

EVENT OUTCOMES REPORT

HOW DO
YOUNG CALD WOMEN
PERCEIVE
INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE?



THE UNVEILED

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Grant details

The Gender Institute (GI) provided \$3000 in funding to enable the Unveiled Institute (UI) to hold a panel discussion with experts with a diverse range of experiences on how young CALD women perceive interpersonal violence.

The UI was able to achieve a successful interactive panel event that brought together government, young people, service providers and academics. The aim of the event was to provide a grassroots environment conducive to dialogue and conversation spearheaded from young people themselves. It was an attempt to bring university students together with those in decision-making power, which we were able to achieve with a sold-out crowd of all different ages and professions.

This event represented the first step in bringing the critical importance and urgency of the unique experiences of young CALD women to the attention of those in positions of power. This event also gained media attention, with two organisers and a panelist appearing on ABC Radio Canberra to discuss the outcomes the following day.

Project/event details

Event title: 'How do young, CALD women perceive interpersonal violence?'

Date and time of the event: Wednesday 2nd October, 6:00pm.

Brief description of the project/event/initiative: The interactive panel event aimed to bring academics, government representatives, service providers and young people together to inspire and document a grassroots dialogue around how young women perceive and experience interpersonal violence.

A short comment on how the project exceeded or fell short of expectations: The project only exceeded expectations of what the Unveiled Institute aimed to achieve. In the first

instance, we had a sold-out event that drew in a diverse and thoughtful crowd. Secondly, we received excellent feedback from both panelists and attendees on the way the event was run, utility of the discussion, and value of hearing from young CALD women.

The names of speakers or panellists, with a short biography on each:

Jo Wood:

Jo Wood joined the ACT Public Service in 2016, after significant experience in the Australian Public Service across employment, economic strategy, and Indigenous policy and program delivery areas and participation in the 2012 ANZSOG Executive
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Fellows Program.

In her last role in the Commonwealth as Group Manager at the Department of Employment, Jo had lead policy responsibility for jobs growth, women's workforce participation, and social impact investment, while also leading the Department's innovation framework and behavioural economics capability. Jo has also shown a career strength in building relationships and partnerships in sensitive environments across the private sector, all levels of governments, service providers, the academic sector and communities.

This experience is invaluable in her role as Coordinator-General, Family Safety with the Act Government. As Coordinator-General Jo leads the whole of government effort to improve the ACT's response to family and domestic violence and sexual assault in partnership with the community. Jo works closely with colleagues across government and the community sector in the ACT to ensure reforms are grounded in the direct experience of people with lived experience of domestic and family violence and sexual assault and the frontline services working to support them.

Nazia Ahmed:

Nazia is the Founder and Director of The Social Outcomes Lab (SOULAB) and is an economist specialising in the health and human services sector with over 15 years of experience in government and management consulting. She has designed and undertaken numerous impact assessment projects for the government and non-government sectors. Nazia is passionate about social change and is involved in the design, development and implementation of a number of social change projects both professionally and personally.

Nicole McMahon:

Nicole McMahon is the General Manager of 1800RESPECT, the national sexual assault, domestic and family violence support service.

With a background in science, journalism, healthcare and ICT, Nicole is experienced at delivering complex programs in government. These skills along with her passion for improving the lives of Australians drew her to 1800RESPECT where she is has worked closely with the 1800RESPECT team and the women's sector to make high-quality support available to people impacted by violence and abuse when they reach out for it. She says that while sexual assault, domestic and family violence are far-reaching issues and their

1800RESPECT is funded by the Australian Government and provides information, referrals and counselling to approximately 200,000 contacts a year, including people impacted by violence and abuse, their friends and family and the frontline

workers who support them.

Fahmida Suma:

Fahmida Suma is a public servant, volunteer, artist, and a survivor. She is deeply passionate about humanitarian causes and devotes a significant portion of her time volunteering. Her career spans across roles in Federal and Territory Government agencies, including the Department of Human Services and the ACT Community Services Directorate.

Fahmida volunteers for the Domestic Violence Crisis Service, helping with events aimed at raising awareness for domestic and family violence. Additionally, she has shared her personal journey as a victim of domestic violence in Domestic Violence forums, with other victims and survivors to pave a path towards change in this space.

Fahmida has survived many ordeals women from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds experience. She feels strongly about the need to start a dialogue within and outside the CALD communities to raise awareness of what is a multifaceted and tremendously complex problem.

Lastly, Fahmida is also actively working in Jessore, Bangladesh, in her spare time to help disadvantaged youths, women, and elderly people.

Impact

Give an indication of the number of participants and their academic levels (e.g. postgraduates, ECRs, senior researchers, etc.) Specify, if possible, the affiliations of attendees (i.e. ANU internals vs ANU externals)

The event was sold out, with 80 tickets reserved. Participants were students (undergraduates and post graduates), representatives from government departments, government department heads at a Territory level, advisors to Territory ministers, academics from the ANU, diplomats, and ACT service providers.

We are also proud of the fact that the event was delivered under budget. Despite being provided \$3000, we negotiated with all vendors and ensured that we provided good value for money.

Impacts for the University

One main impacts for the Australian National University from this event was the engagement by young people on this topic and the interest by academics from the University to continue to pursue this work. This event aimed to achieve a dialogue between young people and those pioneering the research and policy in this space. Some of the feedback we received from participants after the event

was that they felt the ANU was forward-thinking and innovative by allowing this event to take place and by providing funding through the ANU Gender Institute.

The event was also organised with volunteers who were students from the ANU. This provided valuable experience for the students about how to undertake literature reviews for the purpose of determining the state of knowledge about a particular subject, how to find panellists and invite them to an event, negotiating contracts with suppliers, running an event on the day, taking and analysing notes, and preparing financial, thematic, and outcome reports.

Finally, we also invited prominent guests who attended the event. These attendees had not yet seen the Kambri precinct and got to experience what hosting an event at the ANU could look like.

Impacts for the Community

One main impacts on the ACT community from this event is that the discussions about young, CALD women's experiences with interpersonal violence are now in the mind of the public and on the agenda of the ACT government. This event provided a platform for young people to engage with government officials and other leaders in this space. The motivation to continue this conversation and include the Unveiled Institute in dialogue with government demonstrates this was a much needed conversation and event.

We also observed service providers, government representatives, and members of the community exchanging contact information after the event. We felt that the discussions allowed for some much-needed networking in the space.

Achieving outcomes for the Unveiled Institute

The Unveiled Institute provided three indicators to measure the success of the event:

1. Participation: With 80 tickets reserved, we found high interest with the event. Naturally, a few people did not attend despite making a reservation. However; the small audience group was engaged by asking questions and follow up questions to panel members. In particular, young people steered the conversation towards concerns facing young people themselves.

2. Engagement: The Unveiled Institute delivered a well rounded event with creative catering and an intimate yet informative environment for participants to be fully engaged. One clear example of audience engagement came from unveiledinstitute.org.au | katrina@unveiledinstitute.org.au

young people focused on steering the conversation to their concerns and experiences. This trend really challenged the panelists and other audience members to think about responses and ask questions related to these experiences. Panelists were then able to admit that there was very little known about the plight of young women - particularly CALD women - and that more needed to be done in this space.

3. Analysis: The Unveiled Institute is currently in the process of drafting a thematic analysis of the event. A detailed transcript was created during the event which will be produced and circulated to attendees and the public in 2020.

Outcomes

The event program, if available

Attached to email

The event/project flyer or poster, if available

Attached to email

Submit any photographs and/or videos (in the highest possible resolution) separately in order to maintain the quality of the image.

Attached to email

If you event/project receive any media coverage please include any articles, press clippings, podcasts, radio interviews, etc

Link to ABC Radio interview is attached to email

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