



Intersecting needs and rights: Participants, workers and carers in marketised support

A SYMPOSIUM HOSTED BY THE SOCIAL SUPPORT AND PRECARIOUS WORK RESEARCH DISCUSSION GROUP (SS&PW)

OVERVIEW

In contested spaces of marketised service delivery in social care, the need to develop and engage in discussions on stakeholder rights has emerged as a critical issue. How can the rights of each stakeholder be realised in a way that recognises and accommodates the diverse needs and interests and vulnerabilities of other stakeholders within such a landscape?

This symposium for PhD and Early Career Researchers working in the fields of disability and mental health support and aged care is aimed at developing a more robust and innovative conversation about points of intersection for people who require care and support, and those who provide care and support in a paid and unpaid capacity.

Date: Wed 5th December 2018

Time: 9am – 2pm (registration from 8.30am)

Venue: RMIT University, 445 Swanston St, Bldg 80, Level 10, rooms 17&18

Cost: free but registration required (Morning tea and lunch provided)

To register or for further information, please contact:

Jenny Malone: jenny.malone@rmit.edu.au or

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Presenters

Amaya Alvarez is a Victorian Council of Social Service/RMIT University PhD scholar researching the impact of the marketisation of care exemplified by the NDIS on carers, and carers' right. Amaya's research explores the tensions between carers' rights, new systems of care, and the sustainability of carers' work; while highlighting the significant role social services will need to play in addressing the emerging and ongoing challenges carers face. She appeared on the ABC's [The Drum in October 2017](#) and has an extensive history in applied research.

Aviva Beecher Kelk is a PhD candidate at the University of Melbourne's Social Equity Institute researching 'Diversity in decision-making: co-designing informed choice under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)'. She is also a social worker and the co-founder and co-director of [clickability.com.au](#), an online Australian disability services directory. She has extensive experience in research, mental health, community development, and project management.

Karen Douglas, is an RMIT University PhD candidate in her final year researching the challenges unions face in mobilising disability support workers. She has presented her research throughout her candidature in Australia and in The Philippines at the 1st Global Labour University Asia Alumni Regional Workshop. In 2018 Karen was the overall runner up and winner of the 'Peoples Choice' Award in the Three Minute Thesis competition in the College of Business. Prior to commencing her PhD she worked in the union movement for more than 15 years and was instrumental in the development of a new classification structure for the Victoria Public Service addressing low pay of, mostly, women workers.

Judith Drake, is a Lived Experience Expert involved in consumer/community advocacy at local, state and national levels, is on the National Register of Consumer & Carer Representatives (Mental Health Australia) and has particular interests in peer support, research & evaluation, trauma, family violence, suicide prevention, Hearing Voices approach and NDIS & psychosocial disability.

Jen Hargrave was a member of the Community Researcher team for the University of Melbourne 'Choice Control and the NDIS' project. She has just done a study tour of Sweden and the UK researching safeguarding strategies in market-based service systems towards a DHHS Ethel Temby Scholarship. Jen is Senior Policy Officer at Women with Disabilities Victoria and was previously a Disability Liaison Officer in Victorian Universities. She has been a member of Victorian advisory committees on human rights, family violence and the NDIS.

Elizabeth Hudson, is a PhD candidate and the inaugural Victorian Council of Social Service/RMIT University PhD scholar (2016), former research manager of a not-for-profit human services organisation and CEO of a mental health employment service. Elizabeth's research explores the experiences of people with episodic mental illness during the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).





EbonyRose Lyons Lived Experience Expert, has been part of the Mind Australia community for 19 years, has participated on committees and public speaking about mental health, hope and recovery. Awarded by Mind for “Outstanding contribution by a client for raising awareness” in 2016. Speaker at Government House representing Mind’s consumers in 2017.

Yvette Maker is a **Senior Research Associate** at the Melbourne Social Equity Institute at the **University of Melbourne** and a lecturer and supervisor in the Disability Human Rights Clinic at the Melbourne Law School. Her current work focuses on the disability and gender-related dimensions of law, policy and practice. Her thesis submitted in 2017 is titled: ‘Beyond breadwinners, caregivers, martyrs and burdens: a new framework for managing competing claims in care and support policy.

Monica O’Dwyer is in the final stage of her **PhD candidature at RMIT** University researching the intersection of gender and ethnicity in the aged care and childcare migrant workforce. Previously Monica worked in policy and research roles at AMES Australia, one of Australia’s largest settlement agencies, and currently works as a Research Associate at La Trobe and RMIT Universities. She has co-authored publications on the employment experiences of new migrants in Australia and presented her work at academic forums in Australia.

Sue Olney is a **Research Fellow in the Public Service Research Group at UNSW Canberra** and an Honorary Senior Fellow in the School of Government at the University of Melbourne. Her research focuses on public service markets. She has been involved in numerous cross-government and cross-sector initiatives to promote access and equity in employment, training and disability services in Australia and has worked on both sides of the process of outsourcing public services in Victorian Government and the not-for-profit sector.

