



Australian Government  
Australian Institute of Criminology



**Young people, risk and resilience:  
The challenges of alcohol,  
drugs and violence**

7–8 March 2011  
RACV Club, Melbourne, Victoria

**Conference brochure  
and Call for Abstracts**

## About the conference

Young people who experiment with alcohol and other drugs, whether legally or illegally obtained, may unwittingly compromise their safety and wellbeing or the safety and wellbeing of others.

Evidence suggests that young people who use alcohol and other drugs are more likely to participate in other high-risk activities, and to be involved in violent and traumatic incidents such as assaults. Inexperience and peer influence undoubtedly contribute to these harms. In addition, use of alcohol and other drugs can increase young people's risk of committing crimes and lead to early involvement in the criminal justice system.

Questions that need to be explored in this context include:

- What is the nature and extent of young people's involvement in alcohol, other drugs and violence?
- What interventions are likely to reduce risks resulting from, and increase resilience to, these potentially harmful activities?
- What can we learn about the experiences of young people and practitioners that can be applied in practice?

The Australian Institute of Criminology and the Victorian Safe Communities Network will explore these and other questions and ideas over two days at this important conference to identify effective interventions and approaches.

*The Victorian Safe Communities Network is a professional association of community safety practitioners, researchers and policymakers.*

*The Australian Institute of Criminology is Australia's national research and knowledge centre on crime and justice.*

## Conference program

Major themes for the conference include:

- Understanding the nature and extent of young people's involvement in alcohol and other drug use, and the motivations for their use
- Understanding the nature and extent of young people's involvement in violence
- Identifying effective programs and initiatives to reduce young people's risk and increase their resilience, including:
  - Early intervention programs
  - Harm minimisation
  - Policy and legislative responses
  - Mentoring programs
  - The role of family, school, employment and the community
  - Diversion programs for young offenders
  - The use of restorative justice for young offenders who use alcohol and other drugs
  - Sharing experiences
- Case studies from practitioners and young people on outcomes achieved

Who should attend

- Alcohol and drug services
- Legal and criminal justice sector
- Education
- Health and welfare services
- Liquor licensing and licensees
- Police and emergency services
- Youth services

For more information about the *Young people, risk and resilience conference*, visit the conference webpage at [www.aic.gov.au](http://www.aic.gov.au)

## Registration

Registration fees for the *Young people, risk and resilience conference* (all prices include GST) are:

<b>Early bird registration</b>	
Available until 7 November 2010	\$660.00
<b>Standard registration</b>	
Available from 8 November 2010	\$770.00
Student registration	\$550.00
<b>Day registration</b>	
Includes attendance on a specified day	\$440.00
Student day registration	\$330.00

The two-day conference registration includes complimentary delegate attendance at a cocktail reception on Monday, 7 March. For catering purposes, please indicate when you register if you will be attending.

To register and pay for the conference online visit [www.aic.gov.au](http://www.aic.gov.au)

Or download and complete a registration form and return with your payment to:

Alyssa Handy  
Conference Coordinator  
Australian Institute of Criminology  
GPO Box 2944  
Canberra ACT 2601

Phone: +61 2 6260-9272

Fax: + 61 2 6260-9299

Email: [aic.events@aic.gov.au](mailto:aic.events@aic.gov.au)

### *Cancellations and refunds*

Notification of any alterations or cancellations must be sent by post, facsimile or email to the Conference Coordinator, Australian Institute of Criminology.

A full refund of registration fees, less an administration fee of \$45, will be paid to any delegate cancelling before 1 February 2011. No refunds will be made after this date.

If a registered delegate is unable to attend, a substitute delegate is welcome at no additional cost. The substitute delegate's details must be forwarded in writing to the Conference Coordinator, Australian Institute of Criminology.

## Program

The *Young people, risk and resilience conference* will be held over two full days on 7 and 8 March 2011. The conference will commence at 8.30am on Monday, 7 March, and conclude at 5pm on Tuesday, 8 March 2011.

A cocktail reception will be held at the conference venue from 5–7pm on Monday, 7 March 2011.

More information on the program will be provided as arrangements develop. Please continue to check the website for regular updates.

## Speakers

- **Mr David Chalke**, Director, Quantum Market Research
- **Dr Tom Carroll**, Adjunct Professor, School of Public Health, University of Sydney
- **Professor Jan Copeland**, Director, National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre
- **Mr Michael Livingston**, Research Fellow, Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre
- **Dr Adam Tomison**, Director, Australian Institute of Criminology

## Call for abstracts

Abstracts are invited for papers on the risk factors for young people's involvement in alcohol, drugs and violence, and programs and initiatives which aim to reduce risk of, and increase resilience to, these harms for young people, particularly those at risk of deeper involvement in the criminal justice system, and young offenders.

Papers could include the following approaches:

- Understanding the nature and extent of young people's involvement in alcohol and other drug use, and the motivations for their use
- Understanding the nature and extent of young people's involvement in violence
- Identifying effective programs and initiatives to reduce young people's risk and increase their resilience, including:
  - Early intervention programs
  - Harm minimisation
  - Policy and legislative responses
  - Mentoring programs
  - The role of family, school, employment and the community
  - Diversion programs for young offenders
  - The use of restorative justice for young offenders who use alcohol and other drugs
  - Sharing experiences
- Case studies from practitioners and young people on outcomes achieved

### *Preparing an abstract*

The abstract should outline the subject of the presentation in no more than 250 words. Additionally, it should include a concise title and the full names and contact details of the authors. The presenting author should be clearly identified. A brief personal biography (approximately 100 words) from the presenting author must also be included. Please do not include any acknowledgements, figures or references in the abstract. Please provide details if you have presented this paper previously (ie. conference, conference location and date).

Please indicate on your abstract submission form if it should be considered for a 30 minute presentation (20 minutes presentation, 10 minutes questions) or a one-hour workshop or panel discussion.

### *Submitting an abstract*

Abstracts must be submitted by 5pm Friday, 20 August 2010 using the abstract submission form. To download the submission form, visit the conference website at [www.aic.gov.au](http://www.aic.gov.au)

Completed abstract submission forms should be returned by email, fax or post to:

Alyssa Handy  
Conference Coordinator  
Australian Institute of Criminology  
GPO Box 2944  
Canberra ACT 2601

Fax: +61 2 6260-9299  
Email: [aic.events@aic.gov.au](mailto:aic.events@aic.gov.au)

The program advisory committee will consider all abstracts for potential inclusion in the conference program.

Authors of accepted papers are expected to register and attend the conference. All expenses associated with this are to be covered by the presenter. Presenters will be notified as soon as possible if their abstract has been accepted.

## Venue

The *Young people, risk and resilience conference* will be held on Level 17 of the Melbourne RACV Club. The RACV is located at 501 Bourke Street Melbourne.

Parking is located beneath the RACV and allows direct access to the conference rooms. Parking for conference delegates is available at \$52.00 per day.

For more information on the conference venue, please visit: [www.racv.com.au](http://www.racv.com.au)

## Accommodation

The Australian Institute of Criminology has negotiated rates for conference delegates at a number of properties in Melbourne. To view these hotels and rates and to book your accommodation, please visit the website.

## More information

For more information on the *Young people, risk and resilience conference* contact:

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Monday – Tuesday 7-8 March, 2011  
RACV Club Melbourne  
501 Bourke Street  
Melbourne  
VIC 3000