
YOUTH VOICE ON NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT WORKSHOP

AN INITIATIVE OF JUST PEACE QLD, UNAA QLD, ICAN
AND UN GLOBAL CITIZENS LEADERSHIP SCHOOLS

2018



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On the morning of the 16th August, four student Ambassadors took the stage of Molly and Len Draney theatre at Marist College. They were welcoming 40 high-school fellow students from seven Brisbane schools, and gathering together to learn, debate and express their opinions on the topic of nuclear disarmament.

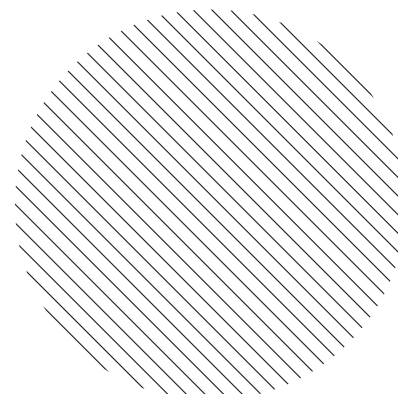
One of the Ambassadors conducted an ice-breaker activity with the students. This allowed students from different schools to interact with each other.

Joel Lindsey, president of United Nations Young Professionals Qld addressed the threat of nuclear weapons from the Australian Government perspective. He outlined the argument that nuclear-armed states and the strategic security alliance provided security for Australia.

In response, Dr. Sue Wareham, one of the founding members of ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons), spoke on the importance of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), which was concluded at the United Nations in 2017, as a tool with which to exert pressure on countries with nuclear weapons, their supporters such as Australia, and countries that might be thinking of acquiring these weapons. She also emphasised the value and power of both individual and collective action

The morning session was wrapped up with a Q&A session followed by students moving into one of the workshops where a wide variety of experts were involved to offer students creative means to raise their voices. Each student was engaged in one of six available workshops, which were: dance & theatre, game development, street art, video editing, words & rhythm and special effects. The closing ceremony was crowned by a two-minute “pitch” from each of the six workshops, to present the ideas created on the day. The messages of “we are stronger together” and a collective advocacy for nuclear disarmament and for Australia to sign the TPNW were embedded in all the closing presentations.

Watch the video of the day at: <https://youtu.be/7GDYARNxn8U>



INTRODUCTION

THE BAN TREATY

The Ban treaty

The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons bans under international law all aspects of nuclear weapons development, possession, transfer and use and establishes a pathway to their elimination. The treaty is a tool which to exert pressure on the countries with weapons, their supporters such as Australia, and countries that might be thinking about acquiring them.

On 7 July 2017 123 nations took a vote to adopt the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. 122 nations voted yes, they should be banned. Of the countries present, only the Netherlands voted no, and only Singapore abstained from voting. It will come into effect when 50 countries have signed and rat-ified* it.



* RATIFICATION

“Ratification is the international act whereby a state indicates its consent to be bound by a treaty. It grants states the necessary time-frame to seek the required approval for the treaty at the domestic level and to enact the necessary legislation to give domestic effect to that treaty.”¹

THE CURRENT SITUATION

123 COUNTRIES VOTED TO ESTABLISH THE TREATY

60 COUNTRIES HAVE SIGNED THE TREATY

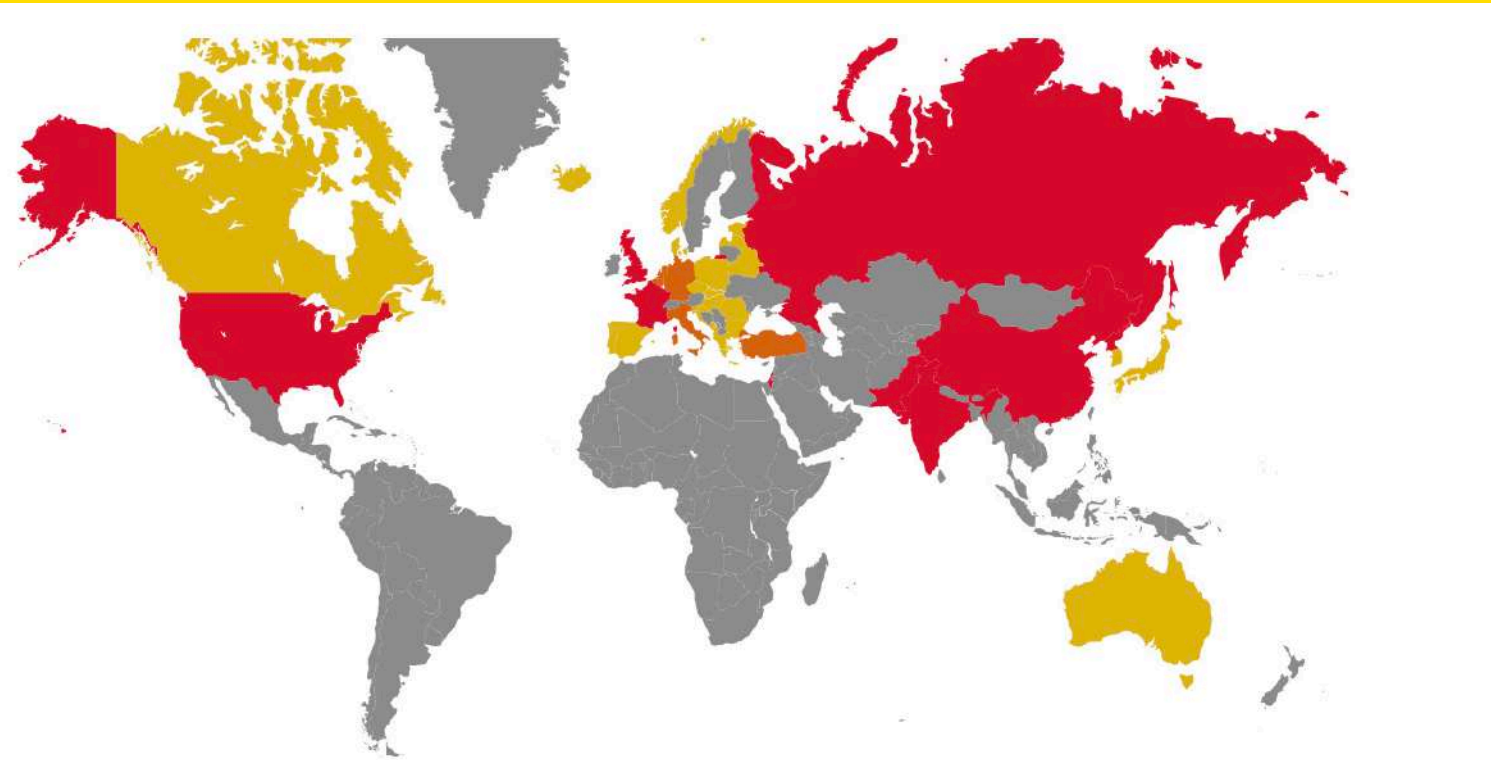
15 COUNTRIES HAVE RATIFIED THE TREATY

The 50 ratifications milestone for the TPNW is expected to be achieved in on 2020.

1. [Arts.2 (t) (b), 14 (t) and 16, Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969]

NUCLEAR ARSENAL

Together, nine countries possess around 15,000 nuclear weapons.



Nations with nuclear weapons

United States, Russia, Britain, France, China, Israel, India, Pakistan, North Korea

Nations hosting U.S. nuclear weapons on their territory

Belgium, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Turkey

Nations endorsing nuclear weapons.²

Albania, Australia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain (plus the five host nations)

2. Nations claiming to rely on US nuclear weapons for their security.

Source. ICAN 2018

Agenda



WELCOME



9:00 - 9:20

MORNING TEA



10:10 - 10:30



WORKING LUNCH



11:30 - 12:00

LET'S RAISE OUR VOICES



2:00 - 2:30

REGISTRATION



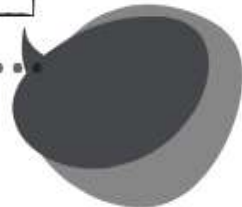
8:30 - 9:00



LET'S TALK ABOUT NUCLEAR



9:20 - 10:10



LET'S GET CREATIVE



10:30 - 11:30



LET'S GET CREATIVE



12:00 - 2:00



YOUTH VOICE ON NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT WORKSHOP

16TH AGUST 2018



Today we are gathered together to make a difference in our world and to have a voice. We have an opportunity to be informed, to discuss and to act upon the important serious topic of nuclear disarmament. - Ben Cornwall, Marist College -



WELCOME TO COUNTRY



The day started with an acknowledgement to Country by Taneesha Buxton and Rueben Davis, students from Tamborine SHS High School.

“It is a custom that we acknowledge and pay our respect to the traditional custodians of the land... We would like to pay our respect to the Turrbul and Jagera peoples, the traditional owners of the land that we are standing on today. We would further like to acknowledge to Elders past who have taken care of this sacred land and have passed on the stories, the songlines, the proper ways of caring for Country and ways of caring for each other in community, and Elders present who maintain their spiritual and ongoing connection to Country.

As we talk and walk and move around this sacred land today, we acknowledge the hope and vision of our Elders that all our young people in this ancient landscape will grow our own connection to Country so we may continue to have a future of shared tomorrows.”



“

We see across the world, nuclear weapons are becoming more of a political tool for leveraging power or making threats to other nations and I think increasingly we as the people of Australia are realising that nuclear weapons are not in our interest and they do not provide any safety

JOEL LINDSAY

UNYP QLD PRESIDENT

Joel Lindsay is the President of the United Nations Young Professionals Queensland, and has been involved with the UNYP in Queensland for several years. Joel became interested in global affairs while completing a Bachelor of International Studies at the University of Queensland and later went on to complete a Masters of International Relations. An avid traveller, Joel is passionate about learning as much as possible about global issues and engaging people with a hope to find solutions

THE ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Many countries today have an idea of national safety and security that depends on the existence of nuclear weapons. Some countries like North Korea and Pakistan view nuclear weapons as their only means of defense against countries that have a much larger and advanced conventional army. They fundamentally believe that nuclear weapons are the only way to balance the threat of force between themselves.

Countries like the United States, Russia and China maintain stockpiles of nuclear weapons as a way of balancing power against each other, and ensuring that if one of them is ever attacked by a nation with nuclear weapons they could retaliate with their own, ensuring that neither side wins. In the world of nuclear politics this is called mutually assured destruction (MAD) – a hope that neither side wants to lose everything and therefore no nuclear power will ever attack in the first place.

Many countries including Japan, South Korea, Germany, and Australia rely on the security and protection provided by our strategic alliances with nations like America that do have nuclear weapons. This means we are protected by what we call a nuclear umbrella. America's nuclear umbrella extends to many of its allies across the globe, and reassures them that we are protected from aggression from other nations without needing to have our own nuclear weapons in here in Australia

AUSTRALIA'S POSITION

Australia chose not to be a part of the nuclear ban vote in 2017. We have a strong and long history of supporting the United States in military conflict and that relationship is still at the core of our nation's idea of our own security.

That being said, Australia does strongly support the principle of nuclear non-proliferation, or stopping the spread of nuclear weapons, across the globe as a country do not believe that simply banning nuclear

weapons will actually lead to them ceasing to exist, or that any ban will change the real concerns that we have in ensuring our security as a nation.

As our and your Government body says, "Our collective commitment to the (nuclear non-proliferation) Treaty has prevented a global nuclear arms race, contained the proliferation of nuclear weapons and facilitated the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and technology. It has strengthened the "taboo" against nuclear weapons use in conflict and has established

nuclear non-proliferation as a powerful international norm. Upholding this norm (an accepted way of behaving) is a crucial component of ensuring global stability and security."

A ban that does not involve all the key countries does nothing to improve our security as a nation, and may actually make us less safe by further separating us from the nations with nuclear weapons, nations that we need to be working with in order to reduce the number of nuclear weapons in the world.



“

It's terrific to be here today to meet with these young people, talk to them and see what they are doing about this problem. It is really inspiring and I hope that workshops like this will happen in other places around Australia and around the world.

DR. SUE WAREHAM

ICAN CO-FOUNDER

Sue Wareham is a retired GP and National President of the Medical Association for Prevention of War. She has played an active part in the peace and anti-nuclear movement since the 1980s, and was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia. She was one of the founding members of ICAN.

ON BEHALF OF THE INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Nuclear weapons are the only weapons that have the capacity to flatten a city in an instant. There've been many occasions, well documented, where the use of nuclear weapons has been recommended since 1945. It's only a matter of time before they are used again unless we get rid of them.

Joel talked about MAD – mutually assured destruction – a concept based on nuclear deterrence theory. Nuclear deterrence is just that – a theory that the weapons will protect us because of the fear of retaliation if they are used. However it is a deeply flawed theory which relies on perfect human decision making and perfect technology that will never fail us. In an

imperfect world, that is unrealistic and unsustainable. Moreover, there is not really any evidence that these weapons have prevented wars. There have been plenty of wars, some current, involving countries that have these weapons. Economically, the world has spent trillions of dollars since the end of World War II on these weapons that we are told will never be used.

Other problems arise when a country such as Australia says that we need the protection of US nuclear weapons but other countries, for example North Korea, don't need these weapons and mustn't have them.

That's not credible. It's a matter of one rule for us and another rule for others. Other countries aren't going to buy that, and why should they?.

These weapons are not consistent with international humanitarian law which is the law of warfare. But the law needed to be strengthened to make it absolutely explicit that nuclear weapons are prohibited, and not only their use but even the possession of them. And that's exactly what happened last year at the United Nations with the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (which we call the ban treaty); when the Treaty comes into force with 50 ratifica-

tions, international law will be greatly strengthened.

The treaty bans not only the possession of these weapons but every other step associated with them - their production, testing, transfer, possession and use, all of those steps. The treaty will not automatically get rid of the weapons, it wasn't designed to, and there is no way it can. But the treaty is a tool with which to exert political pressure on the countries with the weapons, countries such as Australia that support a role for these weapons and countries that might be thinking about acquiring them. One of the key things is

that the ban treaty applies the same rule to all countries.

One of the arguments that have been presented against the treaty is that it won't work because the countries with the weapons do not yet support it. But in what other area of law do we ask the criminals what sort of laws they'd like?

The primary reason this treaty came about is that civil society – that's ordinary people like us - pushed it along. The role of civil society has been key and it will continue to be key in making sure that governments

adhere to it. ICAN in Australia is working hard to encourage Australia to under the current or a future government, to sign on and support this treaty.

There is quite a bit of evidence that the reason these weapons haven't been used again since 1945 is that public opinion wouldn't tolerate it, and leaders know that. There is a taboo around the use of these weapons, but that won't last forever. We have to get rid of the weapons.

THE WORKSHOPS

The students worked in group with the creative industries experts to develop ways of using creative practices to enable them to have a voice on denuclearisation.

STREET ART

In this workshop we taught the kids how to use visual art as a medium to make their voices heard. We taught them various techniques and methods, of not only tools but use of symbols that can be used to get their message across.

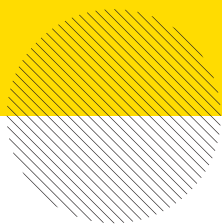


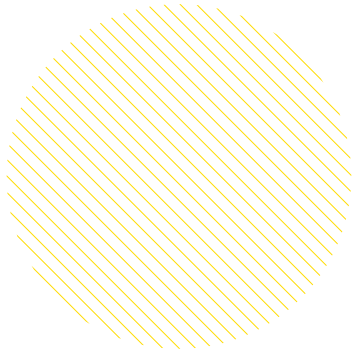
I have chosen this particular workshop, because to me creativity is such an important part of society. I think we cannot just look at any problem logically, especially conflicts and problems as complex as this. We need to look beyond the logical problems and think creatively and come up with a solution that fits as many people as we can and not just a little linear equation.

-Mimi Ruiz, Marist College-

As an artist I realised over the years how powerful a tool art can be. I saw that this workshop was a good cause that I believed in and I jumped on board to offer my services. I believe that's what artists should be doing, getting their tools out there.

ADAM STOCKDALDE
VISUAL ARTS ARTIST





SPECIAL EFFECTS

At our workshop we used special effects make up. I've taught these guys how to apply and create the burn look. I asked these guys to give me their vision and their ideas in regards to the topic of nuclear disarmament and how they feel about the nuclear bombs. We applied these ideas in practice onto the skin of their models.

I tried to embody in this amazing model the devastation and pain faced by innocent bystanders such as children, when governments decide to use nuclear weapons, because they can't stop it. They just have to try and defend themselves and obviously it doesn't pay off when you have nothing to defend yourself with.

- Sarah Moller Ferny Grove SHS -



These guys are the future, they are the voice of the future. They have the right to voice their opinion and I wanted to be a part of that. I wanted to hear what their opinion was and what they had to say about their vision.

JENNIFER HOLT

Special effects & make up artist

DANCE & THEATRE

Our workshop was about dance and theatre. It was an approach to make the kids a little bit more sensitive about their thoughts and about how they want to express themselves in a non-verbal way. Art is about giving people a language. Words can be a little bit deceiving or are not even enough. Sometimes we need more ways to express ourselves.

We all are very connected into really trying to give people a way to express themselves. Also, we believe in hope. We are all in a way fighting against the violence, inequality and we believe this world can be better.

We discovered that our bodies are powerful tools to express emotions and the way we are feeling as a group. We realised that our emotions and movements are contagious throughout various activities. We ask ourselves, how are we going to end the era of nuclear weapons and rid ourselves of the possibility of global destruction? The answer is clear, we work together, because several voices are more powerful than one.

- Ruby Eiby, Girls grammar-

**OSCAR
BETANCOUT**
THEATRE
DIRECTOR

**ANNA
NUMA**
CREATIVE
ARTIST

**ANA
JARAMILLO**
INDEPENDENT
DANCER

WORDS AND RHYTHM

Our workshop was about spoken word and performance poetry. We shared ideas about the topics we discussed during the morning session, then we all picked our favourite bits and stitched them into one continuous piece that tells a really cool story.

JOINT POEM

We say world peace yet we fight at every chance, we say we want to live, yet we kill without a thought. Lives exchange for lives, a missile for a missile. You said you would fix it, but instead you made it worse.

Cold men with icy hands cut out their hearts with frozen scalpels power pumps from their burning organs convulsing its points still to the floor, radiating heat. The lifeless metal missile creaks as they load it with their essence. It is the light, it is burning.

Online the missile goes, people scatter below, pushing buttons away across the sea, these are humans, not numbers. These are children who won't see summer. Online the missile goes, people running below.

A day of light has finally come, a life of darkness. To be the one that flicks the switch, masters of war for slathering masses. With thoughts and feelings set apart a way of being other past. The past of shame allies and lies in shame, his voices echoes through the houses, schools, buildings, all empty now.

We forget that when the button is pressed a missile is launched. Then the millions will pray a silent pray only the dead can hear. The children is dead, the mother scream, the father is crying the politicians lie. The mirage of justice inequality is exposed as the innocents die. Only then true colours of these grand nations shown, reflected in the civilian blood spill.

Many people screaming and burning, still, we are not worried. A massive wrong pushing it until ding ding ding. Then is game over. Screaming and burning, but still we are not learning. A simple pen and paper could save a son or a daughter's life. Innocent people, unnecessary slaughter, unless we do this, is game over.

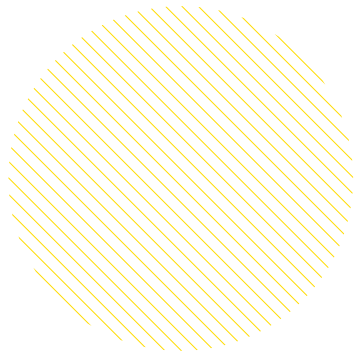
What if we don't unleashed the monster on its pray and instead condemn it to eternal sleep. Hunch the monster into the blackened beast. Remove its stomach so it hungers no longer. Its insatiable greed shall festive no more. An innocent victim, the children of the Earth. It's time we pull back the curtains, look at the window and see the other side.

Written by Charlotte Anderson, Lantý Boyle, Miranda Muir, Sophie Nakamura, Alayah Spalding, Ben Cornwall, Wade Makini

JONATHAN SRI

Greens councillor Brisbane
Poet and Musician

I think it is really important we don't lose sight of this big ambitious goal of a nuclear free world and I think young people are obviously the key to making that change. The kids think that is possible, they don't give in to this defeatist pseudo realism and so I am really energised and excited about that - I think there is a lot of potential.



VIDEO EDITING

Our workshop was about video editing mainly and video post-production. What we focused was on trying to build up a story and tell that story through whatever young kids were thinking about in terms of sharing their voice on nuclear disarmament.

The past is there for us to learn from, not to repeat... Now you might think that you as a person in a world of 7 billion people can never make a difference, but all it takes is you as an individual, you who can change the world.

Fragment of the video.

- Kyle Wannerburgh, Ferny Grove SHS-



I am really passionate about social impact and I feel with creative industries and especially with film and video production we have a big responsibility to showcase the great impact that videos can have on advocacy and change. That's why I got so excited about working with younger people and young Australians to be able to help them to give them the tools to share what they want to say for their future.

VALERIA JIMENEZ

F I L M D I R E C T O R

GAME DEVELOPING

Our workshop was about teaching programming skills in a videogame software to children. They created a videogame on their own after a brief teaching process based on the nuclear disarmament topic.

We all worked together to make a game that hopefully teaches you something, and helps you figure out how you feel about nuclear disarmament.

- Ethan Carney, St Michael's College-



Children are going to be our future leaders. So, if we can teach them how to be more critical, they might have a better picture and better arguments to decide what to do with the world in the future.

EDSON PALENCIA

G a m e d e v e l o p e r

**T
E
A
M**



ANNETTE BROWNLIE
UNAA QLD
VICE PRESIDENT



CLEM CAMPBELL
UNAA QLD
PAST PRESIDENT



DONNELL DAVIS
UNAA QLD PRESIDENT



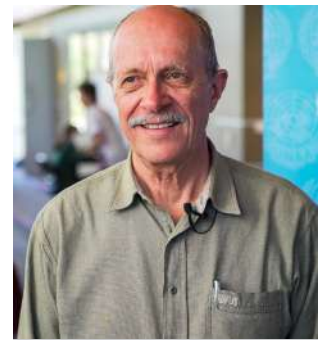
JOEL LINDSAY
UNYP PRESIDENT



LENORA O'CONNOR
PRIMARY TEACHER & JUST
PEACE MEMBER



MICHAEL HENRY
JUST PEACE MEMBER



DR ROSS GWYTHER
JUST PEACE
VICE PRESIDENT



DR SUE WAREHAM
ICAN Co-founder



VALERIA JIMENEZ-
FILM DIRECTOR &
PROJECT LIASION



VICKI HENRY
JUST PEACE MEMBER



YARENÍ AGUADO
PROJECT LIASION & UNAA
MEMBER

66 *Meet the team that made
everything possible.*



ADAM SOCKDALE*
VISUAL ARTS ARTIST



ANA MARIA JARAMILLO
INDEPENDENT DANCER



ANNA NUMA
CREATIVE ARTIST



EDSON PALENCIA
GAME DEVELOPER



JENNIFER HOLT
SPECIAL EFFECTS ARTIST



OSCAR BETANCOURT
THEATER DIRECTOR

CREATIVE ARTISTS

Our creative team

STAFF

Our managment team



JONATHAN SRI
GREENS COUNCILLOR
BRISBANE- POET & MUSICIAN

*Photo by Cheri Desailly

WHAT CAN WE DO

Don't let anybody tell you there is nothing we can do about this problem. There is a lot that we can do individually and there is an awful lot that has been done collectively and is continuing.

- Dr. Sue Wareham-



BE WELL INFORMED

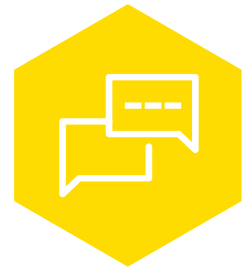
That's always a good commencing point. Be critical about the information and the messages around you.

Keep learning.



WRITE TO YOUR FEDERAL MP

Write to your federal MP about this issue. If you are not happy with their reply, write back to them and continue the conversation.



START THE CONVERSATION

Talk to those around you. Talk to the adults around you, talk to your peers. That way, awareness is raised and action is strengthened on this issue.



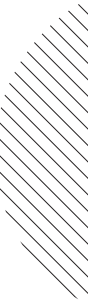
RAISE YOUR VOICE

There are a lot of creative ways to address this message. Think about art, technology, science. Surprise us with your creativity.



FIND YOUR TRIBE

We are stronger together. Look for local action groups or start your own and take action.



PARTNERS

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IPSWICH GIRLS GRAMMAR

TAMBORINE SHS

LOURDES HILL COLLEGE

SPECIAL THANKS TO INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS, WORKSHOP ARTISTS AND EXPERTS AND MANY HOURS OF VOLUNTEER LABOUR.

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**N U C L E A R
D I S A R M A M E N T
R E P O R T**

