Relationship violence and child abuse have increased in the wake of overseas disasters. New Zealand police reported a 53% increase in call-outs to domestic violence incidents over the weekend of the Canterbury earthquake in 2010. New research following the Victoria bushfires indicates that family violence increased. Australians have a 1 in 6 estimated lifetime exposure to natural disaster. This is an issue for Australia.

- Hear from a leading international disaster and gender researcher and practitioner Elaine Enarson (US).
- Learn from the findings and practice recommendations of the first Australian research to identify and examine family violence after the Black Saturday bushfires.
- Engage in actions to address this emerging issue for police, emergency services, disaster management, family violence and health and community services.
- Connect with others working in the disaster and gender field in Australia.

Who should attend?
Workers, managers, policy-makers, researchers, and others working in:
- Domestic and family violence
- Health and social services
- Emergency management
- Police, fire and rescue
- Local, state and national government

International Women’s Day Pre-conference Drinks & Nibbles with Elaine Enarson
Thursday, 8 March 2012, 6pm — 8pm
William Angliss Conference Centre, 555 La Trobe Street, Melbourne
In honour of International Women’s Day, join us for a brief question and answer with Elaine Enarson. This will be followed by informal networking and discussion about gender and disasters with opportunities to ask questions and network across family violence, health and social services, and emergency management sectors.

Presented in partnership by Women’s Health In the North, Women’s Health Goulburn North East and the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse, a project of the Centre for Gender Related Violence Studies at the University of New South Wales.

Other events
The Identifying the Hidden Disaster Conference is part of a range of training and workshops being coordinated by Women’s Health Goulburn North East and Women’s Health in the North. This conference will specifically explore family violence in the context of disasters, while the other events will focus more generally on disasters and gender for the emergency management field.

Artwork by Ona Henderson. Enquiries to
Ona (03) 9712 0393
Speakers

Elaine Enarson, PhD  Personal experience sparked her extensive work on gender, vulnerability and community resilience following Hurricane Andrew in 1992. In 1999, Elaine conducted some of the first research to explore the link between domestic violence and natural disasters in the US and Canada. In addition to research publications, she co-edited The Gendered Terrain of Disaster: Through Women’s Eyes (1998), Women, Gender and Disaster: Global Issues and Initiatives (2009), and The Women of Katrina: How Gender, Race and Class Matter in an American Disaster (in press) and is now finalising a book on women and disaster in the United States. Elaine speaks widely on the topic and has conducted training on mitigating gender violence in disasters and related subjects.

Elaine is a founding member of the Gender and Disaster Network and of the US-based Gender and Disaster Resilience Alliance and continues to consult with UN agencies on gender-responsive disaster planning. She initiated and directed the development of a FEMA course on social vulnerability, a grassroots risk assessment project with women in the Caribbean, and the electronic Gender and Disaster Sourcebook project. While teaching disaster studies in Brandon University’s Department of Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies (Manitoba, Canada), she helped facilitate community resilience workshops and later developed a gender mainstreaming manual for emergency managers and an emergency preparedness workbook for women’s organisations. Currently, she teaches emergency management graduate students on-line for Canadian and US institutions and is developing a new course on Women and Climate Change for the Gender and Women’s Studies program at the University of Denver.

Debra Parkinson is a social researcher, committed to feminism and social justice. She has worked for Women’s Health Goulburn North East (WHGNE) since 1997, completing research on women leaving violent relationships and partner rape. Debra is currently a PhD candidate (Monash University) researching violence against women in the aftermath of the Black Saturday bushfires. During 2009-10, Debra worked for the Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault and now works for both Women’s Health Goulburn North East and Women’s Health in the North.

Claire Zara is a health promotions worker with Women’s Health Goulburn North East since 2007. Her background is in journalism, teaching and research. She worked extensively with women and workers on this bushfire report. Claire is passionate about ensuring that women’s voices are heard and their experiences and needs incorporated into all levels of society.

Sharon Bourke
Sharon Bourke is a long term resident of Marysville and mother of three children. Following her Black Saturday experiences her fire fighter husband became reclusive, sometimes violent and eventually left the family. Only much later was he diagnosed with PTSD, by then it was too late.
Speakers (cont’d)

**Linda Haggar** had been a comedy writer for 20 years until she moved to Kinglake in 2004 for peace and quiet and to be part of a tight community. Linda is a survivor of Black Saturday. That dark day and the anguished recovery that followed was, and still is, her biggest life challenge. She is a mother of three and grandmother to another three and lived with her partner of 38 years... until the fire came.

**Lois Herbert** is the manager of the Battered Women’s Refuge in Christchurch, New Zealand, which offers safe accommodation and community services for women and children. In her 10 years with the Battered Women’s Refuge in Christchurch, Lois describes 2011 as the most challenging year yet. As a result of the Christchurch earthquakes, the refuge lost the safe house to earthquake damage, was unable to use its offices for a period of time, and staff and volunteers lost family members and close friends in the earthquake. She has a unique perspective on the relationship between natural disasters and family violence. Lois is also a member of the governing board of the National Collective of Independent Women’s Refuges in New Zealand.

**Megan Sety** is a social researcher who has worked in public health and social policy development, programming and research in Australia, NZ and the US. Through her work at public health departments in the US and NZ, Megan developed skills in emergency risk communication and consequently co-coordinated the public health emergency communications during the Wellington regional emergency response to H1N1 influenza (NZ). In her work at a local public health unit in NZ, she developed a program to address family violence. Currently, as the Research and Information Officer at the Australian Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse, she conducts research projects and writes papers exploring issues of intimate partner violence, including a thematic review of domestic violence and disasters (forthcoming).
Hypothetical and Workshops

Hypothetical

Where is family violence situated on the ladder of importance after a disaster?

In the aftermath of a disaster, response services are necessarily focused on meeting the immediate needs of victims. But who are the hidden victims and how do services respond when they suffer further trauma – from partners and ex-partners? Whose job is it to help women bearing the brunt of a partner’s aggression? And is family violence called something else because the perpetrator has experienced the horror of disaster?

A panel of representatives from disaster and related fields will present their ideas and experiences to try to disentangle the web of responsibility central to these questions.

This information will enhance skills, planning and policy development and promote dialogue across sectors on how to address family violence after a disaster.

Action Planning Workshops

The workshops involve hands-on work and will identify practical actions that participants can implement in their field. Facilitators will encourage participants to discuss the research findings along with their own experiences to identify step-by-step action plans that are achievable. A variety of workshops offered concurrently will address:

- Disaster relief workers: Using tools to respond to family violence
- Family violence organisations: Managing increased service demands during and after a natural disaster
- Therapeutic practitioners: Managing your own trauma from a disaster while also responding to victims of family violence
- Emergency management leaders: Including gender analysis in planning and policy
- Local governments: Taking action to address family violence and support local services during and after a disaster

Keep an eye on our website for updates on speakers, panel members and workshop facilitators.

http://www.whealth.com.au
http://www.adfvc.unsw.edu.au
http://www.whin.org.au

Artwork by Ona Henderson.
Enquiries to Ona (03) 9712 0393

Conference Organisers
For all enquiries regarding Identifying the Hidden Disaster Conference, please contact the conference organisers, Happenings Australia:
Phone: + 61 2 9341 2007 Email: l.wilson@happenings.com.au

REGISTER NOW at https://www.secureregistrations.com/IndentH Disaster/
Identifying the Hidden Disaster
9 March 2012 — Melbourne

Program

8:30 am: Registration opens

9:30 am: Conference Opening, Welcome to Country

10:00 am: Women, disaster and violence: International patterns, responses and emerging issues.
   Keynote address: Elaine Enarson

10:50 am: Launch of the Environmental Justice website

11:00 am: Morning tea

11:30 am: Introducing the Way He Tells It, the first Australian research to examine the impact on relationships after a natural disaster. Speakers: Debra Parkinson and Claire Zara

12:00 am: Hearing Women’s Voices from the Bushfires.
   Speakers: Sharon Burke and Linda Haggar

12:20 pm: The Christchurch Earthquakes—we are survivors.
   Speaker: Lois Herbert

12:50 pm: Natural disasters and intimate partner violence: what the international research tells us. Speaker: Megan Sety

1:20 pm: Lunch

2:00 pm: Hypothetical

3:20 pm: Afternoon tea

3.35 pm: Action Planning Workshops

4.45 pm: Closing comment

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Enquiries to Ona (03) 9712 0393
You can register to attend Identifying the Hidden Disaster Conference online or via the attached form at the end of this brochure.

**Online:** [https://www.secureregistrations.com/IndentHDisaster/](https://www.secureregistrations.com/IndentHDisaster/)

**Forms:** can be supplied by Email to: l.wilson@happenings.com.au

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<th>CONFEREECE REGISTRATION FEES</th>
<th>Early Bird Closes 9 Feb</th>
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<td>Government and University</td>
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All prices are inclusive of GST.
Included in your Conference Registration is morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

**CANCELLATIONS**

All cancellations must be received in writing to the conference managers. Any cancellations received 3 weeks prior to the conference (before the 17th February) will receive a refund less $25.00 (AUD) administration fee.

For cancellations received 2 weeks prior to the conference (before the 24th February) will be refunded 50% of the registration fees paid. Any cancellation received after the 24th February will not receive a refund of fees - name changes are allowed.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS**

5pm, FRIDAY 2ND MARCH, 2012

Please contact Happenings Australia (details below) if you have any queries.

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**Conference Organisers**

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Phone: + 61 2 9341 2007 Email: l.wilson@happenings.com.au

**REGISTER NOW** at [https://www.secureregistrations.com/IndentHDisaster/](https://www.secureregistrations.com/IndentHDisaster/)
Conference Venue

The William Angliss Conference Centre
Room: Auditorium—Building A
Located at 555 La Trobe Street, Melbourne.

CAR Parking
The closest Car park facility is located CARe Park at 313 Spencer Street, Melbourne
Maximum daily rate is $15.00 After 6pm entry is $7.00
Car park opening hours are: Monday to Thursday 6am to 10pm and Friday 6am to 1am

Public Transport
The William Angliss Conference Centre is located in prime position and accessible by tram, train and buses.

WILLIAM ANGLISS CONFERENCE CENTRE—BUILDING A

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Phone: + 61 2 9341 2007 Email: l.wilson@happenings.com.au
REGISTER NOW at https://www.secureregistrations.com/IndentHDisaster/
Accommodation

For your convenience, the Conference Organisers, Happenings Australia, have negotiated the following special accommodation rates for all delegates.

The Vibe Savoy Hotel Melbourne — 5 Star
630 Little Collins Street, Melbourne Victoria
Telephone: +61 3 9622 8888  www.vibehotels.com.au

Blending the zest of the Vibe Hotel brand with the beautiful façade of a heritage building, Vibe Savoy Hotel Melbourne is located only a couple of blocks from the William Angliss Conference Centre and the hub of Melbourne’s Collins Street.

$199 per night in a standard room (room only)

To take advantage of this special rate please advise upon booking direct with the Vibe Hotel that you are attending the Identifying the Hidden Disaster Conference organised by Happenings Australia.

Radisson on Flagstaff Gardens Melbourne—4.5 Star
380 William Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000, Australia
Telephone: +61 03 9322 8000

One of Australia’s finest deluxe Melbourne hotels, this property is located opposite the lovely Flagstaff Gardens and offers easy access to public transportation, including the Flagstaff train station and the City Circle Tram.

Rooms are being offered at 10% off the daily dynamic rate valid for stays on 8th and 9th March 2012. This discount cannot be combined with any other special offer or package.

You must book by 22nd February to receive this discount which is subject to room availability.

Log on to the Radisson on Flagstaff Gardens website: www.radisson.com/melbourneau

And enter the Promotional Code: HIDDIS
Identifying the Hidden Disaster:
The First Australian Conference on Natural Disasters and Family Violence
Friday, 9 March 2012 — Melbourne

REGISTRATION FORM

Please mail or email registration form to Conference Organisers:
Happenings Australia Pty. Ltd.
Att: Lee-Anne Wilson, 18 Tyrwhitt Street, Maroubra NSW 2035
Email: l.wilson@happenings.com.au
Contact Telephone: (02) 9341 2007

Personal Details

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Business Phone: | Mobile Phone:

Fax: | Email:

Dietary requirements:

Other special requirements (i.e. mobility):

Registration Fees

Conference Registration Fees - Early Bird Registration closes Thursday 9th February, 2012

| Government and University – Early Bird | $175 inclusive of GST |
| Community Based Registration – Early Bird | $120 inclusive of GST |
| Government and University | $250 inclusive of GST |
| Community Based Registration | $180 inclusive of GST |
| International Women’s Day Pre Conference Nibbles & Drinks | $45 inclusive of GST |

REGISTRATION FEES TOTAL
Full payment must accompany your registration. This document is a **TAX INVOICE** once payment has been received.

Please indicate method of payment:

1/ ☐ CREDIT CARD  2/ ☐ CHEQUE  OR  3/ ☐ DIRECT DEPOSIT

### 1/ CREDIT CARD PAYMENT
☐ VISA  ☐ MASTERCARD  ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS
(Unfortunately we are unable to accept payments made via Diners)

Card number: __________________________________________________________________________

Name on Card: __________________________________________________________________________

Expiry Date: __________________________________________________________________________

Total Payment Amount: ____________________________________________________________________

### 2/ CHEQUE PAYMENT
Please make your Cheque payable to: Happenings Australia Pty Ltd.
ABN 83 068 879 390

Account Name: Happenings Australia
BSB Number: 033 005
Account Number: 268 365
*Payment reference: IHDC “Delegate Surname” E.g IHDC Smith

A confirmation letter confirming your registration will be emailed to you. This email will include any further advice and important information pertaining to the Conference prior to your arrival.

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### Conference Enquiries
If you have any enquiries regarding the upcoming Identifying the Hidden Disaster Conference, please contact the Conference Organisers:

Happenings Australia Pty. Ltd.
Telephone: (02) 9341 2007
Email: l.wilson@happenings.com.au