

**The Children and Young People's Safety Project:
A protocol for research to practice in the field of organisational child sexual abuse prevention.**



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ICPR 2021

Today's talk

1. The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse
2. CAYPS project
3. Research (in CSA prevention) methodology in practice

Douglas Russell

ICPR - 2021



The Royal Commission

2013-2017

**Focus: Sexual abuse
in organisations**

**17 volumes of
findings**

Fast facts

42,041

Calls handled

25,964

Letters & emails received

8,013

Private sessions held

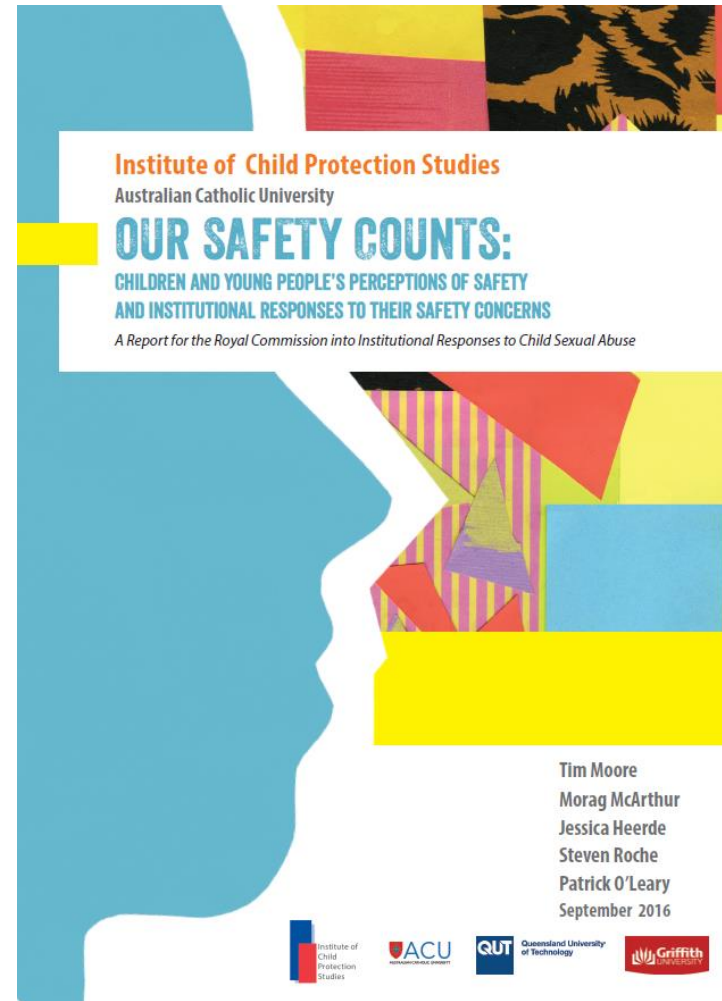
2,575

Referrals to authorities
(including police)



**Child Safe
Organisations**

**10 National
Principles**



Children and Young People's Safety Project

Safeguarding Portal

ACU's one-stop shop for **resources training and survey tools** to support organisations to develop a culture of safeguarding.

Children's Safety Survey

A survey tool youth-serving organisations can use to measure **children's perceptions** of safety

Safeguarding Capabilities Survey

A survey tool youth-serving organisations can use to measure **staff and volunteers** capabilities to safeguard children

<https://safeguardingchildren.acu.edu.au>

How organisations take part

Industry-funded research

Each organisation that wants to take part – pays to take part

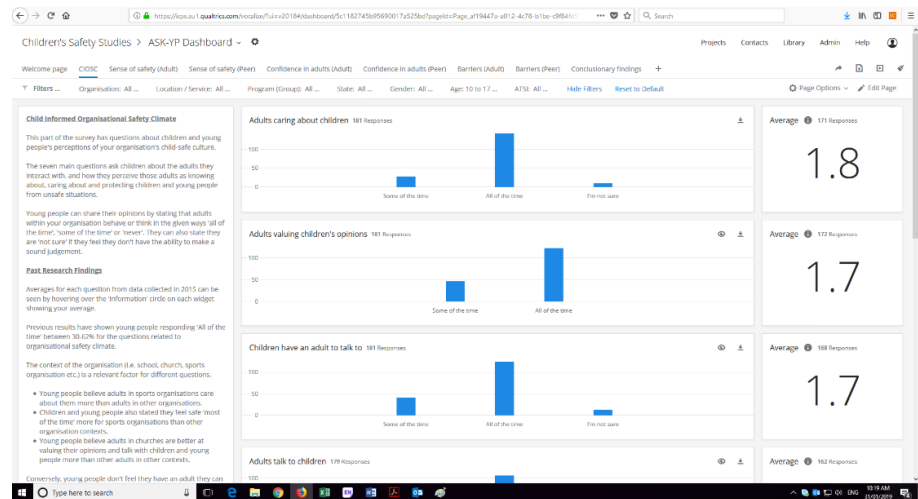
Why would they pay to take part in research?

They get access to their results instantly via an online dynamic dashboard with filters

URL: <https://icps.au1.qualtrics.com/>

Username: genericlogon

Password: ICPS2020



Children's Safety Survey

- Developed in partnership with children and young people
- Focus groups with 110 children and young people across Australia
- Child protection experts provided expertise into the survey's development

Designed for children and young people aged 10-18 to complete independently with minimal adult intervention

Provides organisations with an opportunity to gain an understanding of children's perceptions of safety

Safeguarding Capabilities Survey

The Safeguarding Capabilities survey measures the capabilities of participating organisations' staff and volunteers related to safeguarding children and young people.

73 items in the survey

4 areas of capability

- Awareness
- Confidence to act
- Attitude
- Knowledge


Original Article

Safeguarding Capabilities in Preventing Child Sexual Abuse: Exploratory Factor Analysis of a Scale Measuring Safeguarding Capabilities in Youth-Serving Organizations Workers

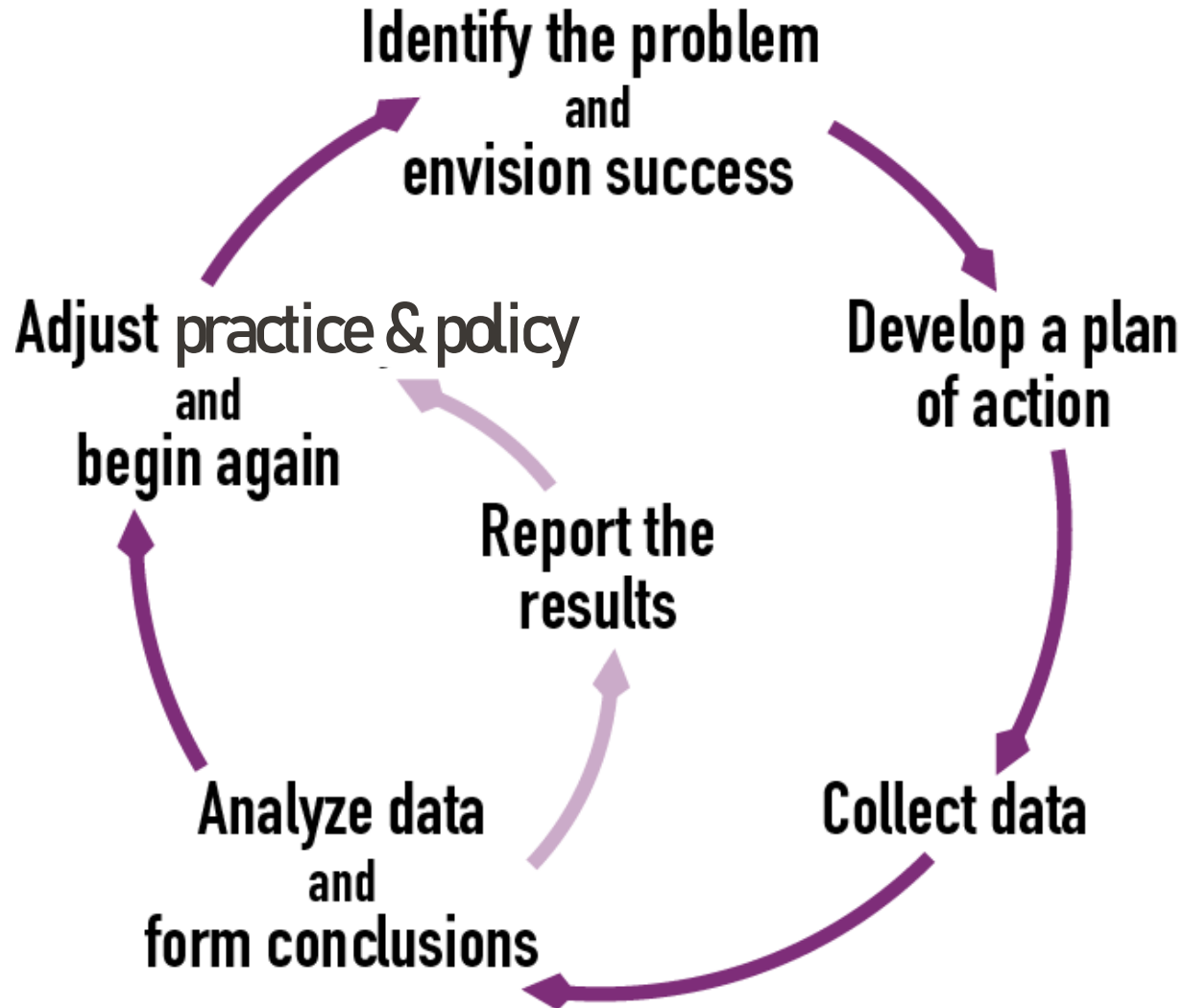
Douglas Russell¹ and **Daryl Higgins¹**

Abstract

Media reports and government enquiries have shone a spotlight on institutional child sexual abuse (CSA) globally. With youth-serving organizations seeking to identify how to improve policies and procedures developed to protect children, a gap exists in research and organizational quality assurance procedures. A new tool is needed to measure the capability of workers to

Child Maltreatment
2020, Vol. 25(2) 233-242
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DOI: 10.1177/1077559519870253
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Research methodology in practice



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Why are we doing this?

- To **conduct research and create resources** for youth-serving organisations that will sit on the Safeguarding Children Portal
- The project doubles as a **quality assurance** and learning tool.
- Based on the data, organisations using the Children's Safety Survey and/or the Safeguarding Capabilities Survey can develop **tailored interventions, policies and practices** to improve conditions of safety for the children and young people with whom they interact.

Questions and contact details

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