



THE CONVERSATION

Impact Report

July – September 2022

Outcomes from publishing in The Conversation

Publishing in The Conversation has a direct positive impact for authors, and enables experts to inform government policy.

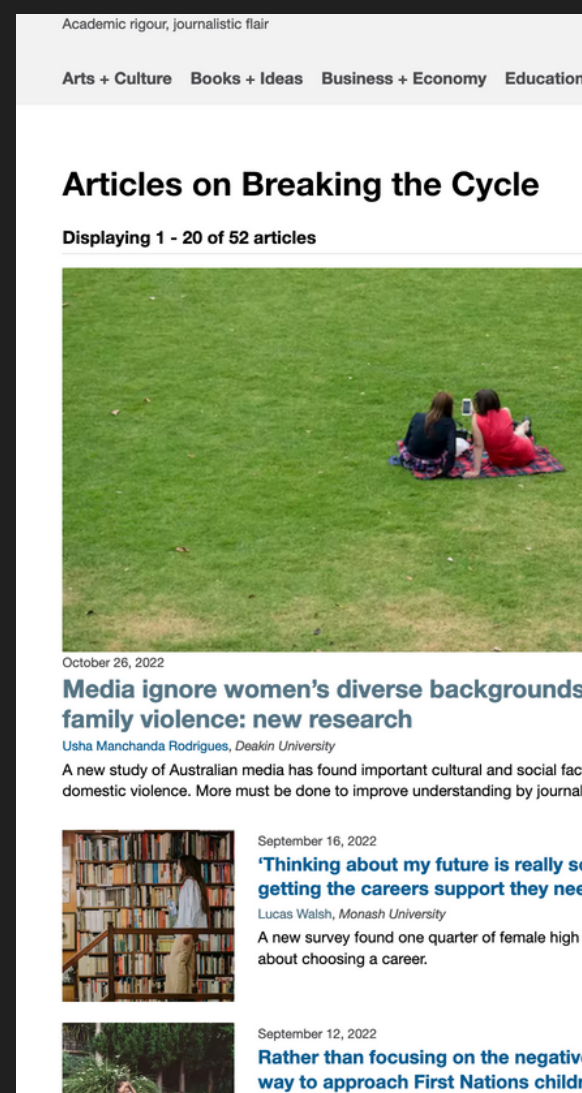
More than 21,090 academics have published articles on The Conversation Australia/New Zealand. After publishing with us, 85% of authors experienced a positive impact.

58% of authors are contacted by media for follow up, including interviews on TV, radio, online, print or elsewhere.

Other ways that our authors have impact include being contacted by government (17%), invited to speak at conferences (13%), contacted for research collaboration (26%) or approached for business consultation (14%).

Publication at The Conversation also led to discussions with students (33%) and colleagues, friends and the general public (63%).

We asked the authors of the 51 articles featured in our Breaking the Cycle series what happened after publication. The series was supported by the Paul Ramsay Foundation.



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24% reported their research was used by policy makers across Australia. Many were invited to present their research to government bodies.



17%

of authors are contacted by government or policy makers

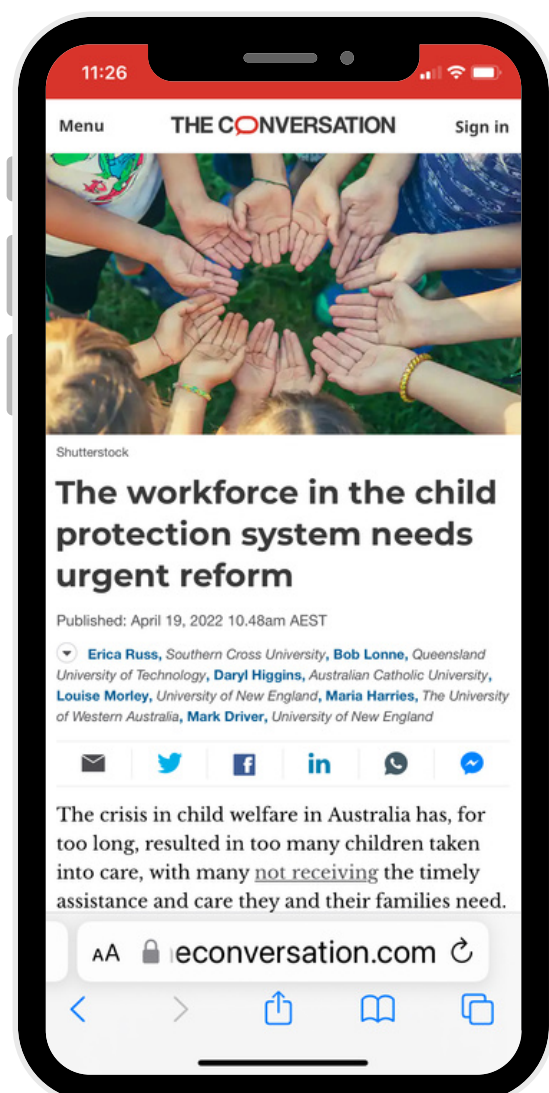


9%

are invited to contribute to briefing papers or submissions to parliament

- The NSW Government's Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People took extracts from the study and policy document featured in Camilla Nelson's article on child family violence survivors and how court silenced and retraumatised them and are incorporating them into practice guidance materials aimed at upskilling the legal profession in NSW.
- Hon Katrine Hildyard MP, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence and Minister for Child Protection, endorsed many recommendations in Sarah Moulds' research report featured in *All these people with lived experience are not being heard: what family violence survivors want policy makers to know*.
- The authors of *Time in hospital sets back tens of thousands of children's learning each year, but targeted support can help them catch up* presented to the Australian Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE).
- The authors of *Attending school every day counts – but kids in out-of-home care are missing out* were invited to contribute to the Tasmanian government's annual report on child wellbeing.
- The authors of *If you're renting, chances are your home is cold. With power prices soaring, here's what you can do to keep warm* discussed their article and wider research with policy makers from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning in Victoria (DELWP).

- The authors of *The workforce in the child protection system needs urgent reform* were invited to discuss issues from the report with ACT government, at a regional meeting of the NSW government, and at a policy forum for Families Australia. One of the authors, Erica Russ, was invited by the District Director of Department of Communities and Justice for South West Sydney to talk with their leadership team.
- Simon Angus was invited to give a talk at the Productivity Commission about his team's research work off the back of the article, *The way we talk about First Nations issues is striking, as our analysis of 82 million words of Australian news and opinion shows*.



- Christina Zorbas and Kathryn Backholer used their article *Yes, \$5 for lettuce is too much. Government should act to stem the rising cost of healthy eating* to inform discussions with the ABS on regular food price monitoring.
- John Halsey, author of *Don't expect schools to do all the heavy lifting to close the education divide between the big cities and the rest of Australia*, provided input including a submission to the AGPC review of the National School Reform Agreement.
- The Australian Educational Research Organisation contacted Olivia Johnston as the result of her article *Is this really fair?' How high school students feel about being streamed into different classes based on 'ability'*. They had discussions about collaboration and will likely create a report in the future.
- Phillip Mendes, author of *Homelessness is common for teens leaving out-of-home-care. We need to extend care until they are at least 21* was invited to participate in an OECD online regarding developing best practice support for care leavers. He was also invited to participate in a global consultation regarding care leaver challenges by the International Research Network on Transitions to Adulthood from Care (INTRAC)'s Global Conference Committee. Lead policy officers in the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFHH) Transitions from care program also commended Phillip Mendes on his article.

Many of the Breaking the Cycle authors were invited to present at conferences, further amplifying their message to national and international policy makers, not-for-profits and other key stakeholders.



14%

of authors are contacted by business or industry



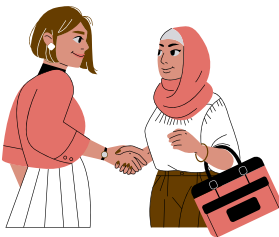
13%

of authors are invited to speak at conferences

- Chris Martin, co-author of *Giving ex-prisoners public housing cuts crime and re-incarceration – and saves money* was invited by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute to give a presentation on 'supportive housing after prison' at the National Homelessness Conference in Canberra. The session was very well-attended by housing practitioners and policy makers.
- Sarah Moulds was invited to present on what family violence survivors want policy makers to know at the 2022 Howard Legal Conference at Oxford University. Sarah also presented at a Uniting Communities-hosted Community Workshop.
- Elaine Nash and Basil Tucker, authors of *Low staff turnover, high loyalty and productivity gains: the business benefits of hiring people with intellectual disability* were invited to speak at the National Disability Services (NDS) "Shaping Our Future" online conference. They also had contact from not-for-profits including Uniting Care Queensland.
- Erica Russ was invited to speak on reforms needed in the child protection system at a Family Matters symposium. The article was also promoted to the sector by a number of industry newsletters including Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth (ARACY) newsletter, Child Family Community Australia (CFCA) News, ACWA eNews (Australian Community Workers Association) and Australian Association of Social Workers (ASSW) Social Work Focus.



- The research team behind *In a year of endless floods, why isn't disaster governance front and centre in the election campaign?* was approached by several emergency management practitioners in NSW about the article, which subsequently led to broader exposure of their ongoing project and a number of additional contacts and research interviews.
- Rebecca Mitchell will present her colleagues' research findings on how targeted support can help hospitalised students catch up at the International Population Data Linkage Conference (Edinburgh), HEPS2022 (Healthcare Systems Ergonomics and Patient Safety Triennial Conference) in The Netherlands, and at a meeting of the International Collaborative Effort on Injury Statistics. She has also been contacted by the Research, Information and Evaluation team at Asthma Australia; Epilepsy Action Australia, and Ronald McDonald House Foundation who are using the findings from their research.



26%

of authors have opportunities for academic collaboration



18%

see increased citations for scholarly articles

- One of the authors of *Attending school every day counts - but kids in out-of-home care are missing out*, Sharon Bessell, was invited to be keynote speaker at the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare Annual Open Symposium in October 2022. The research team also developed a short animation for anti-poverty week 2022, in collaboration with Family Care and Uniting Care. And Senior Advisor Dr Kelly Royds, Centre of Excellence in Therapeutic Care, is planning a webinar featuring their work.

The articles in the Breaking the Cycle series were also valuable in attracting new funding for a number of research teams.



28%

of authors used
**The Conversation
metrics for funding or
grant applications**

- The Centre for Excellence in Therapeutic Care gave permission to the research team behind *Attending school every day counts - but kids in out-of-home care are missing out* to be named in their ARC Linkage Project grant application as an organisation which will support communication of results. A senior advisor from the Centre said: "I was really excited to read your recent research on schooling and kids in OOHHC. This is a topic that comes up time and again in our work with residential care workers and therapeutic specialists."

- The publication of *I always have trouble with forms: homeless people on how poor literacy affects them - and what would help* has led to a collaboration between The Footpath Library (funding the research) and Adult Learning Australia (ALA) who connected following the article's publication. They are currently working together now trialling a literacy program for adults at risk of homelessness/homeless in Sydney.
- Michele Jarldorn and Susannah Emery, authors of *Getting ID after exiting prison is harder than you might think. So we built a chatbot to help* used the article as evidence for a funding application to complete the project (they got funded by the Fay Fuller Foundation). They also used the article as evidence for a small internal seed funding scheme, and are using this to meet with organisations in Melbourne and Brisbane.
- Dani Hitch, co-author of *First, COVID hit disadvantaged communities harder. Now, long COVID delivers them a further blow* was approached and subsequently included in a Sydney research group for a recent MRFF Grant application. The project team was alerted to Dani's interest in health equity via the article.
- Christina Zorbas and Kathryn Backholer used their article on the rising cost of healthy eating to progress a grant focused on improving food price monitoring in Australia.

More than half of Conversation authors are contacted by broadcast media, and the Breaking the Cycle authors are no exception.



58%

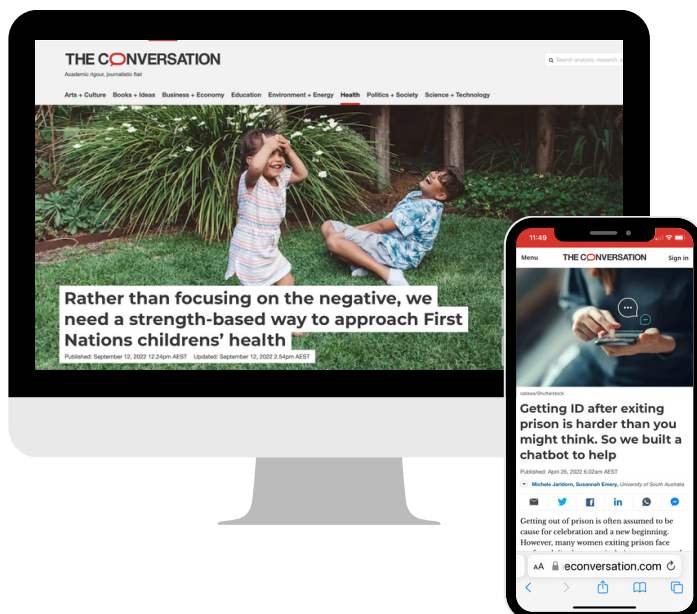
of authors are contacted by media

Authors from the series appeared on national media including ABC TV News, ABC Radio National, SBS Radio (in various languages), ABC local stations; community radio such as 4ZZZ, 3CR and Radio Adelaide; podcasts such as JaeMan Media's 'The Coach and the Doctor'.

Authors were also interviewed for print articles in specialist magazines such as Education Review and HRM Magazine

Some authors were contacted by journalists from ABC and SBS asking for background help and guidance, as well as contacts. For example, Blake Cutler, co-author of 'It's kind of suffocating': queer young Australians speak about how they feel at school and what they think of politicians was approached by an SBS producer who had seen the piece and was interested in learning more in preparation for an Insight episode about gender identity. Articles were also cited by others as expert knowledge on media such as The Drum (ABC TV) and the West Australian.

Many of the articles were republished in full.



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