

## Program at a Glance

All times AEST (UTC+10)

<b>Day 1 - Tuesday 20 September 2022</b>		
<i>Morning</i>		
11:00AM – 12.30PM	<b>Welcome</b>   Julie Oberin AM, National Chairperson, WESNET & Louise Pascale <b>Welcome to Country</b>   Hannah Dunolly-Lee <b>Conference overview</b>   Louise Pascale, MC <b>International Keynote</b>   Erica Olsen, NNEDV <b>Industry Keynote</b>   Emerging technologies and society   Joanna Knox, Telstra	
<i>Afternoon</i>		
1:30 – 2:00PM AEST	<b>Survivor Keynote</b>   Nicole Lee, Survivor Advocate	
2:00 – 3:00PM AEST <i>choose one</i>	<b>Tech abuse: The lowdown</b> Sarah Biordi & Joanna Collauti, WESNET	<b>Nothing about us without us - marginalised women and tech</b> Omam Al-Baghdadi & Libbi Cunnington
<b>Day 2 - Wednesday 21 September 2022</b>		
<i>Morning</i>		
11:00 – 11.30AM	<b>Keynote: Predators &amp; perpetrators: White settler violence online</b> Professor Bronwyn Carlson, Macquarie University	
11:30AM – 12:30PM <i>choose one</i>	<b>Technology-based interventions and responses</b> Dr Mary Iliadis, Dr Diarmaid Harkin, Deakin University & Dr Robert Merkel	<b>Safety strategies for survivors</b> Karen Bentley, CEO WESNET & Friends
<i>Afternoon</i>		
1:30 – 3:00PM <i>choose one</i>	<b>The intersection between tech abuse and financial abuse</b> Joanna Colautti, WESNET and Amelia Klein, Financial Abuse Legal Service NSW	<b>Tech abuse and children</b> Dr Molly Dragiewicz , Griffith University, A/Prof Michael Salter, UNSW and Dr Delanie Woodlock, Monash University
<b>Day 3 - Thursday 29 September 2022</b>		
<i>Morning</i>		
11:00AM – 12:00PM	<b>Privacy, safety, and women: Perspectives from leading technologists – a panel discussion</b> Facilitator: Karen Bentley with representatives from Telstra, Google, Match Group, Uber, Meta, and Commonwealth Bank	
<i>Afternoon</i>		
1:00 – 2:00PM <i>choose one</i>	<b>Legal remedies for tech abuse</b> Joanna Colautti, WESNET and Julie Sarkozi, Women's Legal Service QLD	<b>Spyware and other monitoring and surveillance tactics</b> Sarah Biordi, WESNET and Martijn Grooten
2:00PM-2:30PM	<b>Keynote - Technology and Violence Against Women - where to now?</b> Karen Bentley, Wesnet	
2:30 – 3:00PM	<b>Closing Session</b>   Louise Pascale, MC and Karen Bentley, CEO WESNET	

# Session Descriptions

Day 1 - Tuesday 20 September 2022

## International Keynote: Technology Safety

*Erica Olsen (NNEDV)*

Erica Olsen, Director of the Safety Net program in the US, and technology safety specialist with 15 years in the field will discuss the work of Safety Net and the concept and foundational principles of Technology Safety based on her experience in working with survivors experiencing technology-facilitated abuse.

## Industry Keynote: Emerging technologies and society

*Jo Knox (Telstra)*

Jo Knox is the Executive for Product Excellence and Incubation at Telstra. In her Industry keynote address to the 2022 Technology Safety Summit, Jo will explore the growing role of AI and Machine Learning and ask what role can or should today's technology play in uncovering the warning signs of domestic violence. Jo examines the challenge, and opportunity, for such technology using examples where AI and Machine Learning is already playing a role. Overall, the technology presents an opportunity as one tool in uncovering domestic violence, but it would need cross-industry collaboration to guide its development and use.

## Survivor Advocate Keynote

*Nicole Lee*

## Tech Abuse: The Lowdown

*Sarah Biordi and Joanna Colautti (Wesnet)*

Tech abuse is a form of abuse that involves the misuse of technology in order to hold power and

control over someone. It is often used by perpetrators of domestic abuse as part of a larger pattern of coercive control. This presentation WESNET's Technology Safety Specialists will provide an overview on how abusers misuse technology to stalk, harass and abuse victim-survivors and the impact of this abuse on survivors. There will be discussion of the most common ways abusers misuse technology as well as what measures can be taken to try and prevent this abuse or deal with the fallout.

## Nothing about us without us - marginalised women and tech

*In this session two presenters will explore issues as they relate to culturally and linguistically diverse women and women with disabilities. In the first half, Omaim Al-Baghdadi will share some of her research on the challenges facing women from diverse backgrounds transitioning to technology-facilitated service delivery during the pandemic. She will also discuss her findings on the cultural and linguistic appropriateness of digital services, such as personal safety apps offered in Australia, to highlight not only the hurdles and safety concerns facing marginalised women when engaging with this tech, but also how it may be useful in assisting them. In the second half, Libbi Cunnington from WWDA talks about how co-design with the group you are designing for is the answer for creating resources that are accessible and usable.*

## Marginalised Women and Tech

*Omaim Al-Baghdadi, Western Sydney University*

In this session we will hear from Omaim Al-Baghdadi (She/Her), a researcher, masters candidate and a research assistant at Western Sydney University specialising in intersectional feminism, racism and

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oppression studies from a postcolonial perspective. Omair will be presenting on the impact of technology on marginalised women, how technology is being misused against them, how tech may assist them, as well as the challenges they face in using technology. She will also focus on what is needed to move forward.

### **Empowering women with disabilities through co-design. Our Site 2.0**

*Libbi Cunnington, WWDA*

In this session we will hear from Libbi Cunnington, a Project Director at Women with Disabilities Australia who is managing the next phase of Our Site, an international award-nominated website for women with disabilities. The site was developed in codesign with over 100 women and girls with disabilities between 2018 and 2020. WWDA's commitment to codesign has opened up more opportunities for WWDA to deliver and design important new services and web /and online resources using this framework, to ensure that the next phase of Our Site will ensure that the people who use the resources are the ones who design them.

Day 2 - Wed 21 September 2022

### **Keynote: Predators & Perpetrators: White settler violence online**

*Prof Bronwyn Carlson (Macquarie University)*

Since early contact, white settlers, across the continent now known as Australia, have violently imposed on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lives. Developments in digital communication and technology have given white users new means to engage in hostile, racist, transphobic and homophobic, and misogynistic behaviours. This

presentation examines white violence towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as it occurs on social media platforms. I draw on qualitative data shared and discussed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in news media and interviews who have experienced abuse and harassment from white settlers on social media. Analysis of this data exposes patterns of predatory behaviour among white settlers towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. These patterns can also be read as perpetration of colonial violence.

### **Technology-based interventions and responses**

*In this session we will hear about some of the ways that technology is used in domestic and family violence responses. Firstly, Dr Mary Iliadis will present on the findings of recent research about the role of body-worn cameras when used in the context of domestic and family violence. Secondly, Dr Diarmaid Harkin and Dr Robert Merkel will provide an overview of the limits and possibilities of tech-based 'solutions'*

### **Police body-worn camera technology in family violence responses: A national study on police, family violence stakeholders and victim/survivors**

*Dr Mary Iliadis (Deakin University)*

Body-worn cameras (BWCs) have been promoted internationally to enhance responses to domestic and family violence (DFV). Preliminary evidence suggests that when used in the context of DFV, BWC footage may strengthen evidential cases and prosecutions. Mary presents the findings on behalf of her research team which includes: Dr Zarina Vakhitova, Monash University, Associate Professor Bridget Harris, Monash University, Associate

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## Session Descriptions

Professor Asher Flynn, Monash University and  
Associate Professor Danielle Tyson, Deakin University

### **Technology-based responses to technology-facilitated domestic and family violence: An overview of the limits and possibilities of tech-based 'solutions'**

*Dr Diarmaid Harkin (Deakin University) & Dr Robert Merkel*

A variety of technology-based responses have emerged to address technology-facilitated abuse (TFA). This can include internet-based information or reporting services, efforts to promote safer design of technological products and platforms, or the creation of technical solutions such as spyware detection. This presentation aims to take stock of these technology-based responses arguing that they are often necessary without being sufficient, and that they have persistent strategic and technical limitations. It will be argued that there should be on-going emphasis on the development of human resources as a support for those experiencing TFA, particularly the use of professional DV support workers.

### **Safety strategies for survivors**

*Karen Bentley, CEO WESNET and Apple*

Karen Bentley and colleagues will explore some of the strategies survivors can use to increase their safety when experiencing technology facilitated abuse. This will include exploring some of the new inbuilt features of devices such as Apple's new 'Safety Check' as well as other tips and advice you can provide your clients to help them remain on tech and potentially disrupt the abuser's behaviour safely.

### **The Intersection between tech abuse and financial abuse**

*Joanna Colautti (WESNET) & Amelia Klein (Financial Abuse Legal Service NSW)*

Tech abuse and financial abuse are types of domestic abuse that can increase isolation, increase risk to safety and significantly impact a survivor's wellbeing. These types of abuse do not occur in a vacuum and often form a larger part of a pattern of coercive control. Most people now access and manage their finances online therefore these types of abuse often occur concurrently. In this presentation we will discuss common scenarios in which tech abuse and financial abuse are experienced together, possible legal outcomes for someone who has experienced this sort of abuse and how to increase your digital financial security.

### **Tech abuse and children**

*In this session we have two different presentations discussing tech abuse, coercive control and children. In the first Dr Molly Dragiewicz will discuss how children are involved in tech abuse in the context of adult domestic and family violence. In the second half, A/Prof Michael Salter and Dr Delanie Woodlock discuss their latest research on the disturbing overlap between domestic violence perpetration and child sexual abuse material.*

### **How children are involved in technology-facilitated coercive control**

*Molly Dragiewicz (Griffith University)*

Technology is increasingly integrated into our lives, so it's not surprising that it is integral to the dynamics of domestic violence. This presentation will provide information about how children are involved in technology-facilitated abuse in the context of adult domestic and family violence. Topics include the role of technology in children's exposure to

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domestic and family violence, the impact of technology-facilitated abuse on children and young people, professionals' knowledge about technology-facilitated abuse involving children in the context of domestic and family violence, and strategies and resources to protect children from technology-facilitated abuse.

### **The crossover between domestic violence, coercive control and child sexual abuse material offending**

*A/Prof Michael Salter (UNSW) & Dr Delanie Woodlock (Monash University)*

This presentation examines an under-recognised form of technology-facilitated abuse and gender-based violence - child sexual abuse material (CSAM) offending. CSAM not only harms children, but emerging evidence shows that it also shapes men's use of violence and abuse against female partners. We discuss the impact of CSAM offending on women's lives before, during and after the arrest of their partner. We describe the support needs of non-offending partners and their children, including managing intersecting criminal, child protection and family law matters. We present 'red flags' and typologies for CSAM offending in a relationship and consider how paedophilia intersects with violence against women.

Day 3 - Thursday 29 September 2022

### **5A - Privacy, safety, and women: Perspectives from leading technologists - a panel discussion**

*Facilitator: Karen Bentley (WESNET)*

*Panellists: Justine Rowe (Telstra), Cindy Southworth (Meta), Buddy Loomis (Match Group), Nicole Ashcroft (Uber), Sam Yorke (Google Australia), Caroline Wall (CommBank)*

A conversation with leading technologists in Australia and the United States. Learn about what major technology companies and other corporations are doing about privacy, safety and women's issues.

### **6A.1 - Legal remedies for tech abuse**

*Presenters: Jo Colautti (WESNET) & Julie Sarkozi (Women's Legal Service QLD)*

This session will cover the legal implications and remedies relating to tech abuse. It will cover Commonwealth and some State legislation with reference to our updated Legal Guides. The presentation will discuss harassment via technology, image-based abuse and stalking/ surveillance. Participants will have a deeper understanding of the laws applicable to people experiencing tech abuse, get a sense of practical strategies for evidence collection and reporting, tips on where to refer clients for legal help and have an opportunity to ask questions of experienced lawyers.

### **6A.2 - Spyware and other monitoring and surveillance tactics**

*Presenters: Sarah Biordi (WESNET) & Martijn Grooten (Coalition Against Stalkerware)*

This session looks at the ways Australian victims are being monitored, surveilled and tracked through

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their tech, from abuse of everyday accounts and apps, through to the deployment of spyware, mobile device management (MDM) and remote access trojans (RATs). We'll cover some examples of what we're currently seeing, the ways in which tech is being compromised, and how we can manage the risk around this intrusive and terrifying type of tech abuse.

### 6B - Keynote - Technology and Violence Against Women - where to now?

*Presenter: Karen Bentley (WESNET)*

Karen Bentley, CEO of WESNET and co-founder of the Safety Net Australia project will discuss some of the major issues relating to the intersection of technology and violence against women. Drawing on her experience over the past 10 years in the field. How have things evolved since this issue was first brought to the attention of the sector, what's changed and where to next.

### 6C - Close

*Presenters: Louise Pascale MC & Karen Bentley (WESNET)*

MC Louise Pascale and CEO of WESNET Karen Bentley will sum up and close the conference.

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