

# Making Children Count

WESNET Book Launch  
22 November 2005, Canberra

**Speech delivered by Pauline Woodbridge, WESNET Chairperson.**



*From L-R: Delene White, Designer; Pauline Woodbridge, WESNET Chair; Julie Oberin, Victorian Representative; and Eloise Bishop, Social Affairs Manager, The Body Shop.*

Welcome to everyone, it is gratifying to have such a great turnout for this event. We appreciate your support, and I would like to acknowledge Eloise Bishop, of The Body Shop who has arranged to join us here today.

We are here to launch the WESNET children's book "Making Children Count". A fantastic resource like this represents the work and commitment of many people and before I introduce the author I'd like to sincerely thank the following people on behalf of WESNET.

Thank you to AFHO for funds from the last Homelessness Conference to advance the concerns around the issue of children in the

Supported Accommodation Assistance Programme (SAAP), that was identified at the conference. Thank you also to The Body Shop for funding the graphics and to Delene White for producing the wonderful graphics used so effectively within the book. Thanks also go to Julie Oberin, and Pamela Foster and Cara Kirkwood (Purple Kangaroo Consultants) for organising, writing, collating and editing, editing and editing. Thank you to Sira Nicholas for organising the other numerous tasks in order to make the book a reality.

Many thanks to the domestic and family violence sector who provided information and resources for inclusion in the book, making sure it was truly connected to the field and the voices and experiences of the women and children who need the services. Most of all our appreciation goes to Julie Oberin who envisioned the whole concept and who provided the inspiration, motivation and leadership for the whole project.

We hope you will all find the book a useful addition to your places of work and that it will give you all a great lobbying tool to use as we endeavour to meet the needs of the women and children living with domestic and family violence.

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