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# ORGANISATIONAL CV



## Gender & Disaster Australia

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### Formation & Purpose

Gender and Disaster Australia (GADA) was initially established as the GAD Pod in 2015 to promote an understanding of the role played by gender in survivor responses to disaster – including increased family violence – and to embed these insights into emergency management practice. In 2022, the Federal Dept. of Social Services provided funding to extend GADA’s training and resources across Australia. This responds to Recommendation 22.5 of the Royal Commission into Natural Disaster Arrangements.

Gender & Disaster Australia is a business unit of Women’s Health In the North (WHIN) and reports to relevant funding bodies.

The legacy organisations behind the original Gender & Disaster (GAD) Pod which operated from 2015-2021 were: [Women’s Health Goulburn North East \(WHGNE\)](#), [\(WHIN\)](#), and [Monash University Disaster Resilience Initiative \(MUDRI\)](#).

### History

The initiatives of the GAD Pod are grounded in qualitative research in the aftermath of the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires. These were the deadliest fires since colonial settlement, with 173 people losing their lives, 414 people injured, 2029 houses destroyed and 7000 people displaced.

Aware that recovery organisations were inundated with help from Australia and overseas—WHGNE consulted on-the-ground organisations about the most appropriate way, and time, to assist. Between late 2009 and 2013, Debra Parkinson and Claire Zara conducted in-depth interviews with 30 women, 47 workers, and 32 men affected by the fires – capturing their first-hand accounts of the disaster and its aftermath.

In 2012, the findings from this initial research—captured in *The Way He Tells It: Relationships after Black Saturday*—were released at Australia’s first conference on natural disasters and family violence *Identifying the Hidden Disaster*.

Although worldwide literature suggests that increased violence against women is characteristic of post-disaster recovery, this was the first research conducted in Australia to identify and examine the link between disasters and violence against women.

The *Hidden Disaster* conference galvanised interest in gender in disaster, and led to an invitation by Monash University’s Injury Research Institute (now MUDRI), to lead a successful partnership submission to the National Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme. With new project funding, Debra and Claire continued their interviews—this time with men—to consider men’s experiences during and after Black Saturday. The findings of this research are captured in the research report, *Men on Black Saturday: Risks and opportunities for change*.

Since undertaking the foundational research, the GAD Pod has led a range of initiatives—with critical input from leaders and personnel in emergency management, academia, government and community — to inform responses to women and men in future disasters. For example:

- research commissioned 2015 by DELWP to identify barriers for women in fire & emergency leadership roles;
- collaborative development of *National Gender and EM Guidelines*;
- the 3-year Gender and Disaster Taskforce 2014-2016, auspiced by the Victorian Emergency Management Commissioner;
- the Diversity in Disaster Conference, in Melbourne 2018 (in partnership);
- research on LGBTI communities in emergencies with GLHV@arcshs, LaTrobe University for DPC
- NDRGS-funded research into long-term disaster resilience, launched in 2019;
- COVID-19 related research and training commissioned by Respect Victoria;
- *Gender Justice in Disaster: Inspiring Action* conference, 2021, launched The Wheeler Centre.

### Gender & Disaster Australia (GADAus)

Please read on as GADAus establishes its national presence. See our website for staffing and associates. [www.genderanddisaster.com.au](http://www.genderanddisaster.com.au)

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## Funding Partners - GADA

Date/Year	Funder/Project	Funds ex GST
2022-25	Federal Department of Social Service - Gender and disaster recovery initiative. Funded from the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children.	\$3.7 million
2022	Forthcoming from Respect Victoria to tailor training based on COVID-19 research conducted by the GAD Pod (see GAD Pod CV for details).	\$66,000

## Emerging work as GADAus

Date/Year	Outcome
2022-2025	Implementing National Gender & Disaster Initiative.
2022	Publishing Chapter on Gender-based Violence and Disasters for The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Natural Hazard Science (see Published articles, below, for details).
2022	Part of Working Group for the Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience's review of Evacuation Planning Handbook.
2022	Commissioned by Respect Victoria to develop forthcoming training for the primary prevention (of violence against women) based on earlier commissioned research into COVID-19 measures on PVAW.

## Conferences/Events Convened by GADAus

Date/Year	Conference/Presenter	Note / Ref.
2022 forthcoming	<b>The Eighth Claire Zara Memorial Oration</b> on gender and disaster, to be presented at the 21 <sup>th</sup> Annual Emergency Management Conference. (Co-convened with EMC and Fire Rescue Victoria)	

## Original Research Reports

Date/Year	Author / Title
	Please see GAD Pod CV for previous research.

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## Published Journal Articles & Book Chapters

Date/Year	Author / Title
	Please see GAD Pod CV for previous articles
2022 forthcoming	Two chapters to be submitted for edited book by Prof. Dale Dominey-Howes.
2022	Parkinson, D. (forthcoming). Gender-based Violence and Disasters. In Benouar, D. (Ed.), <i>The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Natural Hazard Science</i> . Oxford University Press. DOI: 10.1093/acrefore/9780199389407.013.390
2022	O'Malley, S., Parkinson, D., Leonard, L., Kaur, J. & Mackay, R. 'Issues Paper: Gender Justice in Disaster Conference'. <i>Australian Journal of Emergency Management</i> , 37(1), pp. 44-51. <a href="https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf">https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf</a>
2022	Sohrabzadeh, S. & Parkinson, D. 'Men's role in violence against women in Iran and Australia'. <i>Australian Journal of Emergency Management</i> , 37(1), pp. 65-71. <a href="https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf">https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf</a>
2022	Parkinson, D., Duncan, A., Kaur, J., Archer, F. & Spencer, C. 'Gendered aspects of long-term disaster resilience in Victoria, Australia'. <i>Australian Journal of Emergency Management</i> , 37(1), pp. 59-64. <a href="https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf">https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf</a>
2022	Leonard, L. Parkinson, D., Duncan, A. & Archer, F. 'Under pressure: Developing Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) inclusive emergency services. <i>Australian Journal of Emergency Management</i> , 37(1), pp. 52-58. <a href="https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf">https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf</a>
2022	Kaur, J. & Madabushi, N. 'Convergence of design: Aboriginal knowledge and emergency management—a new interdisciplinary paradigm?' <i>Australian Journal of Emergency Management</i> , 37(1), pp. 22-23. <a href="https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf">https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf</a>
2022	Steffensen, V. & O'Malley, S. (2022). 'Indigenous fire knowledge and land management.' <i>Australian Journal of Emergency Management</i> , 37(1), pp 40-43. <a href="https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf">https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/media/9177/ajem-2022-01.pdf</a>

## Presentations within Australia (Conferences/Events)

Date/Year	Presenter / Title
25/3/2022	Event with Carly Finlay, Celeste Liddle, Clementine Ford & Donna Wheatley: 'Community Forum on PVAW' funded by BRV and hosted by Rural City of Wangaratta. (DP)
22/3/2022	Victorian Healthcare Association 'Gender Equality and Climate Change' Panel. (DP)
9/3/2022	'The Gendered Dimensions of Climate Change' panel hosted by Melbourne University Law Students' Society's Women's Portfolio. (DP)
24/2/2022	<i>Our Watch</i> Listening and Accountability Forum session with Donna Wheatley and Nick McKenzie. (NB)
	Victorian Department of Justice IWD Forum. Keynote. (NB)
16/2/2022	Gen Vic Panel Discussion on Feminism and Climate Action. (NB)

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## GADAus Training

Over hundreds of delegates from the emergency services sector including local government, police, volunteers and community members have participated in the training offered by the GAD Pod. The training encompasses local and international research into family violence following disasters, and research into the challenges faced by men in the context of disasters. The policy and practice implications for identifying and responding to family violence are examined and participants are challenged to take action to address gendered stereotypes which are harmful to women, men and children's healing and recovery following disaster. The training offers participants the opportunity to formulate new and proven actions as individuals, community members and within their organisations which respond to family violence and challenge harmful stereotypes that limit people's recovery.

Date/Year	Funder / Project	Note / Ref.
2022 forthcoming	<b>ONLINE City of Sydney</b>	Rachael Mackay, Liam Leonard & Steve O'Malley
2022 forthcoming	<b>National Red Cross</b>	Rachael Mackay, Liam Leonard & Steve O'Malley
<b>x sessions: x Participants</b>		

## Key Media Coverage - GADA

Date/Year	Coverage
1/1/2021	New way Australia will deal with disasters: Australia is set to overhaul the way it supports people after natural disasters that will stop a shocking and hidden problem. <a href="https://apple.news/ALa2IhvfQT6eY_Np2mbzqhA">news.com.au: https://apple.news/ALa2IhvfQT6eY_Np2mbzqhA</a>

Date/Year	Coverage
Airing 2022	Red Cross and Gender & Disaster Australia for ABC Radio: D. Parkinson & S. O'Malley. Podcast Episode 14 Family violence and disasters. With Kate Brady. <a href="https://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/after-the-disaster/">https://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/after-the-disaster/</a>
21/2/2022	Indymedia – RTR.FM 92.1 Radio Interview: J. Kaur

## Social media

Date/Year	Coverage
2022	GADAus website <a href="http://www.genderanddisaster.com.au">www.genderanddisaster.com.au</a>
2022	Communiqué to a mailing list of approximately 1800 subscribers.
2022	Twitter @GAD_Aus
2022	Facebook

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## Resources

Please visit the Gender & Disaster Australia website (<http://www.genderanddisaster.com.au/info-hub/research-resources/>) to access these and other resources.

Name / Type
<b>Gender and Emergency Management Guidelines (+ new sections on Evacuation Centres and Infant feeding)</b>
Literature Review
The Guidelines
Action Checklist
<b>Snapshots:</b>
Snapshot 1: Women and Disaster
Snapshot 2: The relevance of gender in disaster risk
Snapshot 3: The Hidden Disaster – Family Violence following Natural Disasters
Snapshot 4: Checklists to keep Women and Children safe after Natural Disasters
Snapshot 5: Men on Black Saturday
Snapshot 6: Long-term Disaster Resilience
<b>Postcards:</b>
Gendered fire planning set of 2 postcards: Questions and Facts
Family Violence and Disaster: Disaster is no excuse for family violence (You can help in just 4 steps) © 2012
Men on Black Saturday: Disaster impacts can be long-lasting
<b>Training Resources:</b>
Online package for primary prevention practitioners including facilitator’s manual, participant workbook, powerpoint and evaluation sheet.
Updated training Package by zoom and in person. (TBA)
<b>GADAus Videos/Films, Podsocs and Webinars:</b>
Please see <a href="http://www.genderanddisaster.com.au">www.genderanddisaster.com.au</a>
<b>Other (please visit the Gender &amp; Disaster Australia website):</b>
Guides, checklists and practice resources, articles, literature reviews and case studies

The Gender & Disaster Recovery Initiative is funded by the Commonwealth of Australia.



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Social Services**

Legacy Organisations of Gender & Disaster’s predecessor, the GAD Pod:

