

CHILDREN BY CHOICE

**REPRODUCTIVE
RIGHTS &
ABORTION
CONFERENCE**

3-5 September, 2026



PROGRAM

**BEYOND
AGGRESSES**

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

8.30AM	REGISTRATIONS		
8.50AM	Welcome to Country: Songwoman Maroochy		
9.00AM	Conference Opening Anjulee Singh CEO, Children by Choice		
9.10AM	Plenary Session & Panel Discussion: What does effective advocacy look like when money can buy popular opinion?		
10:10AM	Keynote: Yumi Stynes		
11:00AM	MORNING TEA		
11:30AM	Breakout Session 1		
	Breakout room A	Breakout room B	Breakout room C
	How can we expand the conversation around reproductive coercion and abuse?	What sustains abortion rights beyond the law?	What happens when we shift MtOP beyond traditional models?
12.30PM	LUNCH OPTIONAL WORKSHOP 1 (DETAILS TO COME)		
1:15PM	Breakout Session 2		
	Breakout room A	Breakout room B	Breakout room C
	How can we expand the conversation around reproductive coercion and abuse? (Cont.)	What sustains abortion rights beyond the law? (Cont.)	How can we build a sustainable future for 2nd and 3rd trimester abortion services?
	When intentional obstruction exists, what is the solution?	Are we leading or lagging? Looking at abortion access in a global context.	Are we designing rural abortion services for rural realities?
2:30PM	AFTERNOON TEA		
3:00PM	Poster board viewing		
3:30PM	Plenary Session & Panel Discussion: What harm are we trained not to see?		
4:30PM	DAY ONE FORMALLY CLOSES		
4:30PM	Optional Workshops 2 & 3 (Details to come)		
5:30PM	End of workshops		

**Please note: This is a draft and is subject to change*

FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

7.30AM Optional workshops 4 & 5 (Details to come)

8.30AM End of workshops

8.30AM REGISTRATIONS

8.50AM Welcome to Country: Waveney Yasso

9.00AM Conference Address: Anjulee Singh CEO, Children by Choice

9.10AM Keynote: Carly Findlay

10:10AM Plenary Session & Panel Discussion: What does reproductive justice look like beyond abortion?

10:50AM MORNING TEA

11:20AM Breakout Session 3

Breakout room A

What role does primary healthcare play in expanding access to reproductive healthcare?

Breakout room B

Are we centring lived experience in abortion narratives?

Breakout room C

When the system wasn't built for you, what then?

12.20PM LUNCH

1:10PM Breakout Session 4

Breakout room A

How are nurses pioneering increased access to abortion care?

Breakout room B

What does local access actually look like in the future?

Breakout room C

When the system wasn't built for you, what then? (Cont.)

How is misinformation shaping abortion narratives in Australia?

2:10PM AFTERNOON TEA

2:40PM Poster board viewing

3:10PM Plenary Session & Panel Discussion: Can we design systems where conscientious objection doesn't delay care?

4:30PM CONFERENCE CLOSING PROCEED TO NETWORKING EVENING

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CHILDREN BY CHOICE

A

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

Breakout Room A

11:30am Breakout Session 1 (11:30am- 12:30pm)

How can we expand the conversation around reproductive coercion and abuse?

- 11.30am • Reproductive coercion and abuse in Australia: New data to inform policy and practice
 - Prof. Laura Tarzia
- 11.45am • Expanding the Conversation on Reproductive Coercion: Men's Experiences, Contraceptive Responsibility, and Reproductive Justice
 - Ms. Georgia Breakey
- 12:00pm • A qualitative exploration of lived experiences of reproductive coercion on Reddit
 - Mr. Sanish Rajbhandari
- 12.15pm • Reproductive coercion and abuse among female general practice patients in Australia: a cross-sectional study
 - Dr. Susan Saldanha

1:15pm Breakout Session 2 (1:15am- 2:15pm)

How can we expand the conversation around reproductive coercion and abuse? (Cont.)

- 1:15pm • Development of a comprehensive, self-reported measure of reproductive coercion and abuse for global use
 - Ms. Desire LaGrappe

When intentional obstruction exists, what is the solution?

- 1:30pm • How widespread is abortion obstruction in Victoria? A one-month pilot of a tool to capture obstructive behaviours in the health system
 - Dr. Shelly Makleff
- 1:45pm • How does abortion Values Clarification and Attitude Transformation (VCAT) reduce stigmatising behaviours in healthcare providers? Proposing a conceptual model
 - Dr. Shelly Makleff
- 2:00pm • How are healthcare providers conscientiously objecting to abortion care in Australia? A qualitative study
 - Dr. Bronwen Merner

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B

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

Breakout Room B

11:30am Breakout Session 1 (11:30am– 12:30pm)

What sustains abortion rights beyond the law?

- 11.30am
 - Advocacy influencing international access to abortion
 - Ms. Daile Kelleher
- 11.45am
 - Systemic Failures, Individualised Blame: Law, Healthcare, and the Politics of Later Abortion in Australia
 - Dr. Erica Millar
- 12:00pm
 - Countering regression: what LGBTIQ+ and women's rights movements have in common
 - Ms. Heather Corkhill
- 12.15pm
 - Beyond decriminalization of abortion: New horizons in advocacy and practice change
 - Dr. Martha Paynter

1:15pm Breakout Session 2 (1:15am– 2:15pm)

What sustains abortion rights beyond the law? (Cont.)

- 1:15pm
 - Is abortion health care? The politics in Australia in 2026
 - Dr. Amanda Cohn
 - 1:30pm
 - Reproduction Beyond the Womb: Reproductive Justice and the State of Exception
 - Miss. Ashlee Wilson
- Are we leading or lagging? Looking at abortion access in a global context.**
- 1:45pm
 - Going the Distance: A Comparison of Abortion Provision Approaches in Rural Australia and Canada
 - Dr. Anna Noonan
 - 2:00pm
 - Deterrents and Enablers in Abortion Services in South Africa: Client perceptions and experiences of abortion counselling
 - Dr. Timalizge Zgambo

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C

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

Breakout Room C

11:30am Breakout Session 1 (11:30am– 12:30pm)

What happens when we shift MtOP beyond traditional models?

- 11.30am
 - Changes in MS2–Step (mifepristone–misoprostol) access through pharmacies following the 2023 removal of prescribing and dispensing restrictions for medication abortion in Australia
 - Prof. Kristina Edvardsson
- 11.45am
 - Mapping Global Evidence on Advance Provision of Medical Abortion: A Scoping Review
 - Miss. Freya Moore
- 12:00pm
 - Medication abortion self–management as health system innovation: a qualitative study of abortion service users' perspectives
 - Dr. Mridula Shankar
- 12.15pm
 - Improving Access to Early Medical Abortion Through a Selective Scan Pathway: A Quality Assurance Evaluation from Far North Queensland
 - Dr. Lydia Mainey

1:15pm Breakout Session 2 (1:15am– 2:15pm)

How can we build a sustainable future for 2nd and 3rd trimester abortion services?

- 1:15pm
 - Travel time from every home: visualising access to surgical abortion services across Australia
 - Ms. Sarah Wood
- 1:30pm
 - Pioneering Access: Metro South's First Public Surgical Abortion Service
 - Dr. Catriona Melville

Are we designing rural abortion services for rural realities

- 1:45pm
 - Beyond Access: How Centring Patient Preferences Has Led to New Approaches to Language and Pregnancy Tissue Management in a Rural Public Abortion Service
 - Mrs. Lillian Castor
- 2:00pm
 - The unique access challenges when working remotely whilst maintaining culturally inclusive care.
 - Ms. Emily Hapea

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A

FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Breakout Room A

11:20am Breakout Session 3 (11:20am- 12:20pm)

What role does primary healthcare play in expanding access to reproductive healthcare?

- 11.20am
 - General practitioners' perspectives on providing medical abortion in rural and remote Australia: Findings from the How Far is Too Far study
 - Prof. Danielle Mazza
- 11.35am
 - Adolescents' experiences accessing emergency contraception in Australian community pharmacy: a qualitative study
 - Dr. Anisa Assifi
- 11:50pm
 - Expanding community pharmacists' scope of practice for contraceptive counselling and referral: preliminary findings from the ALLIANCE stepped-wedge cluster randomised trial
 - Dr. Anisa Assifi
 - Prof. Danielle Mazza
- 12.05pm
 - Strengthening the medication abortion provider workforce in Victoria: a cross-sectional analysis of 1800 My Options providers
 - Dr. Jessica Moulton

1:10pm Breakout Session 4 (1:10pm- 2:10pm)

How are nurses pioneering increased access to abortion care?

- 1:10pm
 - Innovation in nurse-midwife led rural abortion care – The Western NSW Local Health District Pregnancy Options Care and Support Service
 - Mrs. Lillian Castor
- 1:25pm
 - Embedding Nurse-Led Termination of Pregnancy Care in Regional Queensland: A Duoethnographic Examination of Organisational Culture Change
 - Dr. Lydia Mainey
- 1:40pm
 - Effectiveness of a nurse-led model of care in increasing access to long-acting reversible contraception and medical abortion in rural and regional Australian general practice
 - Dr. Jessica Botfield
- 1:55pm
 - Experiences of nurses and midwives in the provision of medical termination of pregnancy care beyond the first trimester: a scoping review.
 - Dr. Neha Ramesh

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B

FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Breakout Room B

11:20am Breakout Session 3 (11:20am- 12:20pm)

Are we centring lived experience in abortion narratives?

- 11.20am
 - Imagining person-centred contraceptive counselling at the time of abortion provision from the perspectives of young abortion seekers in Australia
 - Ms. Carrie Van Rensburg
- 11.35am
 - The power of storytelling: Peer support and co-design in practice
 - Ms. Hannah Bambra
- 11:50pm
 - The role of abortion peer support in resisting reproductive injustice: a Theory of Change
 - Ms. Hannah Bambra
- 12.05pm
 - Centring Abortion Seekers' Experiences: Developing a Consumer Reporting Tool for Poor Abortion Care
 - Dr. Bronwen Merner

1:10pm Breakout Session 4 (1:10pm- 2:10pm)

What does local access actually look like in the future?

- 1:10pm
 - Improving abortion access in New South Wales
 - Ms. Sarah Lambert
- 1:25pm
 - QVEMTOPS One year on: care provided and lessons learnt
 - Dr. Claire Fotheringham
 - Ms. Emma Turner
- 1:40pm
 - The use of an Artificial Intelligence driven Digital Front Door to increase abortion equity in Victoria
 - Ms. Carolyn Mogharbel
- 1:55pm
 - How brokerage has shaped abortion access in Queensland
 - Children by Choice

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C

FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Breakout Room C

11:20am Breakout Session 3 (11:20am- 12:20pm)

When the system wasn't built for you, what then?

- 11:20am
 - Bridging the Gap: Strengthening Culturally Responsive Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare in Queensland
 - Mrs. Jana Ventura
- 11:35am
 - Pregnancy Options and Culture- the next chapter for Queensland's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Safe People, their allies and the people they support.
 - Ms. Erin McBride
- 11:50pm
 - Reproductive coercion and abuse among trans and gender diverse people: A case series analysis and rapid review to identify recommendations for clinical practice and future research
 - Dr. Pip Buckingham
- 12:05pm
 - Changing Attitudes: Relationships, Sexuality and Reproductive Health for People with Disability
 - Ms. Natasha Milner

1:10pm Breakout Session 4 (1:10pm- 2:10pm)

When the system wasn't built for you, what then? (Cont.)

- 1:10pm
 - Reproductive Coercion in Sexual and Gender Diverse Populations
 - Dr. Nicola Sheeran
- 1:25pm
 - Challenging the importation of US anti-abortion discourses in Australia
 - Dr. Tania Penovic
- 1:40pm
 - Abortion politics in Australia, the influence and impact of misrepresentation within the media.
 - Dr. Kate Toone
- 1:55pm
 - When algorithms silence sexual health
 - Ms. Rebecca Atkinson

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