

AIDR Recovery Matters webinar series

Family violence in recovery

11 March, 2021

GUEST SPEAKERS

Debra Parkinson - GAD Pod | Steve O'Malley - Fire Rescue Victoria



Welcome

Amanda Leck

Executive Director, AIDR



AIDR acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the various lands on which you all join us from today and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people participating in this event.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters across Australia.



- You will remain muted and your camera will not be activated for the duration of today's event.
- Today's event will be recorded and made available after the event.
- Please enter questions for our speakers in the Q&A function, not the chat box.
- Please use the chat box to share any thoughts or reflections during the presentation remember to select 'all panellists and attendees' to ensure everyone can read your message.
- Please be respectful to each other when posting your comments or questions.



Dr Debra Parkinson

Gender and Disaster Pod (GAD Pod)



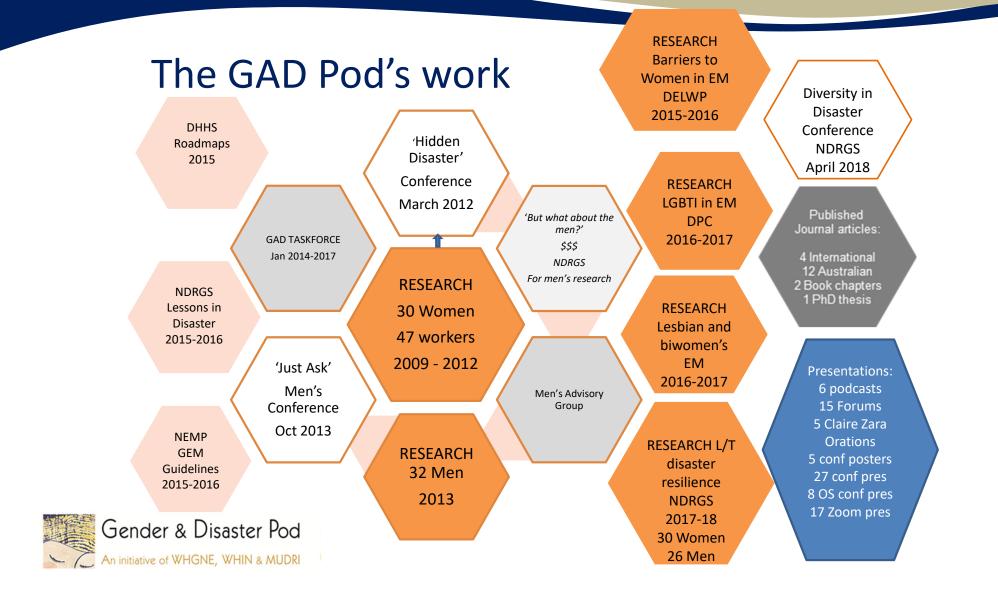
Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience Webinar Series

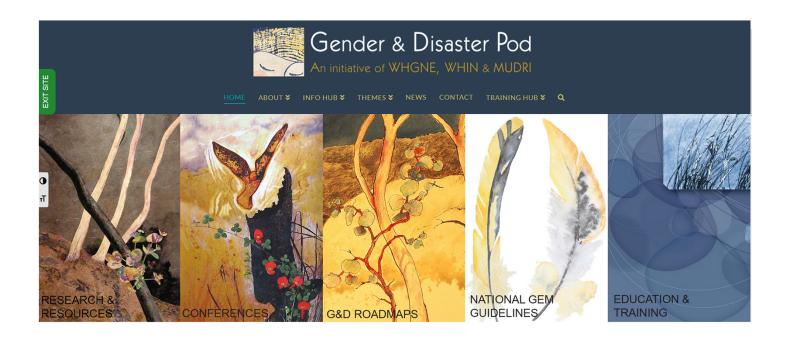
Family violence in recovery

Dr Debra Parkinson & Steve O'Malley, AFSM

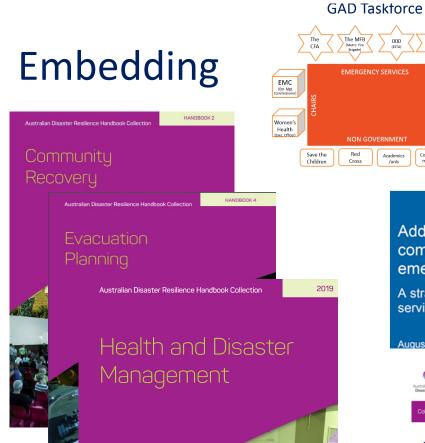
Virtual: March 11, 2021

The GAD Pod acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands from which we meet.



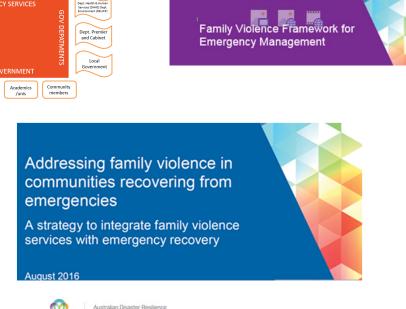






Gender & Disaster Pod

An initiative of WHGNE, WHIN & MUDRI





Knowledge Hub

Gender and Emergency Management Guidelines





The Way He Tells It

- All 30 women spoke of increased FV
- 17 were personally affected
- 16 afraid of partner
- 9 no violence before the fires
- 7 previously very happy
 This was new research in Australia
 AND
 there was resistance to our
- there was resistance to our findings from 2011 until 2016













[The CEO] said her service had not recorded an increase in domestic violence after the fires.

And she could not explain why the women had struggled to get help.

[She] said the study would have attracted women who were 'aggrieved with the system' and wanted to speak out.

Wilson, R. (2012, 7/3/2012). SPECIAL REPORT: Silent scars of bushfire women, Diamond Valley Leader.









Identifying the Hidden Disaster:

The First Australian Conference on Natural Disasters and Family Violence Friday, 9 March 2012 - Melbourne

Relationship violence and child abuse have increased in the wake of overseas disasters. New Zealand police reported a 53% increase in call-outs to domestic violence incidents over the weekend of the Canterbury earthquake in 2010. New research following the Victoria bushfires indicates that family violence increased. Australians have a 1 in 6 estimated lifetime exposure to natural disaster. This is an issue for Australia.

- . Hear from a leading international disaster and gender researcher and practitioner Elaine Enarson (US).
- · Learn from the findings and practice recommendations of the first Australian research to identify and examine family violence after the Black Saturday bushfires.
- . Engage in actions to address this emerging issue for police, emergency services, disaster management, family violence and health and community services.
- . Connect with others working in the disaster and gender field in Australia.

Who should attend?

Workers, managers, policy-makers, researchers, and others working in:

- . Domestic and family violence
- Health and social services
- · Emergency management
- · Police, fire and rescue
- · Local, state and national government

International Women's Day Pre-conference Drinks & Nibbles with **Elaine Enarson**

Thursday, 8 March 2012, 6pm — 8pm

William Angliss Conference Centre, 555 La Trobe Street, Melbourne

In honour of International Women's Day, join us for a brief question and answer with Elaine Enarson. This will be followed by informal networking and discussion about gender and disasters with opportunities to ask questions and network across family violence, health and social services, and emergency management

Presented in partnership by Women's Health In the North, Women's Health Goulburn North East and the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse, a project of the Centre for Gender Related Violence Studies at the University of New South Wales.

Other events

The Identifying the Hidden Disaster Conference is part of a range of training and workshops being coordinated by Women's Health Goulburn North East and Women's Health in the North. This conference will specifically explore family violence in the context of disasters, while the other events will focus more generally on disasters and gender for the emergency management



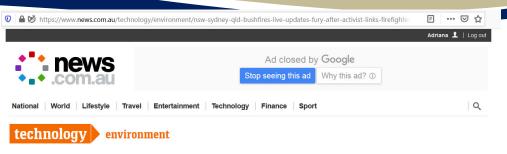
Ona (03) 9712 0393

When the stakes are high, it is men's interest that will be protected, and

our commitment to the notion that women and children always have the right to live free from violence is revealed as conditional.



Still resistance



NSW, Sydney, QLD bushfires updates: Fury after activist links firefighters to domestic violence

A domestic violence campaigner has sparked fury after claiming male firefighters will return from the bushfires and attack their partners.

* news NOVEMBER 13, 2019 11:35PM Alle McMahon

s://www.**9news.com.au**/national/domestic-violence-australia-sherele-moody-bushfire-emergency-nsw-gld/e4f7a3f0-d5 Watch TV tainment **!!:**9NEWS Your location:

MELBOURNE -

News / National

Activist receives death threats after linking a rise in domestic violence with firefighters

By Olivana Smith Lathouris • Producer 1:10pm Nov 14, 2019



Bushfires

Tens of thousands flee in mass bushfire evacuation - as it happened

Updated 7 Jan 2020

This blog is now closed. Our coverage will resume tomorrow morning • Latest news: NSW fires live, Victoria bushfires updates and two dead in South Australia

Calla Wahlquist and Helen Davidson and Luke Henriques-Gomes

Fri 3 Jan 2020 20.36 AEDT









3 Jan 2020

Scott Morrison has defended his leadership in the bushfire crisis

3 Jan 2020

> NSW likely to lose more homes tomorrow: RFS

3 Jan 2020

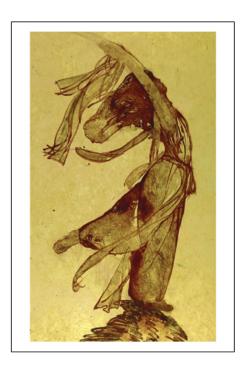
> Woman who refused to shake Scott Morrison's hand says he 'wasn't here to help us'

▲ Immense scale of Victorian bushfires revealed with thermal camera – video

3 Jan 2020 20:08

Summary: Pleas to evacuate remain ahead of horror bushfire conditions

We will leave our live coverage of the Australian bushfires there for today. Here is how things currently stand:



disaster is no excuse for family violence

You can help in just 4 steps:

- 1. ASK: Are you safe at home?
- 2. **NAME IT:** What you've just described to me is violence and it's a crime.
- RESPOND: Give contact details of the local Domestic Violence Service, CASA and Victoria Police.
- FOLLOW UP: 'Last time you spoke about your safety. I'd like to know how you are now.'

www.genderanddisaster.com.au



Safe Steps – 24 hour support, information or referral to safe accommodation/refuge 9322 3555 or 1800 015 188. (Toll Free for country users) www.safesteps.org.au

CASA – Centres Against Sexual Assault 1800 806 292 (all hours) www.casa.org.au

Victoria Police - 000

1800 RESPECT – Australia-wide confidential information, counselling and support service. Open 24 hours to support people impacted by sexual assault, domestic or family violence and abuse. 1800 737 732 www.1800respect.org.au/inclusive-practice/violence-in-times-of-disaster

Men's Referral Service – 1300 766 491 (Toll free). Mon-Fri: 8am – 9pm, Sat-Sun: 9am - 6pm www.ntv.org.au

(Adapted from ' Raped by a Partner)
'She dances on the wind' by Ona Henderson (03) 9712 0393





AWARDS

The gender and disaster work has been awarded at state, federal and international levels, in addition to a Monash University award.

2019 - The Victorian Resilient Australia Community Award 2019 for the 'Long-term Disaster Resilience' research report

2017 - The Mary Fran Myers Award 2017 was awarded by the Natural Hazards Centre in Boulder, Colorado, and the Gender and Disaster Network.

2014 - Resilient Australia Award, sponsored by the Attorney-General's Department, for Gender & Disaster: Leading the Change', in the category of 'Projects of National Significance'.

2013 - Victorian Health Promotion Foundation Award for 'Family violence after natural disaster research: Breaking new ground', in the category of 'Knowledge and Understanding'.

350 people from the emergency sector have participated in the development phase and pilots of this training. The response has been extremely positive.

LESSONS DISASTER

WHAT: The new 5.5-hour 'Lessons in Disaster' training package now combines the original Family Violence After Disasters' and 'Men After Disasters'.

WHY: The 'Lessons in Disaster' training package aims to strengthen the capacity of the emergency management sector to challenge gender stereotypes, develop strategies to address gender inequalities, understand the relevance of family violence to the EM sector, and respond appropriately.

WHEN: To suit your training schedule. Pre-reading and videos provided online.

WHO: The emergency and broader recovery sectors including state and territory emergency services; fire, ambulance and police; Red Cross; local councils, and faith-based providers. The training is relevant to all emergency and allied personnel including front-line staff, volunteers, administration staff, CEOs, board members and senior managers.

TRAINERS



RACHAEL MACKAY is a Social Work practitioner working at Women's Health Goulburn North East. Rachael specialises in project management, she previously coordinated the Bsafe Project, which won the Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Award and the Regional Achievement and Community Safety Award.

Rachael's current role is the development and facilitation of training to health and human services, police and emergency management services and local government, in the areas of family violence, gender and disaster, gender equity and the prevention of violence against

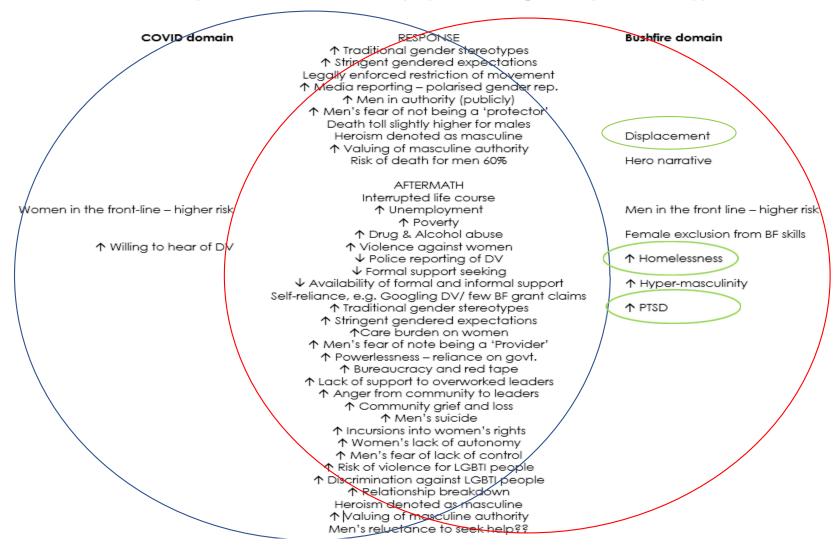


STEVE O'MALLEY is a Leading Firefighter and the Fairness and Inclusion Officer with the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. He has been an operational Fire-fighter for more than 30 years and is a graduate in the study of Human Rights.

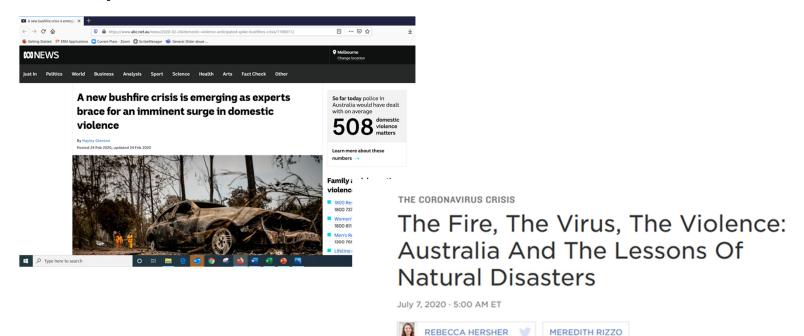
Steve is an Honorary Life Member of WAFA, a foundation member of the Emergency Management Victoria 'Gender and Disaster' taskforce. Steve is a long-standing presenter and advocate for prevention of violence against women and gender equity.

A disaster by any other name Catastrophic bushfires and COVID-19

Gendered impacts on women, men and LGBTI people – intersecting with every other form of oppression:



Compare media on DV in COVID/bushfires









POLICE & COURTS

Homicide probe after woman's body found in East Gippsland

A 64-year-old man has been charged with murdering a woman in East Gippsland. Police believe the parties are known to each other.

Josh Fagan, Brianna Travers, Herald Sun

- Subscriber only | May 12, 2020 10:39pm



The Economist

Daily Chart - Domesti coronavirus lockdown

Violent crime, including mur sharply. But as lockdowns b domestic violence .. Apr 22, 2020

The New Daily

Governments acting of cash must hit the grou

Already stretched domestic government money to flow t increasing toll on . Apr 22, 2020

In The Marshall Project

Is Domestic Violence

Coverage of the COVID-19 Pleas for help to domestic v whispers lately in .. Apr 22, 2020

A The Age

New reports of family lockdown, study finds

More women are coming fo . crisis on domestic violend violence victim.

The Sydney Morning Herald

Domestic violence victim In quarantine with an abuser after COVID-19 lockdow

assistance has increased by 10 increase began in March.

The Guardian

reports linked to coronavirus

start of coronavirus-related guarar The number of domestic and fall province was under strict lockdown, Apr 3, 2020

of Council on Foreign Relations

M ABC News

M ABC News

coronavirus on ...

Mar 19, 2020

Family violence perpetrators of abuse we have not experi

As a rise in family violence due to the turned into pressure cookers due to domestic violence ... "People who we Mar 28, 2020

Domestic abuse advocates v

violence amid coronavirus ci

Domestic violence services and refu

meetings around the country as fear

Pursuit

Domestic violence, isolation and COVID-19

While the global COVID-19 crisis is unprecedented, it's left many victims of . GPs are also warning of an impending increase in domestic violence after reports.

Apr 7, 2020



How Domestic Abuse Has Risen Worldwide Since Coronavirus

Domestic violence goes up whenever families spend more time together. such as the Christmas and summer vacations, she said. Now, with families in lockdown

The New York Times



In-Depth · Apr 6, 2020

The Conversation US

... health, domestic violence par May 13, 2020 crisis ... fill with coronavirus patimental health ...

Hospital emergency department

Mar 28, 2020

M ABC News

distancing is ..

May 6, 2020

May 1, 2020

M ABC News

A Double Pandemic: Domes COVID-19

\$1.1 billion Medicare, m€ Governments worldwide have impos package on its way in res coronavirus, but those same restricti associated with domestic

7NEWS.com.au

Coronavirus lockdown result domestic violence Google se

Google searches about domestic vio since the first recorded COVID-19 ca Coronavirus isolation prc Mark Speakman

trauma cases in Queens

Coronavirus lockdown: Dom in ...

Women's rights activists and suppor registered an increase in the number coronavirus

Domestic violence growing in wake of coronavirus outbreak

Specifically, there was an increase in severe violence such as strangulation, kicking, beating, stabbing and other injuries with weapons. Observers are already.

Apr 8, 2020

Revealed: surge in domestic violence during Covid-19

Revealed: surge in domestic violence during Covid-19 crisis. This article is more than 3 months old. Home Secretary Priti Patel insists there is ...





Apr 12, 2020





Domestic violence services warn of spike in incidents during coronavirus isolation

service providers are concerned there could be a spike n-US/firefox/central/



Gender & Disaster Pod

An initiative of WHGNE, WHIN & MUDRI









Steve O'Malley AFSM

Fire Rescue Victoria

Men on Black Saturday

Risks and opportunities for change



What the researchers found

- Disaster impacts can be severe & long-lasting
- Men do talk about their disaster experiences –
 just ask them
- Men, in particular, may be penalised for seeking psychological help
- Employment issues can be a major source of disruption
- Community aggression and male violence increase
- Alcohol abuse, mental health issues and suicide rise
- Gender norms are more salient





Babes in arms, sooty heroes and men in charge

















- Hands on learning! Classic wooden toys, puzzles and building sets that promote learning through play.
- Apprends en t'amusant! Jouets en bois classiques, casse-tête et jeux de construction qui favorisent



- Let's pretend! Toys that inspire imaginative play with dollhouses, play sets, dress up and occessories.
- Fais semblant! Des jouets qui développent
 l'imagination avec des maisons de poupées de



- Get organized! Children's furniture with storage solutions for play spaces.
- Organise-toil Meubles pour enfants avec des solutions de rangement pour les espaces de jeux.



- Love to learn! With back-to-basics of that make learning fun for all ages.
- Aime apprendre! Avec un retour aux de nouvelles idées qui rendent l'app



Having a gender lens in fire planning will increase community preparedness, survival arresilience

In the event of a Code Red day, where will you be your partner?[1] Where will the kids be?

What do you plan to be doing on a Code Red day?

If you're thinking, 'I'm a man so I should stay and property' or 'I'm a woman, so I should leave thildren/others/alone':

- What do you think is behind each of your decisions?
- In your case as a couple, and a family, does it make s you (the man) to stay and try to defend property? Doe sense for you (the woman) to try to escape?
- ◆ If the plan is to leave early, what is early?
- Will you (the woman) be happy to drive away leaven partner alone to defend the house on a Code Red day?
- Is trying to persuade him to leave with you likely to deleaving?
- What's the worst that could happen, if you follow you plan (of him staying, her leaving)?
- Do you know that over 40% of those who die in bushfires are female?
- ◆ Does it still seem like the best option?

See Postcard 2:

'Why gendered fire planning?'

• On Ash Wednesday in 1983, "Most people died during late evacuations and the majority of those were women and children, whereas most of the men killed had been defending property".

"There is evidence of disagreements as the fire approached. In virtually all cases this was between women who wanted to leave and take the men with them, and men who either wanted to stay and defend or who felt they had to support others in that role."

- Expectations of heroic masculinity set men up for Taiture:
 Bushfire CRC researchers write: "Societal pressure sees men attempt to perform protective roles when the fire threatens that many have neither the knowledge nor ability to fulfil safely".
- "The kids where the parents fought about leaving, there was trauma afterwards." [9]
- Women escaped alone or with children, often in terrifying circumstances, or had limited autonomy.

 □
- ♦ I have first-hand knowledge that there are women, wives, on Black Saturday who wanted to leave town and their husband said, 'No, we're staying to fight this'. And they stayed to fight and they both died,

 ■
- ♦ "We never had a fire plan. You thought he'd be here. My fire plan was him." □
- ♦ Only five per cent of people have a written fire plan. [8]

See Postcard 1: 'Questions'



Expectations of men

Every man thinks there are expectations on men to stand up and be brave and be the stalwarts of the family and all those kind of somewhat Aussie ocker images ...(instead) I think a lot of people were absolutely shit scared and didn't realise that that was a perfectly natural and normal feeling ... but I'm sure a lot of those who were, feel it was a weakness. (Rod)

Macho. Tough. We can handle it. We look after the womenfolk. It's all bullshit of course. (Todd)

'I wanted a man who would protect me, or die in the attempt' (Woman)

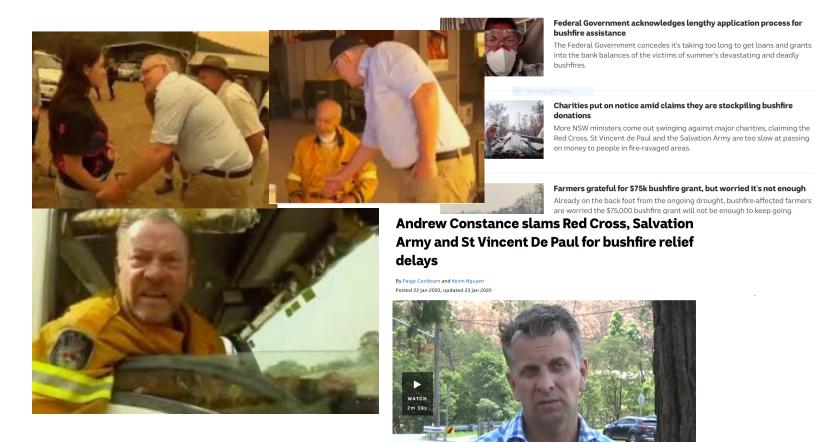


What men said about expectations after bushfires

Expectations? OK, to get things back to normal, to make things better, to rebuild, and I think to appear effective ... And Christ, the [men] really needed to appear as if they were effective, productive, constructive members of the community. (Edward)

Why haven't you got it together? Why haven't you got your garden fixed? Why haven't you got your house done yet? What are you doing with your life? Why haven't you gone back to work? Why haven't you? (Bernard)







For men, 'Anger is better than tears'

- There are good reasons for this. Our society monitors enactment of gender roles, and there are career penalties and loss of status for men who show emotion (other than anger).
- 'I thought you were more of a man than that'.
- Researchers have drawn a direct link between men's perceived failure to live up to their own or society's expectations, and domestic violence
- 1/3 of men in the research reported:
 - having to overcome personal barriers to seek help
 - having experienced stigma when trying to get help
 - having to overcome 'paperwork hurdles' before being able to get help



You've just made a big step to go in this door and speak to a GP about how you could be a fruitcake ... and they say, 'Just go next door'. I walk into next door to the dentist clinic ... So she knows I'm a fruitcake as well. So then you go ... in and she says, 'Come back in two weeks'. Everybody else thinks I'm a fruitcake for two weeks and I've got to try and deal with it on [my] own ... You think, 'Why did I bother?' (Luke)

One man who lived in a small, remote and rural community wasn't coping after the disaster. He worked in the CFA doing road rescue as well as firefighting and was important and called a confidential helpline to talk. Around an hour later at midnight, 1 police officer knocked on his door asking if he was ok. He said 'I'm not going to do that again.'



Have you ever seen a man cry at work?

Career Penalties

People would be worried about the confidentiality, whether there was any feedback that came around the back saying, 'Keep this guy away from big fires'. (Matthew)

When the Works Coordinator was away [I used to be on higher duties]. When I took that month off, which I took off as stress leave, ever since then there's been nothing. (Stuart)

If I tell someone in the brigade that I'm feeling a certain way, they might likely take me off the rescue. So it's like that holds me back. (Murray)









ANALYSIS

Black Saturday firefighters want you to listen to them, not call them 'heroes'

The Conversation / By Leanne Cutcher and Graham Dwyer Posted 3 Jan 2020, updated 3 Jan 2020



https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-01-03/black-saturday-firefighters-dont-want-to-be-called-heroes/11837478



The 'hero' myth

"Firefighters don't want a roll call of heroes, but for communities to remember the lessons we have learnt from past fires and to ensure they have a bushfire plan and to heed warnings to leave

Firefighters don't want us to see heroes, because calling them heroes overstates their ability to control fires and downplays the long-term psychological impacts of fighting fires..."



Men on Black Saturday: Recommendations

- Address gender stereotyping women in leadership roles, addressing hyper masculinity and the hero myth
- Recognise and plan for the vulnerability of emergency services workers and other first responders
- Ensure equal opportunities and respect to disaster survivors.
- Improve individual support for survivor physical, mental and emotional health



- Disentangle masculinity from fire-fighting.
- Stop expecting men to protect the home and women to protect children.
- Let men be vulnerable.
- Ensure women and children's right to live free from violence is unconditional – even after disasters.





lessons in disaster

Train-the-Trainer Facilitator Guide

Under Pressure: LBGTI-inclusive emergency services

FACILITATOR GUIDE



ONLINE LESSONS IN DISASTER

WHAT: This online training package contains four x 90 minute sessions on 'Lessons in Disaster'. This training combines the original 'Family Violence After Disasters' and 'Men After Disasters' in three sessions and the fourth is an adaptation of 'Under Pressure: LGBTI-Inclusive services in emergencies'.

WHY: The Online 'Lessons in Disaster' training package aims to strengthen the capacity of health, community and emergency sectors to challenge gender stereotypes and inequalities, and understand the relevance of family violence to disaster. 'Disaster' includes pandemics

Gender, Pandemics, Disasters: **Lessons for Primary Prevention Practitioners**

by Respect Victoria Following

Free



Aims – Lessons In Disaster series

Session 1 – Gender and Emergency – The Evidence

- Ensure the safety needs of women, men and children are met during response, recovery and preparation for disasters
- Ensure organisations understand family violence in disaster

Session 2 – The Impact of Gendered Expectations – individual, community, organisation

- Understand how gender expectations affect preparation, response, and recovery from disaster.
- Strengthen the capacity of the emergency management sector to challenge gender stereotypes

Session 3 - The disaster made me do it - *The social reconstruction of sex, gender and sexuality under bushfire and pandemic situations*

• Increase awareness of the value of building a gender-responsive and disaster-aware organisation.

Session 4 – Working Towards Change – individual, community, organisation



Session1 – The Evidence

- Women's experience of family violence the hidden disaster
- Men's experiences of gendered expectations – just ask

'The way he tells it ...'
Relationships after Black Saturday



Men on Black Saturday

Risks and opportunities for change





Research recommendations

The Way He Tells It: Relationships after Black Saturday

Establish Disaster Guidelines at National, State and Local Government levels

Improve disaster response policy and practice by responding to the increased incidence of family violence during and after disaster

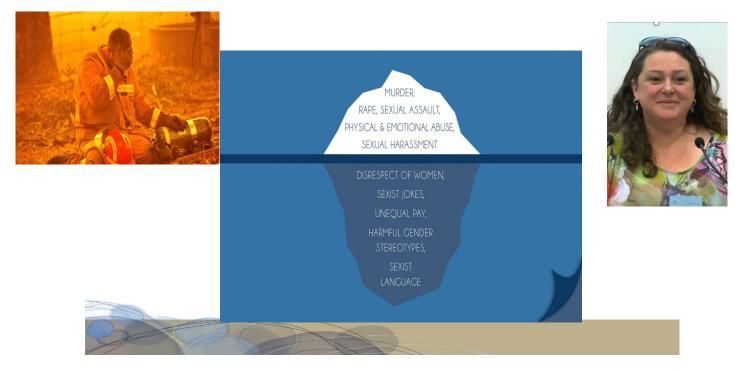
Men on Black Saturday: Risks and Opportunities for Change

Reduce gender stereotyping

Reduce vulnerability of emergency services workers and other first responders
Improve individual support for survivor physical, mental and emotional health
Offer equal opportunities and respect to disaster survivors



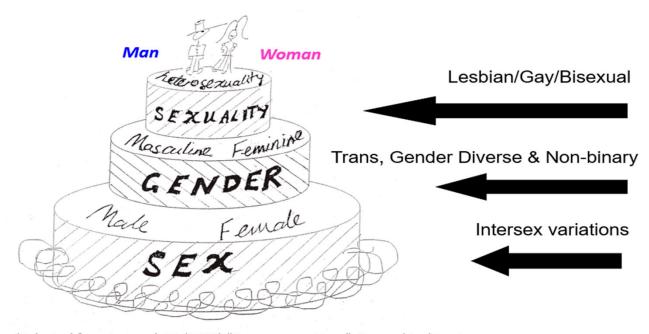
Session 2: The impact of gendered expectations



Session 3: The disaster made me do it

Presented by Liam Leonard at the next AIDR Webinar

Heterosexism or the Wedding cake model*

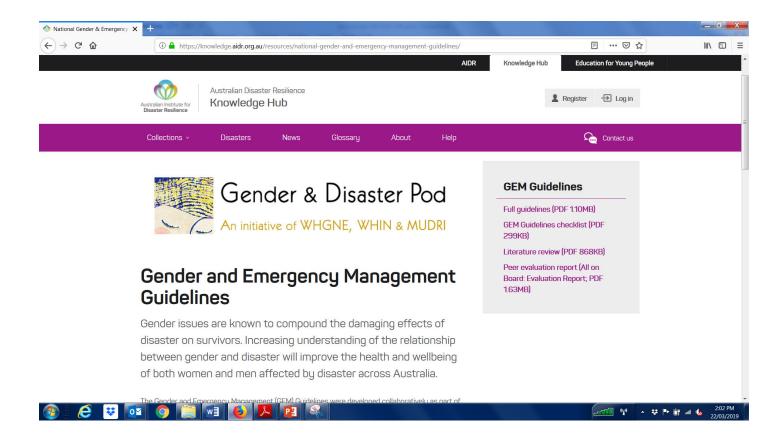




^{*}Adapted from Leonard, W. (2005) "Queer occupations" *Gay and Lesbian Issues and Psychology Review*.

Session 4: Working towards change – individual & organisational

- 1. Develop strategies to identify and respond to family violence.
- 2. Support men's resilience in disaster, including encouraging men towards healthy and respectful expressions of emotions
- 3. Increase women's resilience in disaster, including encouraging women's leadership in emergency management
- 4. Challenge condoning of violence against women and gender inequality in society, in our organisations and in our relationships





GEM Checklist examples:

- Have you identified and engaged domestic violence workers in recovery efforts and committees?
- Have you provided domestic violence training and education to employees and volunteers?
- Have you identified and engaged domestic violence specialists to speak at community meetings?

- Have you included information about domestic violence in information about emergencies? (For example: flyers, pamphlets, advertising)
- ✓ Have you informed evacuation centre managers of existing restraining/ intervention order protocols in evacuation centres?



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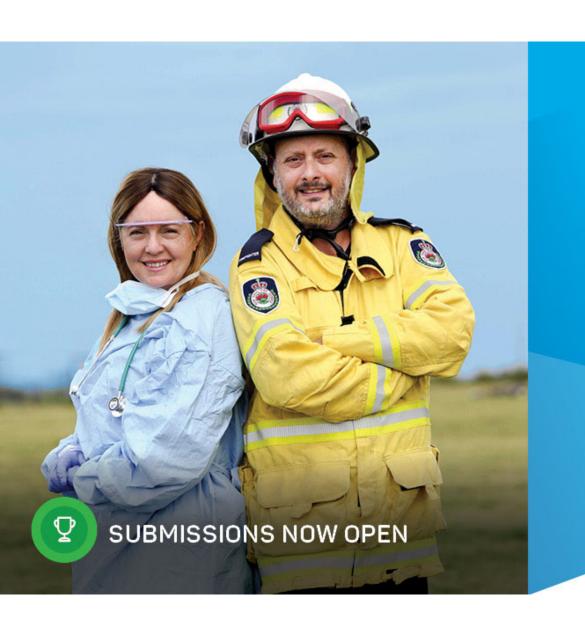


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Don't forget to enter you questions into the Q&A box.



Do you have a disaster resilience initiative to share with Australia?

Submit now: aidr.org.au/raa





Thank you for attending today's webinar.



AIDR Recovery Matters webinar series

Family violence in recovery

11 March, 2021

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