Is change occurring, how, and for whom?: monitoring population level progress toward the primary prevention of violence against women and their children.

Anna Trembath, Emma Partridge, Melalie Collie, Sarah Kearney

Our WATCh
End violence against
Women And Their Children

IDV, Perth, October 2019

Our Watch: a national organisation for the primary prevention of violence against women

- Non-government organisation, but with government members

- Our specialist focus is **primary prevention**

- Our areas of work:

  o evidence development

  o policy advice to governments

  o support and tools for practitioners and communities

  o social marketing campaigns and media work

- *Change the story*: world's first evidence-based framework for primary prevention. Identifies the underlying **gendered drivers** of violence against women, and **actions** to address these (led by Our Watch in partnership with Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) and the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth))

- '*Change the story* is now established as the shared national framework for prevention – it's been incorporated into the National Plan Action Plans, and endorsed by all Australian governments

CHANGE the STORY

A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women and their children in Australia

Our WATCh · VicHealth · ANROWS

CHANGE THE STORY

THREE YEARS ON

Reflections on uptake and impact, lessons learned and Our Watch's ongoing work to embed and expand the evidence on prevention

Our WATCh

Changing
the picture

A national resource to support the prevention
of violence against Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander women and their children

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Changing
the picture

Background paper: Understanding violence
against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
women and their children

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An analysis of existing research

Primary
prevention of
family violence
against people
from LGBTI
communities

GLHV VICTORIA State Government Our WATCh

A research project commissioned by the Victorian State Government
Completed October 2017

Primary Prevention of violence against women

Tertiary prevention or response
Supports survivors and holds perpetrators to account
(and aims to prevent the *recurrence* of violence)

Secondary prevention or early intervention
Aims to 'change the trajectory' for individuals at higher-than-
average risk of perpetrating or experiencing violence

Primary prevention
Whole-of-population initiatives that address the
primary ('first' or underlying) drivers of violence

Tertiary

Secondary

Primary

Source: *Change the story: A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women and their children in Australia*, Our Watch, ANROWS and VicHealth (2015).
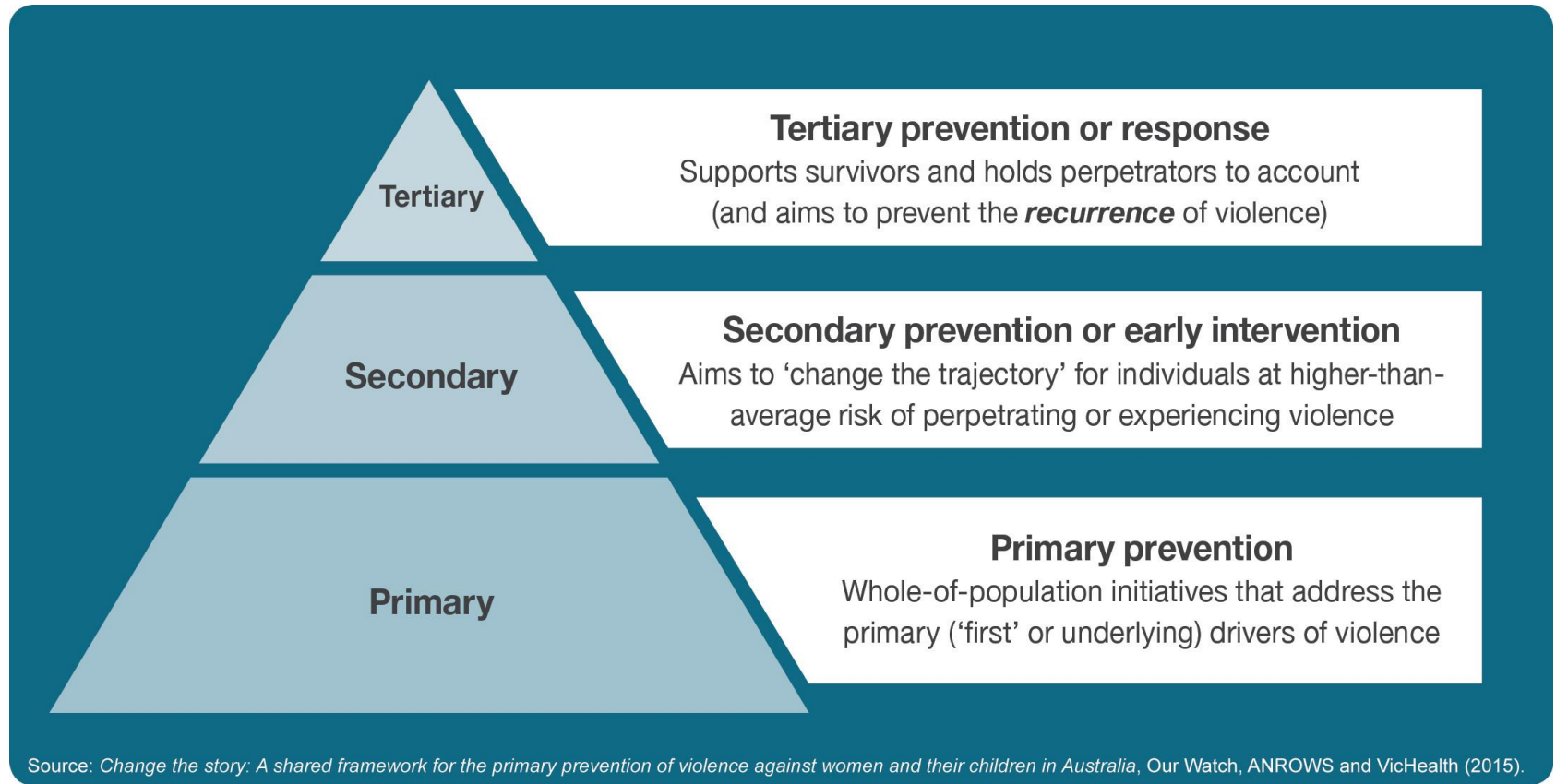
Figure 2 The relationship between primary prevention and other work to address violence against women

GENDERED DRIVERS
of violence against women:

| CONDONING of violence against women | MEN'S CONTROL of decision-making and limits to women's independence | STEREOTYPED constructions of masculinity and femininity | DISRESPECT towards women and male peer relations that emphasise aggression |

Gender inequality sets the NECESSARY SOCIAL CONTEXT

Violence against women
IS PREVENTABLE
if we all work together

NO TO VIOLENCE

ACTIONS
that will prevent violence against women:

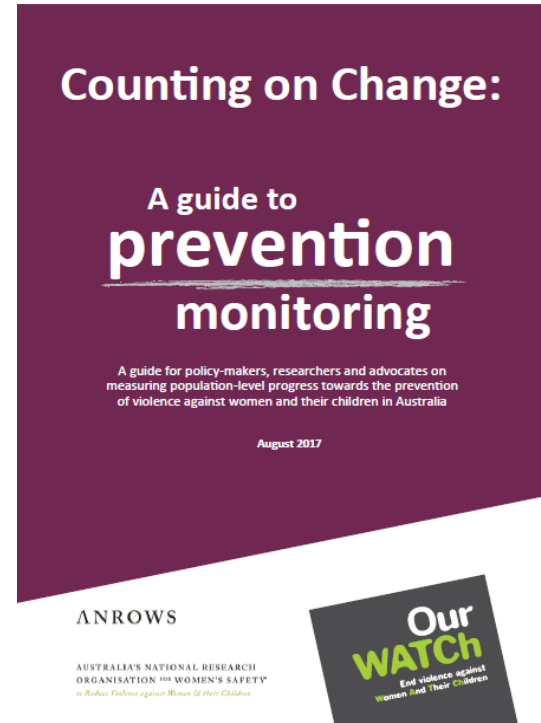| CHALLENGE condoning of violence against women | PROMOTE women's independence & decision-making | CHALLENGE gender stereotypes and roles | STRENGTHEN positive, equal and respectful relationships |

Promote and normalise GENDER EQUALITY in public and private life

Counting on Change – a guide to prevention monitoring

- A framework for monitoring and evaluating progress on primary prevention actions in *Change the story*

- Identifies short, medium and process measures to indicate progress towards our long-term goal

Counting on Change:

A guide to prevention monitoring

A guide for policy-makers, researchers and advocates on measuring population-level progress towards the prevention of violence against women and their children in Australia

August 2017

ANROWS

AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION FOR WOMEN'S SAFETY

Our WATCh
End violence against Women And Their Children

Measuring population-level progress towards the prevention of violence against women

ULTIMATE GOAL ▶
Australian women and thier children live free
from violence in safe communties

LONGER-TERM MEASURES ▶
What will be the outcomes in the longer-term?

- REDUCED VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN BY INTIMATE PARTNER
- REDUCED VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN BY NON-INTIMATE PARTNER
- REDUCED SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND ONLINE TROLLING

MEDIUM-TERM MEASURES ▶
What changes should we aim for and measure in the medium-term?

- REDUCED ACCEPTANCE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
- WOMEN HAVE GREATER DECISION-MAKING POWER
- MORE POSITIVE, EQUAL, AND RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS
- REDUCED ACCEPTANCE OF VIOLENCE IN GENERAL
- MEN & BOYS ARE ENGAGED AND BACKLASH IS REDUCED
- MORE POSITIVE EXPRESSIONS OF MASCULINITY
- GENDER ROLES ARE LESS RIGID
- REDUCED EXPERIENCES OF OTHER FORMS OF VIOLENCE
- REDUCED HARMFUL USE OF ALCOHOL
- GREATER SOCIAL & ECONOMIC EQUALITY

PROCESS MEASURES ▶
What is being done to support change?

- LEADERSHIP FROM GOVERNMENT & CIVIL SOCIETY
- POSITIVE REFORMS IN POLICIES AND LAWS
- A GROWING EXPERT WORKFORCE FOR PREVENTION
- SETTING STANDARDS & WORKING TOGETHER
- SHARED WAYS OF EVALUATING AND COMMUNICATING FINDINGS
- DELIVERING QUALITY PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Progress in Prevention -2008-2018/19

Establishing a baseline picture and where possible, comparing baseline data with a progress point in order to assess the extent of population level change to date.

- o Prevalence of violence against women

- o The gendered drivers of this violence

- o Reinforcing factors

Considers ways to assess development of primary prevention infrastructure (policy, leadership, programming, workforce, monitoring and evaluation).

Demonstrates

- o *how* national monitoring and reporting can be done,

- o *what measures and data* can be used, and

- o *what such a report it looks like*.

Our intention is that it's the first in a series

Methodology - medium and long-term measures

A desktop analysis of select indicators from existing population-level quantitative datasets which assess trends over time (e.g. Personal Safety Survey, National Community Attitudes Survey, Household Income & Labour Dynamics survey, Workplace Gender Equality Agency data). 11 Domains 39 Indicators

PREVALENCE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN0 (5 INDICATORS IN TOTAL)

INDICATOR: Proportion of women subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence, by a current or former intimate partner in the last 12 months.
SOURCE: Personal Safety Survey

INDICATOR: Proportion of women subjected to sexual violence, by persons partner other than an intimate partner in their lifetime.
SOURCE: Personal Safety Survey

DRIVERS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (23 INDICATORS IN TOTAL)

INDICATOR: Community attitudes towards violence against women
SOURCE: National Community Attitudes Survey (NCAS).

INDICATOR: Proportion of time women spend in unpaid care work compared to men.
SOURCE: Household Income and Labour Dynamics Australia

REINFORCING FACTORS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (10 INDICATORS IN TOTAL)

INDICATOR: Percentage of women who experienced violence reporting that children heard or saw the violence.
SOURCE: Personal Safety Survey

INDICATOR: Percentage of population who express denial of continued gender inequality and hostility towards women.
SOURCE: National Community Attitudes Survey (NCAS)

Methodology – primary prevention infrastructure

- Measures progress towards the prevention infrastructure required provide the foundations for sustained and meaningful population-level changes

- Exploratory qualitative approach, drawing on a number of qualitative methodologies (case studies, survey, interviews, policy analysis, analysis of existing evaluations, some analysis of secondary data). 6 domains and approx. 30 indicators

PROCESS MEASURES ▶
What is being done to support change?

LEADERSHIP FROM GOVERNMENT & CIVIL SOCIETY

POSITIVE REFORMS IN POLICIES AND LAWS

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SHARED WAYS OF EVALUATING AND COMMUNICATING FINDINGS

DELIVERING QUALITY PREVENTION PROGRAMS

PREVENTION INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROGRAMS (43 SUGGESTED MEASURES)

POSSIBLE MEASURE: An increasing number of university/TAFE courses include preservice qualification standards and competencies on prevention.

POSSIBLE MEASURE: Governments (federal, state/territory, and local) have a dedicated policy for primary prevention, aligned with *Change the story*.

PROCESS MEASURES

Challenges and opportunities

Limitations of population level data

- Lack of data for every indicator

- Doesn't enable a nuanced understanding of results for population sub-groups

Opportunities

- Demonstrates the scale and diversity of effort required

- Advocacy tool

- Accountability

- Blueprint for measuring complex social and political phenomena

- Identify critical gaps

Thank you

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Melalie.collie@ourwatch.org.au