



# Webinar - Violence against Women in Regional and Rural Areas

## The Gender & Feminist Studies Network With Athena Swan/Equity and Diversity

Rates of domestic and family violence in Australia are alarmingly high. It is estimated that one third of all women in Australia have incurred physical assault and a fifth have been subject to sexual assault. Intimate partner violence is higher in Australia than in other western democracies. In Australia one woman each week is murdered by her partner or ex-partner. In recent years there has been more understanding of the links between gender inequality and domestic violence. This seminar will grapple with the issue of high rates of violence against women in regional and rural areas. Please join us to hear from our esteemed presenters and to engage in a panel discussion where questions from the audience will be encouraged.

**Where?** Simply join ZOOM and click on this link (see below for more details):  
<https://charlessturt.zoom.us/j/69784971544>

**Contact:** For more information - Donna Bridges [dbridges@csu.edu.au](mailto:dbridges@csu.edu.au)

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021

2-3.30pm

**Facilitator:** Dr Donna Bridges, lecturer sociology – School of Humanities and Social Science CSU

**Presenters:**

Arlia Fleming is the Centre Director/Principal Solicitor at the Central Tablelands and Blue Mountains Community Legal Centre (formerly Elizabeth Evatt CLC). Arlia has worked in the community legal sector for 16 years, in State-wide services and in RRR communities, mostly working with women in prison and Aboriginal women who have experienced family violence and/or sexual assault. Arlia is also the Chair of Community Legal Centres NSW and the President of the Central West Women's Health Centre in Bathurst.

Lorraine Murphy is a Generalist Counsellor practicing at the Central West Women's Health Centre in Bathurst NSW. Lorraine has over 25 years of experience working as a Domestic and Family Violence specialist. In her work with clients who have experienced domestic and family violence Lorraine has offered a range of services such as Victims Support, group work and delivering Managing Strong Emotions programs. Lorraine has used her extensive experience to write models of practice for DV service delivery and education programs.

Jenny Rolfe is President of the Wagga Women's Health Centre where the centre was instrumental in the implementation of a survey about attitudes to domestic violence. The high rates of domestic violence in Wagga combined with the concerning attitudes revealed in the survey resulted in the formation of "theDVproject:2650". The project aimed to raise awareness and educate about the causes of violence against women and children and to promote gender equality and respect. Jenny is an education specialist with a commitment to gender equality and the financial wellbeing of women.

Kevin Jones is the Manager Uniting Aboriginal Permanency Support Programme Dubbo. Kevin has almost 20 years work experience working throughout regional NSW in the field of high risk offender management. He has undertaken intensive management, programming and leadership oversight of domestic violence / abuse offenders, working with domestic violence offenders to understand abusive behaviours and support in the development of respectfully relationships principles. Kevin has worked hard to tackle the domestic violence pandemic and make a real positive impact by facilitating and delivering dynamic interventions in various areas.

Tracey Willow has worked in the area of violence against women for 30 years. Tracey uses community development frameworks to facilitate women's access to justice. Tracey has worked across rural, regional and metropolitan communities including the Hawkesbury, Lismore, Broken Hill and the Blue Mountains and Lithgow. She has been the CEO of Elizabeth Evette Community Legal Centre and the Far West Community Legal Centre. She is currently working in Social Work education at the University of Wollongong and as a change management consultant for rural and regional NGOs.

Donna Bridges is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

## Join Zoom Meeting

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