



Media Statement

Issued: 10 February 2020

Every Child advocacy campaign's response to children's rights report released today.

<https://www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/childrens-rights/publications/childrens-rights-report-2019>

Statement from Dr Kirsty Nowlan, Co-Chair, Every Child:

“The Every Child national alliance urges all governments to act on the recommendations made by Commissioner Mitchell.

“Governments view physical infrastructure – the building of bridges, roads, rail and ports – as a top priority. We say infrastructure to support children must be a top nation-building priority.

“A national plan and Minister is a start but is still not enough. We need to turn the volume up on the wellbeing of children and young people in Australia and elevate their needs to a nation-building status.

“We agree with the Commissioner that the increase in neglect and abuse of children is a particularly worrying trend, as is the increase in children living in out of home care.

“The report shows that Indigenous children, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, children with a disability and LGBTI children – are particularly vulnerable. They experience higher levels of developmental challenges and poorer mental health relative to national averages.

“Every Child alliance members praise Commissioner Mitchell for the advocacy she has done throughout her seven-year term.”

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