

While NSW moves to decriminalise abortion 250 Sexual Health Professionals come together to write an Australian Blueprint for Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice.

“One in four women have an abortion in their lifetime”, says Holly Brennan OAM, Manager of Children by Choice. “Australian’s trust pregnant people to make hard health care decisions. We know, and the evidence shows us, that when we have access to legal, safe equitable services and information we all do our best” says Ms Brennan.

“This week the Children by Choice Unplanned Pregnancy and Abortion Conference brought together over 60 speakers and 250 delegates from five countries and all states and territories to Brisbane”. Bonney Corbin, President of Children by Choice says “The conference was an opportunity for health and community professionals working and interested in the fields of unplanned pregnancy, reproductive health and abortion provision to advance their expertise”.

At the close of the conference a Blueprint on Unplanned Pregnancy and Abortion was formalised. The Blueprint states, “We support a person’s right and ability to make informed health decisions within systems that enable access, equity and agency. We collaborate to seek resources, plan, implement, deliver and evaluate sexual and reproductive health initiatives. We embed these five key principles in our actions:¹

- Sexual and reproductive health care is accessible to all people.
- Discriminatory barriers in health care are eliminated.
- Research and innovation advances sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice now and in the future.
- Metropolitan, regional, rural and remote communities have access to health, rights, justice and wellness.
- Elders, community leaders and other decision makers advance sexual and reproductive health, rights, and justice.”

The Principles are based on the 2019 Blueprint for Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice from the United States of America. This Blueprint has over 80 organisation from across the states as signatories to the document.

For the full program and speaker details: <https://www.childrenbychoice.org.au/forprofessionals/2019-conference>
Children by Choice is an independent non profit organisation, committed to providing information, counselling and referrals for all unplanned pregnancy options – abortion, adoption and parenting. Founded almost 50 years ago, we work to advance Queenslanders' reproductive choices and to improve equitable access to abortion.

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¹ Adapted from the United States of America 'Blueprint for Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice' 2019 <https://reproblueprint.org/>