

The Comparative Youth Penalty Project



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Project Newsletter September 2014

The Comparative Youth Penalty Project (CYPP) is an ARC Discovery Project led by Professor Chris Cunneen, Professor Eileen Baldry, Emeritus Professor David Brown, Melanie Schwartz and Professor Barry Goldson (University of Liverpool).

The CYPP is an international comparative study of youth punishment in Australia (focusing on NSW, Victoria, Queensland and WA) and in England and Wales. The project aims to analyse developments in the punishment of children and young people over the last 30 years. This is the first in-depth analysis of Australian youth penalty and the first comparative study of youth punishment across these jurisdictions.

The Project seeks to answer the following questions:

- What are the defining features of contemporary juvenile justice penalty?
- How has youth penalty changed since the early 1980s across the jurisdictions that are the subject of this project?
- How have changing approaches to youth penalty impacted upon particular social groups, including racial minorities, Indigenous youth, young women, and young people with mental and cognitive disabilities?
- What, if any, jurisdictional differences are to be found in discourses on community safety, the nature of childhood and youth (including child welfare and protection), the appropriateness of rehabilitation and the character of punishment practices for youth?
- How has the development of a human rights framework impacted on penal law, policy and practice as applied to youth? What impact, if any, has a children's rights framework had on differentiating youth justice from adult penal systems?

This newsletter provides stakeholders with an update on the progress of the CYPP. It also lists some of the latest news and research in the field of youth penalty. For more information please visit our [website](#) or contact CYPP Research Associate, [Elizabeth Clark](#).

CYPP News

NSW Interviews

Recently, members of the CYPP visited a youth detention centre in NSW to conduct interviews with young people, with plans to conduct further interviews at detention facilities in NSW throughout October. CYPP members will also be conducting interviews with various stakeholders throughout NSW, including youth detention centre staff and NSW Juvenile Justice representatives.

Professor Goldson and Damon Briggs visit

Professor Barry Goldson and PhD candidate Damon Briggs were recently in Sydney, where they participated in the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology (ANZSOC) conference alongside Professor Eileen Baldry. (See details below). The visit has provided excellent opportunity for all members of the CYPP to meet to discuss the progress and future work of the project.

ANZSOC Conference, Sydney (1-3 October 2014)

Publication of this newsletter has been delayed to report on the 27th annual Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology (ANZSOC) conference, held on 1-3 October 2014 at the Sydney Law School, University of Sydney, Camperdown. The theme of the 2014 Conference was 'Testing the Edges; Challenging Criminology.' Keynote speakers were Professors Ngaire Naffine (Adelaide), Alan Norrie (Warwick) and Jonathan Simon (Berkeley).

As part of the conference, Professor Barry Goldson, Professor Eileen Baldry and Damon Briggs presented a panel discussion on behalf of the CYPP. Professor Goldson discussed the work and purposes of the CYPP, while Professor Baldry and Damon Briggs presented the preliminary findings from Australia and England and Wales respectively.

More information regarding the ANZSOC Conference can be found on the conference [website](#).

News (Australia & UK)

Australia

[‘Art Apology’ aims to keep young people out of prison](#) (Margaret Burin, *ABC News*, 15 July 2014)

[‘Children “too young to be locked in prison system”](#) (Patricia Karvelas *The Australian*, 12 August 2014)

[Adults in youth detention centre creates 'pressure cooker' at Banksia Hill, union says](#) (Nicholas Perpetch, *ABC News*, 14 August 2014)

[NT juvenile offenders move to adult prison](#) (Lindy Kerin, *The World Today, ABC*, 26 August 2014)

[Controversial boot camp straightening out Townsville's most notorious child criminals through tough daily schedule](#) (Christie Anderson, *Townsville Bulletin*, 09 September 2014)

[Kariong Juvenile Correctional Facility will close in 2015 and inmates moved to Cobham](#) (Central Coast Gosford Express Advocate, *The Daily Telegraph*, 11 September 2014)

[Overcrowding deemed 'unsafe' in youth detention facilities in QLD](#) (Matt Wordsworth, *ABC*, 17 September 2014)

[Police call for mandatory laws to keep repeat offenders behind bars longer](#) (Sheradyn Holderhead, *The Advertiser*, 30 September 2014)

UK

[Labour may bring in more community sentences for younger offenders](#)(Rowena Mason, *The Guardian*, 2 July 2014)

[Parc Prison juvenile unit, Bridgend, praised by inspectors](#) (*BBC*, 28 August 2014)

[Young Offenders' institution declared unsafe by chief inspector of prisons](#) (Sandra Laille, *The Guardian*, 6 August 2014)

[Prison doesn't work- as the Glen Parva shambles shows](#) (Owen Jones, *The Guardian*, 6 August 2014)

[How restorative justice is steering young people away from crime](#) (Anna Bawden, *The Guardian*, 17 September 2014)

Research

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2014 ['Youth Justice Orders and Supervision Periods 2012-13'](#) *AIHW Juvenile Justice Series no. 25*

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2014 ['Time under youth justice supervision: 2012-13'](#) *AIHW Juvenile Justice Series no. 26*

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2014, '[Comparisons between the youth and adult justice systems 2012-13](#)' *AIHW Juvenile Justice Series* no. 25

Allan, A, Beesley, S, Attwood B and McKillop, D 2014 '[Apology in Restorative and Juvenile Justice](#)' *Psychiatry, Psychology and Law* 21(2) 176-190

Baidawi, S. M., Philip; Snow, Pamela (2014). '[Young People Transitioning from Out-of-home Care in Victoria: Strengthening Support Services for Dual Clients of Child Protection and Youth Justice](#)' *Australian Social Work* 67(1)

Hobbs, H. T., Andrew (2014). "[A historical perspective on juvenile justice reform in Queensland.](#)" *Criminal Law Journal* 38(2): 77-90.

Muncie, John (2013) '[International Juvenile \(In\)justice: Penal Severity and Rights Compliance](#)'. *International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy* 2(2).

Nagy, M. T., Mallory (2014). "[Davids and Goliath: Konneh v State of New South Wales.](#)" *Law Society Journal* 52(1): 53-56.

Richards, K. (2014). '[Blurred Lines: Reconsidering the Concept of 'Diversion' in Youth Justice Systems in Australia.](#)' *Youth Justice: An International Journal* 14(2): 122-139.

Events

Critical Criminology Conference, Melbourne (4-5 December 2014)

The 8th annual Australian and New Zealand Critical Criminology Conference will be held over 4-5 December 2014 at Monash Law Chambers, 55 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. The theme of the 2014 conference is 'Critical Criminology: Research Praxis and Social Transformation in a Global Era?'.

To find more information about the conference program or register your attendance, please go to the [conference website](#). Registration for this conference closes 17 October 2014.