

Research Directions

Office of Research Services

Care and Control of Young People and Community

Associate Professor Natalie Bolzan and Dr Fran Gale, Social Justice Social Change Research Centre, have been awarded ARC Linkage funding to identify social arrangements that facilitate resilience in young people. The project, in collaboration with the Department of Community Services, Illawarra Regional Coordination Program, Annandale Regional Coordination Program and Bankstown Multicultural Youth Service will focus on marginalised young people from ethnically and linguistically diverse communities.



'Recent work suggests that community based protective factors may enable young people to develop resilience' said Assoc. Professor Bolzan. 'This research will identify the networks, structures and processes, both formal and informal, affecting young people's experience of and response to "care", as well as those relationships or processes which they see as controlling'.

With the assistance of the industry partners, project workers will contact young people in locations such as shopping malls and skate parks. Researchers will explore young people's understanding of their social foundations and will investigate what young people see as hindering and developing resilience. In addition, they will explore the development of a range of practical and sustainable ways young people can be assisted by the community to develop resilience.

The findings will be used by the participants and the industry partners to develop strategies that may be used by other communities to enhance social resilience.

Project Title: *Community Foundations of Resilience of Young People*

Funding has been set at: \$174,000.

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