# Overview

This study aims to better understand and address the tensions between the protection of children and their participation in research, and to explore how ethics committees, parents, others, gatekeepers, and children themselves manage and navigate these tensions. This project will gather and synthesise evidence on the actual experiences, views and decision-making of a range of gatekeepers, incorporating children's views.

## Funding bodies and amount

Australian Research Council Discovery Grant (DP150100864). Amount funded: $335,500

## Research partners

Professor Anne Graham, Southern Cross University, Dr Merle Spriggs, University of Melbourne, Dr Jenny Chalmers, University of NSW

## Timeline/Duration

2015 - 2017

## Research Problem

There is a growing consensus that children’s involvement in social research is important, but considerable uncertainty remains around children’s inclusion in research on ‘sensitive’ issues, reflecting concerns about how to balance children’s protection with their participation. Key to this is deeply embedded assumptions and beliefs about children and childhood, especially concerning notions of capacity, agency, vulnerability, dependency, and the like. This study aims to better understand and address the tensions between the protection of children and their participation in research, and to explore how ethics committees, parents, others, gatekeepers, and children themselves manage and navigate these tensions.

## Findings, including emerging findings

This project has not yet commenced.