



Australian Children's Mental Health Crisis

COVID is a universal crisis, and for some children, the impact will be lifelong . . .

(UN on COVID and children)



In the last few years, we have experienced record floods and fires, a massive drought, a worldwide pandemic and are still experiencing a devastating war, school shootings, increased public and domestic violence, gangland killings and the ongoing fear of climate change and conceived devastating effect on the earth's future. There have also been earthquakes, landslides, volcano eruptions and tsunamis.

In the areas of mental health such as the diagnosed illnesses of Autism, Dyslexia, Generalised Anxiety Disorder, Attention Deficit Disorder or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder need specialist attention.

Even before the pandemic, the Australian Government reported that about one in seven children aged 4-17 had recently experienced a mental disorder, including anxiety, depression and conduct disorder.

Research shows that pre-schoolers through to 12-year-old children have experienced higher rates of anxiety and depression than any other age group during the pandemic.

Of great concern is that fifty per cent of lifetime cases of mental health disorders begin before the age of 14. There are, concerns that the pandemic will lead to a surge of mental health difficulties for young people that will continue throughout their lifetime.

Some have told me that children in their church show no evidence of trauma or anxiety problems. But I would like to point out that the evidence of anxiety and trauma in children often does not come to light until years after traumatic events.

I felt led to the verse in Hebrews 16:19a: "This (Christian) hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls" and to prepare a six-week curriculum called H.O.P.E. for parents, grandparents children's workers, Christian schools, and clergy

This is now offered totally free for download by Kidsreach

H.O.P.E. CURRICULUM - Download by clicking on this link:

<https://.....KidsreachHope>

Today we can establish HOPE as a strong and trustworthy anchor for their precious souls.

Or for more information, go to: www.kidsreach.org.au

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