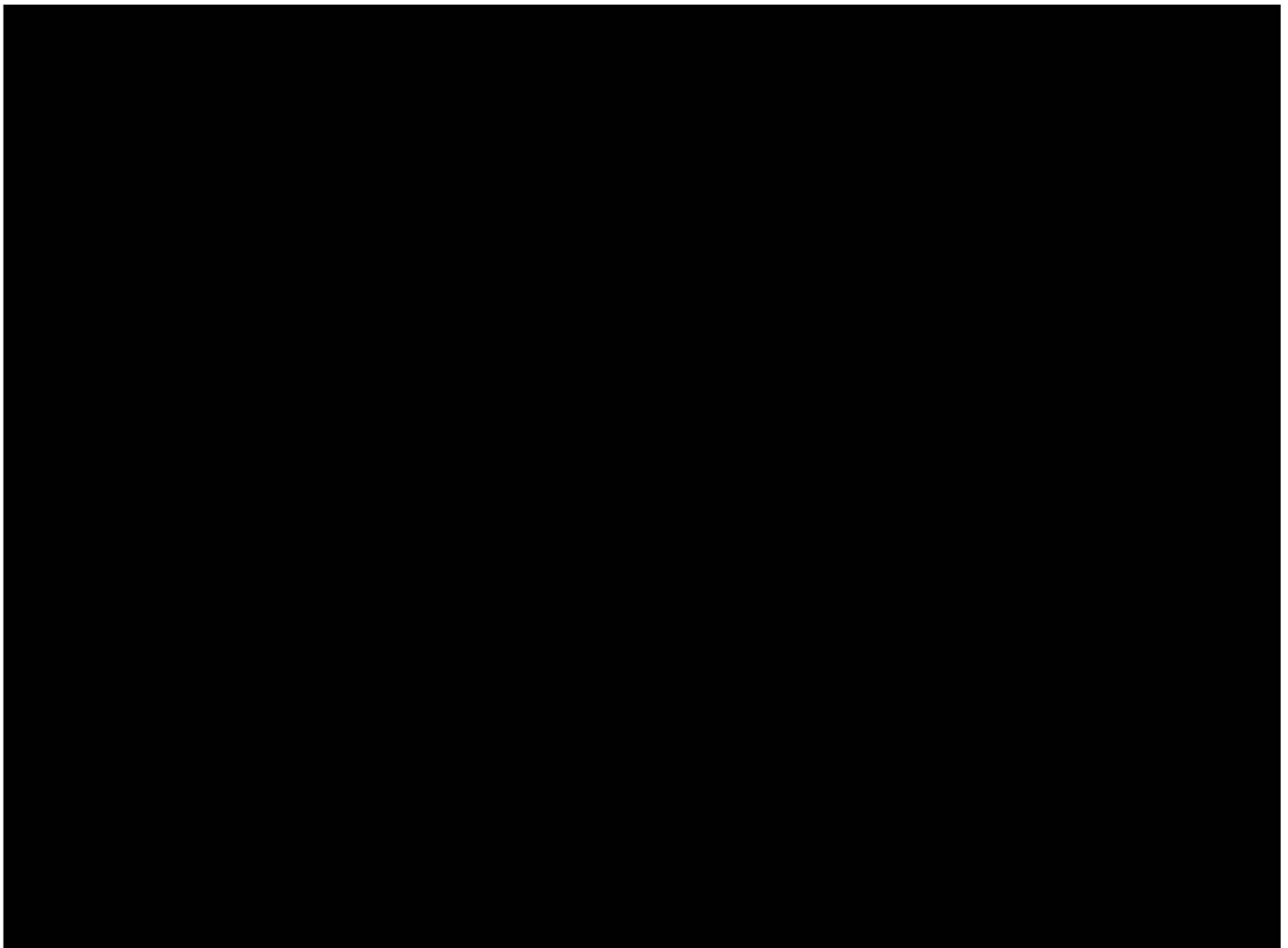




PRESENTATIONS GIVEN

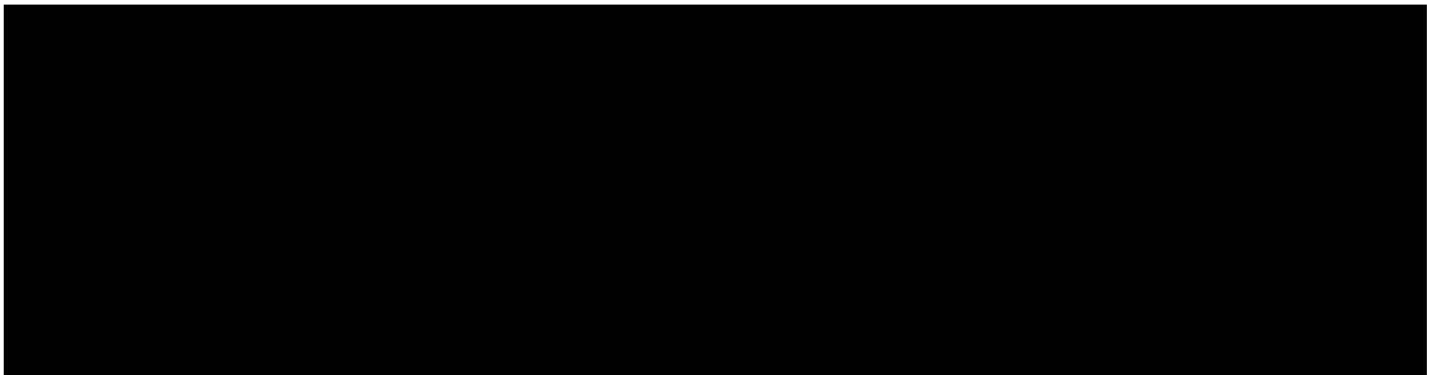


EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE



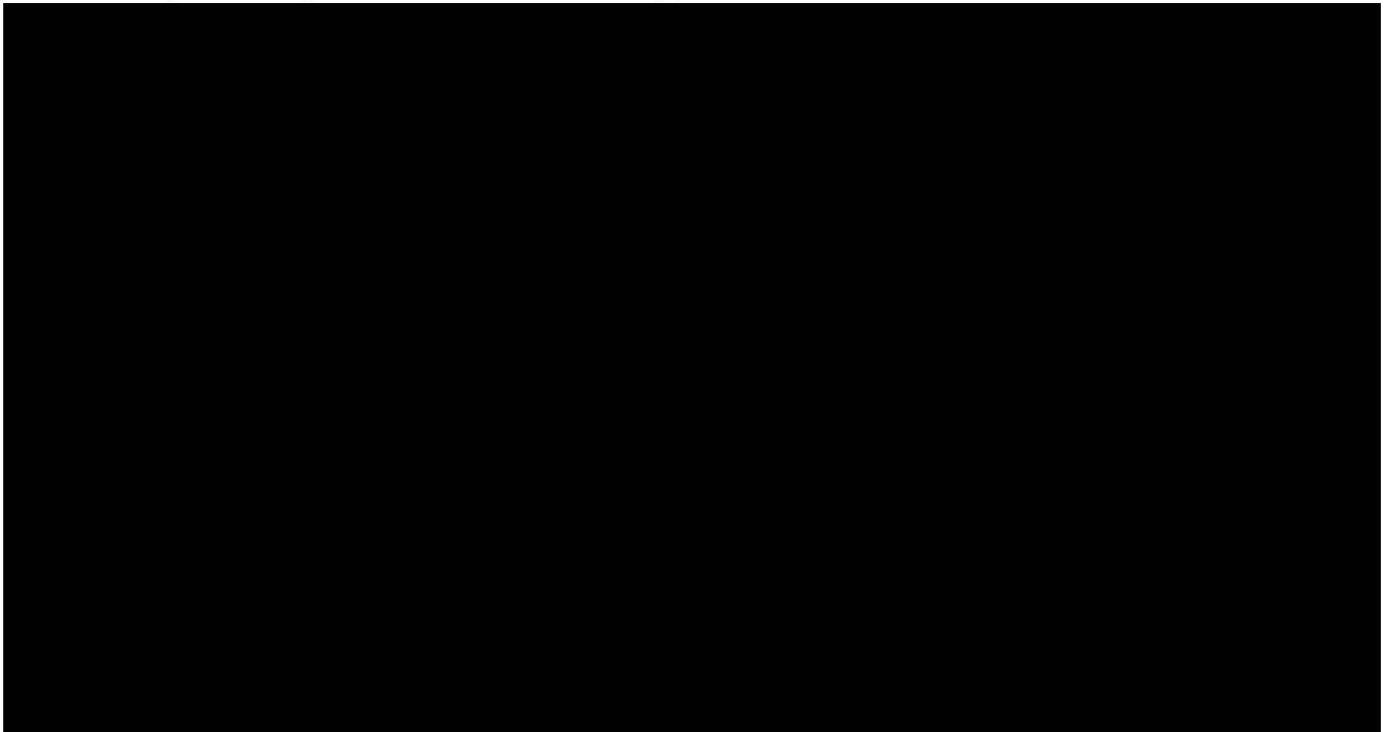


CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

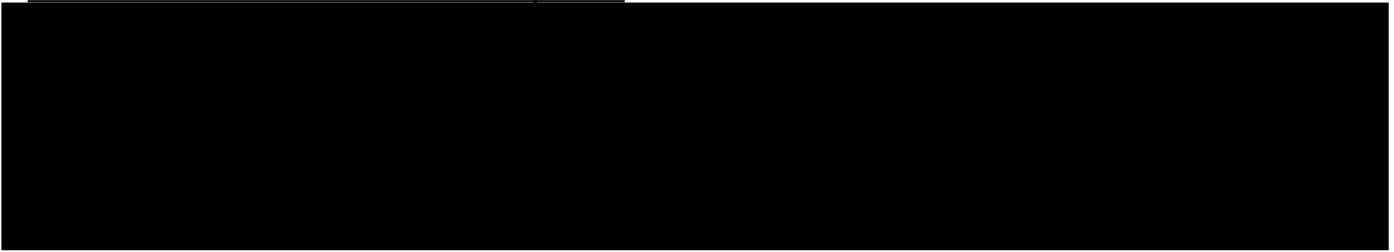




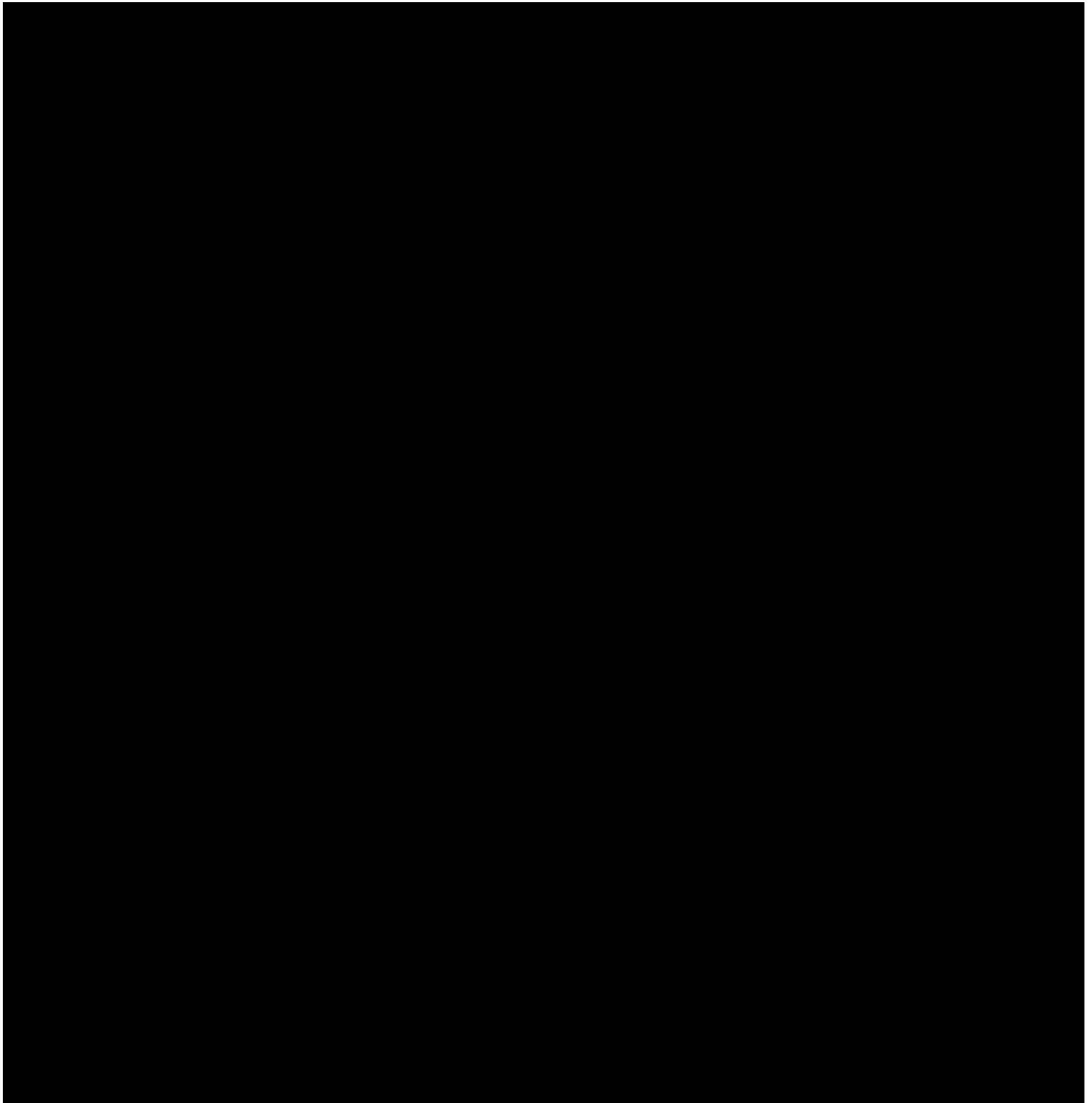
Community Development and Sustainability



Personal and Professional Development



VOLUNTEER/LEADERSHIP/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

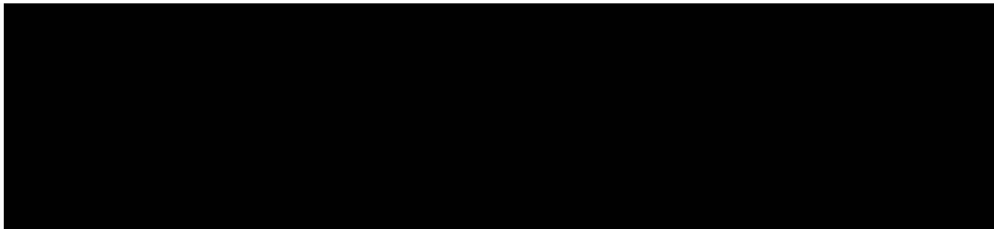




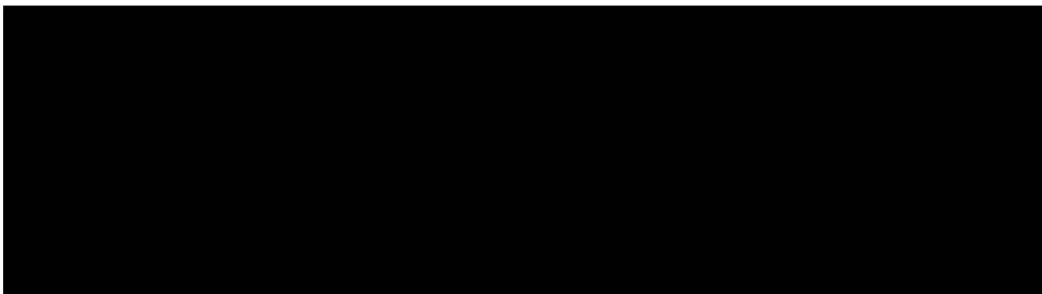
CITIZENSHIP




ACTIVITIES and INTERESTS



REFERENCES






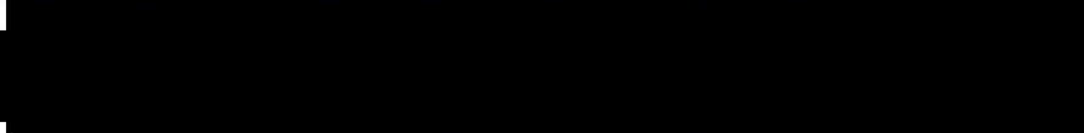



February 01, 2000


Reference for 

To whom it may concern:

I have known  for the past three years, and more personally through her being a member of a  group which I facilitated over a period of several months in the past year. This group focused on identifying peoples' needs, i.e., what they need to thrive, flourish and be at their best; their gifts, talents, skills and abilities; their visions and goals for life and work; identifying a strategy/action plan to realize their goals.

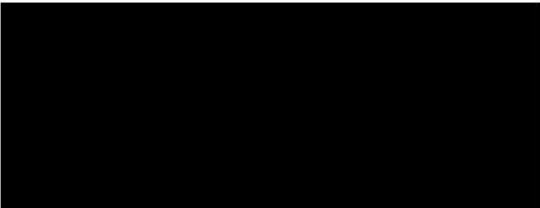
 is a skilled facilitator of groups, notably the leadership she has given to parenting groups. 

I see in  a passion for and a deep understanding of the interrelatedness of people, systems, groups, institutions, and the need to focus on the sustainability of earth's resources - including human resources. She has a broad vision of how to integrate apparently disparate situations and groups. She has a strong identity with the land, and a commitment to creating business enterprises that respect and maintain health of planet and people while at the same time being profitable. I was impressed by her commitment to groups who are marginalized, and the desire to assist them to be productive, respected members of society. She has many creative ideas and visions of a wholistic approach to helping that happen, hence a strong community development interest.

My sense is that this degree would provide  with academic credentials and further expertise to help her find work in a field in which she has much valuable experience, knowledge, creative vision, and to which she is highly committed. I believe this would enable her to make a more public strong and lasting contribution to the welfare of this planet. Therefore I would urge your acceptance of her in this innovative, exciting program of study.

Yours sincerely,





Letter of Reference for [REDACTED]

June 04, 2001

[REDACTED]
Leadership [REDACTED] Program Coordinator
[REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

[REDACTED] has been contracted with the [REDACTED] Leadership [REDACTED] Program as of December 21st, 2000. "Leadership [REDACTED]" is a program designed to help rural [REDACTED] residents develop the skills and knowledge required of effective community leaders.

[REDACTED]'s position was that of a Coaching/Mentor role. [REDACTED] was assigned to seventeen participants in the community of [REDACTED] and eighteen participants in the community of [REDACTED]. As a coach, the skills, knowledge and abilities [REDACTED] possessed were the following:

- Outstanding leadership qualities
- Creative problem solver
- Effective interpersonal and communication skills
- Good working knowledge of group processes and group development
- Experience in Myers Briggs Trait Inventory, SWOT Analysis, mediation and conflict resolution
- Ability to earn trust and respect of participants
- Extremely creative in building team cohesiveness and adapts well to change
- Very successful in assisting individuals with their unique learning challenges and opportunities
- Excellent motivator and is able to draw on everyone's unique gifts.

[REDACTED] is a very knowledgeable, dedicated and capable individual. She meets challenges as an opportunity to learn and succeed. As testimonial to [REDACTED]'s gifts, are the evaluations that each participant in the program completed. [REDACTED] rating as a coach and mentor overall was outstanding.

I highly recommend Ms. [REDACTED] to prospective employers. She would be a valuable asset to any organization.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me.

[REDACTED]

Article: Further Out of View ... Further Out of Mind

This article was written at the request of a publicly funded organisation associated with the domestic and family violence industry, despite assurances that editing assistance would be provided this was not forthcoming and the article was rejected. More recently they have advertised for someone to write about the issues I raised regarding Australian children and women trapped overseas by domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse. From the wording of the advertisement I understand they will be remunerating this writer for an article on the issues I have written and supplied extensive research and documentation on and they rejected and withheld this information that could possibly have protected other Australians from the trauma my children and I have experienced.

Written July 2007.

* * *

Further out of view ... and further out of mind... Australian children and women trapped overseas by domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse.

“Duty of care to the young justifies Government’s action” was the headline of a recent Sydney Morning Herald opinion piece by the Prime Minister John Howard in regards to the government’s intervention in aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory (SMH, Tuesday 26th June, 2007 p11). In this article Mr Howard acknowledges the reality of violence against children and women, “It’s largely been hidden ... out of view and out of mind.” He continues, “I take full responsibility for the success or failure of this plan. ... we believe the overriding responsibility and duty of care we have for the young of this country justifies the scale, breadth and urgency of our response.”

The government and the opposition both agree on the need for immediate intervention when “Women and children are petrified of violence and sexual molestation” - but if the Australian children and women experiencing these abuses are further “out of view” and further “out of mind” than the Northern Territory, if they are overseas, then nobody seems to care about the violence and systemic and judicial abuse they experience or how afraid they might be. In fact, the government’s position is that it has “no ability or responsibility to intervene” for these Australian citizens (unlike Australian citizens such as the “Bali Nine”, Schapelle Corby and David Hicks).

So, if a “duty of care to the young” justifies the government’s actions, allocation of millions of dollars of resources and withholding of welfare payments that may be misused in the Northern Territory, what justifies the government’s inaction in regards to Australian children and women experiencing violence overseas? What justifies the federal government financing foreign jurisdictions that use their resources to violate Australian women and children’s human rights and need for safety and protection from abuse? (See the post “Dear Mr Prime Minister” at www.womenwhowant2gohome.blogspot.com, the online resource I created for children and women in similar circumstances.)

How does this reflect the values and information in the federal government’s current advertising campaigns “Violence Against Women – Australia Says No” and “Becoming an

Australian citizen is much more than a ceremony.”? (Advertised benefits of citizenship include “Secure your family’s future” and “Expect full consular support.”)

I have been advised that currently there is no information or statistics available as to how many Australian children and women may be trapped overseas in these circumstances.

The kinds of problems women face ...

The problems and challenges children and women face because of violence in the family are well documented, whether near family, in their own country or isolated in a foreign country. Some of these challenges are discussed in my online resource.

Some of the problems my children and I have experienced that are not as well documented, researched or discussed include:

- *Change*

I polled attendees at the World Conference on Prevention of Family Violence, Banff, Alberta, October 2005 (www.wcpfv2005.ca) and the consensus was that “nothing has changed in the last 5, 10, 15, 20 ... years, they are still talking about the same things and nothing has changed”

At the recent Sydney University Faculty of Education and Social Work Seminar, “Towards Better Practice: Enhancing collaboration between mental health services and women’s domestic violence services” (April 2007, Leichardt) a guest speaker informed me “female politicians will not speak up about this because of male backlash” and “the only way the government will do anything is if the media embarrasses them into it”. (Seminar proceedings are posted on the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse website www.austdvclearinghouse.unsw.edu.au .)

- *Power and control dynamics within the domestic violence industry.*

“If you weren’t so angry and were nicer you would get some help!” (Co-organiser international conference, considered “expert” in the domestic violence industry.) Why is being “nice” about the violence your children and you have experienced a condition of receiving assistance? How “nice” do I have to be to get help?

- *Ethics of research.*

“I’m a researcher, not an advocate”. Her organisation had just received millions of dollars of government funding but she had no suggestions or resources to share with me, and when she realised that although I could converse knowledgeably about the issues I was not in fact a “researcher” or associated with a university she no longer had time to talk with me.

- *Colonisation in the domestic violence industry.*

“I can’t do anything to help you or your children but I’d like to use your writing for a project I’m working on.” Law Professor specialising in violence against women and children.

- *Ongoing abuse and trauma.*

There is an expectation that children and women who have experienced domestic violence should “accept” what has happened, accept the injustices they experience, accept the lack of change, accept children continuing to be exposed to violence and in the custody of abusive parents and “get on with” their lives. This ignores the ongoing abuse and trauma and the harm

(as serious as attempted and completed suicides of children and women in these situations) that could be prevented.

As Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “It is hardly a moral act to encourage others patiently to accept injustice which he himself does not endure”. Women in these circumstances know others are benefiting and profiting from being “experts” on their and their children’s traumatic lived reality, garnering votes from claiming they care about children and women’s safety, obtaining public funding or donations for work on these issues, while telling these women they cannot help them and “You should just be patient and maybe your children will contact you when they are adults”, they never add, as long as you all survive until then.

- *Harm caused by abusive systems.*

For me the trauma my children and I have experienced trying to get the government, politicians, justice system, police, advocates and organisations to provide the support, advocacy, protection and justice they claim to provide, has been more traumatic, unexpected and damaging than the abuse I experienced in my marriage.

- *Whistleblowers*

When you leave an abusive spouse and “speak your truth” about the abuse in the family you act as a “whistleblower” on that persons actions and experience the associated dangers, challenges, isolation and backlash. When you then speak up and become a whistleblower on systems and governments that condone and reward abusive behaviour the dangers, challenges, isolation and backlash are compounded proportionally.

So, what options are available to children and women in this situation?

What are the options when justice systems and governments find violence against children and women acceptable?

What are the options when you have spent over \$100,000 on lawyers, attending domestic violence conferences and doing advocacy work and you still can’t find anyone who will address the issue of justice departments who have their staff misinform courts about immigrant children and women’s experience of domestic violence?

What do you do when the “experts” say, “you’ve done more than any other mother I know and I don’t know what to suggest”?

What are your options when more people than you can remember have said, “I don’t know how you have survived”?

There have been many times when I felt so depressed, discouraged and disillusioned about not being able to protect my children that I thought that the only option for my children’s safety was to bring all my information together in one place and then to commit suicide in a very public and horrific way – and then maybe there would be a chance that someone would start to talk about these situations. But I now know that other children and women have attempted and committed suicide because they can no longer endure the pain of such situations, and this still continues.

Many people asked me to write a book about our situation, but no one offered safety or support or resources to enable me to do that. So I created an anonymous online resource in the form of a blog, www.womenwhowant2gohome.blogspot.com. I hoped that one day my children

would read it and know how much I loved them and how hard I had worked to protect them. I hoped it might be a source of encouragement and information (accessible and free) for other women in similar circumstances. I hoped that if I shared this online resource with enough people one day someone would read it and be convicted to act.

I tried to find ways to live in hope instead of fear...

So writing this article became an opportunity to:

- Send a love letter to my children –because I have the privilege of knowing what amazing, delightful, caring and creative people you are I am still able to find hope.
- Say “Thank you” to my family and friends, your love and support sustains me.

Writing this article also became an opportunity to imagine options and;

- Beg those that have the opportunity and resources to act to assist us to do so, and if the only way for there to be change for us and other Australian children and women in these circumstances is for “the media to embarrass the government into it” then work to involve the media (being mindful of our safety and privacy).
- Encourage human rights activist and advocates who saw the upcoming federal election as the window of opportunity for political interest in justice for David Hicks to do the same for innocent and vulnerable Australian children and women trapped overseas by injustice.
- Enquire as to which legal experts can provide a second opinion on the federal Attorney General’s assessment that the government cannot “interfere” on behalf of Australian children and women in these circumstances, and would comment on the legality/constitutionality of the government providing consular assistance, paying legal fees and negotiating prison exchanges for Australians convicted of heroin trafficking in foreign jurisdictions and refusing to provide any support or assistance for innocent and vulnerable Australian children and women who are victims of a crime while in foreign jurisdictions.
- Request academic support, supervision, safety, encouragement and enablement for people like myself who have used their personal lived reality/ their experiential knowledge, to inform their research, reflection, social actions and advocacy and to create a portfolio of these “survivors” work to be assessed for academic accreditation for them.
- Request support, safety and enablement to write the book many have requested.
- Recommend reserved senior/executive/board/committee positions for “experts by experience”. (I would appreciate being considered for any of the above positions, see www.womenwhowant2gohome.blogspot.com for evidence of my research skills, resourcefulness, creativity, resilience, practical application of knowledge/social action and advocacy, communication skills and ethics.)
- Encourage payment of consultancy fees to “experts by experience” for their ideas and information.

- Recommend “measures of success” and “cost/benefit analysis” criteria for research grants and funding that reflects positive change in the lives of victims/survivors.
- Request funding to attend national and international conferences (it would also be wonderful to receive a complimentary ticket to that expensive banquet and invitations to the networking wine and cheese parties and exclusive get-togethers that you have to have some impressive job title or letters behind your name to attend).
- Invite “experts” to ensure that women who are “experts by experience” that have used their experiential knowledge to help others have access to the benefits and resources of the domestic violence sector.
- Invite discussion on how safety, social justice, equity and the right to resources for self-actualisation are prerequisites for sustainability.
- Invite and encourage all who have experienced violence and abuse in any form to “speak your truth” and find meaningful ways to live in hope.
- Send a message of celebration, gratitude, encouragement and honour for everyone who has ever contributed towards a safer, more just, more equitable and more sustainable society.

Take care ... take heart ... “Merinda”

For information regarding resources that I have found helpful, informative or encouraging please go to www.womenwhowant2gohome.blogspot.com.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Enquiries](#)
Subject: Submission - Media ignores/condones Domestic Violence -Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!
Date: Thursday, 28 May 2015 4:48:23 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!
Date: Mon, 27 Apr 2015 19:24:27 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: qanda@abc.net.au
Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!
Date: Mon, 27 Apr 2015 19:21:10 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; senator.rice@aph.gov.au;
[REDACTED]; dvrcv@dvrcv.org.au; senator.madigan@aph.gov.au;
senator.faulkner@aph.gov.au; info@awava.org.au
Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!
Date: Mon, 27 Apr 2015 19:19:42 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: actioncentre@amnesty.org.au

Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!

Date: Mon, 27 Apr 2015 19:15:35 +1030

From: [REDACTED]

To: contact@taramoss.com; mediawatch@your.abc.net.au; admin@collectiveshout.org; ambwomengirls@dfat.gov.au; nswaia@amnesty.org.au; enquiries@ourwatch.org.au; theteam@oursay.org; [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!

Date: Mon, 27 Apr 2015 19:13:37 +1030

From: [REDACTED]

To: info@getup.org.au; info@awava.org.au; admin@whiteribbon.org.au; childconcernaus@iprimus.com.au

Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!

Date: Mon, 27 Apr 2015 19:11:46 +1030

From: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!

Date: Mon, 27 Apr 2015 19:09:46 +1030

From: [REDACTED]

To: admin@whiteribbon.org.au; info@getup.org.au; admin@dvns.org.au

Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!

Date: Sun, 26 Apr 2015 20:20:14 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: info@awava.org.au; info@whiteribbon.org.au; 702@your.abc.net.au;
[REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!
Date: Sun, 26 Apr 2015 20:18:31 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: csi@unsw.edu.au
Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!
Date: Sun, 26 Apr 2015 19:38:58 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: policemedia@police.vic.gov.au; onlinecommsunit-mgr@police.vic.gov.au
Subject: FW: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!
Date: Tue, 21 Apr 2015 20:48:16 +1030

From: [REDACTED]
To: policemedia@police.vic.gov.au; onlinecommsunit-mgr@police.vic.gov.au
Subject: Urgent Attention Ken Lay re Domestic Violence that is condoned, colluded with & covered-up!!!
Date: Mon, 20 Apr 2015 21:08:46 +1030

Ken Lay
Chief Commissioner of Police
Victoria

Dear Sir,

I am contacting you because you are someone who has been announced by the Prime Minister, Tony Abbott, as a founding member of a national advisory panel on preventing violence against women and as a result of reading many of your public comments, to beg for your immediate assistance to bring into immediate public and political discussion the issue of innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children, such as my children and myself, who have and are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial discrimination and human rights violations overseas that have been ignored, condoned, colluded with, covered-up and kept secret!

Despite my communication, information sharing and best efforts over more than fifteen years, since last century, I have not been able to find any politician, political party, academic, domestic violence advocate or organisation, journalist (public or private media), White Ribbon ambassador, clergy or anyone else who will speak up publicly and bring these issues in to public and political attention and discussion!

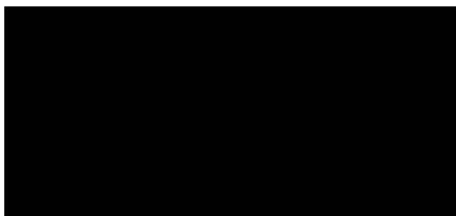
Australian citizens who are arrested for, charged with or convicted of crimes overseas are provided with care, compassion, concern, support, advocacy, resources and attention that is denied to my children, myself and other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and their children who have and are experiencing domestic violence, systemic and judicial discrimination and human rights violations overseas!

I would like to mention that I too would like to be a member of a national advisory panel on preventing violence against women (please see attached references and c.v.)

Any and all immediate assistance regarding this domestic violence issue would be greatly appreciated by me and many others!!!!

(I had left a phone message for the Victoria Police Domestic Violence number but no-one returned my call/message.)

Kind regards,



From: [REDACTED]
To: yaxley.louise@abc.net.au
Subject: Re Domestic Violence
Date: Mon, 20 Apr 2015 17:45:04 +1030

Dear Ms Yaxley,

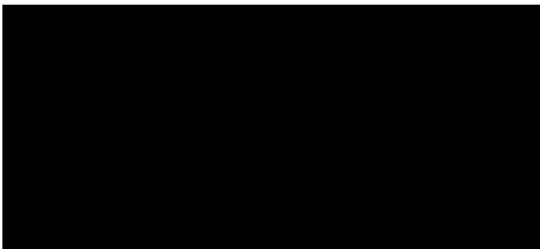
Thank you for your interest in my information regarding my children's and my, and many other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and their children's traumatic experience of domestic violence, systemic and judicial abuse and human rights violations overseas that continues to be ignored, condoned, colluded with, covered-up and kept secret.

As mentioned I had contacted the Canberra ABC office to speak to or leave a message for Ms Sabra Lane after hearing part of Ms Lane's interview of Sen. Michaelia Cash on ABC 7.30 last week.

You are welcome to share the following and attached information with Ms Lane and anyone you feel is appropriate or may be helpful.

Thank you for your interest.

Kind regards,



Natasha Stott Despoja AM
Ambassador for Women and Girls
R.G. Casey Building, John McEwen Crescent
Barton ACT 0221
Ph: 02 6261 2523, Email: ambwomengirls@dfat.gov.au

Dear Ms Stott Despoja,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me at the recent Inaugural Asia-Pacific Conference on Gendered Violence and Violations at the University of New South Wales. Thank you also for sharing your business card with me and for receiving my printed information regarding my children's and my, and many other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and their children's experience of domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse, discrimination, inadequacies and inequities overseas.

As I had mentioned to you during our brief discussion, your comments from your address to Conferences delegates that had special meaning for me included your statements regarding your role as Ambassador for Women and Girls and with Our Watch and the opportunity and responsibility to comment on and bring about changes in regards to “public policy”, “human rights for Australian women” and “International advocacy”!

Therefore, I beg you to be an ally and provide desperately requested support to obtain justice, judicial fairness and human rights for my children, myself and all other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse, discrimination, inadequacies, inequities and inequalities overseas that have been condoned, colluded with, covered-up, ignored and kept secret for many, many years!

Please bring these issues and my information into immediate public and political attention!

What I am begging for is;

Immediate investigation of the domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse my children and I experienced overseas, including the information provided by a doctor, domestic violence support social worker and counsellor regarding their concerns for my children’s and my safety that was deliberately misrepresented in court by a justice department employee to hide, keep secret, deny and condone the violence my children and I witnessed and experienced. (Please see attached relevant documentation and letters)

Immediate provision of resources, support, safety, security, concern and compassion to heal the deliberate harm caused to my children’s and my relationship by the foreign jurisdiction condoning and covering up that they were aware their employee misrepresented information and lied in court about the domestic violence we witnessed and experienced to deny us the justice, judicial fairness, human rights, safety and security we needed and deserved.

Immediate restorative justice process for my children and myself

Immediate re-evaluation of the Department of Foreign Affairs contention that it cannot “interfere” or provide any form of support, assistance, resources, advocacy, care, concern or compassion for innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse, discrimination, inadequacies, inequities and inequalities overseas, despite the very public provision of such to aid and assist those who choose to commit crimes overseas!

Immediate evaluation of my research, first person action inquiry and domestic violence advocacy in relation to my children’s and my experience for appropriate academic recognition.

Immediate consideration of the appropriateness of including “experts by experience” such as myself on any and all boards, committees, projects and councils involved with issues of violence against children and women (please see attached c.v. and references)

Your immediate assistance and response to the above requests would align with your comments at the Inaugural Asia-Pacific Conference on Gendered Violence and Violations and would provide my children, myself and many other innocent and vulnerable Australian women and children who have and are experiencing domestic violence and systemic and judicial abuse overseas the justice, judicial fairness and human rights we all deserve!

Kind regards,



Reference for [REDACTED]

Feb. 19, 1998

To whom it may concern,

I would highly recommend [REDACTED] to anyone considering her for employment. [REDACTED] is very dedicated to what she does. She knows the true spirit of cooperation and makes a valuable team member. [REDACTED] is an energetic hard worker. She is organized and thorough in her work. She is able to work both independently and interdependently. She has an eye for beauty and detail. [REDACTED] has great interpersonal skills: she is empathetic, caring, optimistic, enthusiastic, and extremely encouraging.

She has led parenting classes for us ([REDACTED]) and is skilled and knowledgeable in the field of parent education.

[REDACTED] She has had great evaluations from her participants who say they leave her classes feeling good about themselves and their abilities. [REDACTED] has all the qualities needed to make a fantastic group facilitator.

[REDACTED] also has a good understanding of the field of domestic abuse. It is an area she has done a lot of research on and devoted a lot of time and energy to. She is very dedicated to making family life a safe place for everyone, women and children included.

[REDACTED] would be a definite asset to any organization / company. Her personable qualities coupled with her knowledge and skills in the field of human relations make her a very qualified person who would be valuable to have in any workplace.

If you would like any further information or have any questions, please feel free to call me at the above phone number or reach me at the above address.

Sincerely,