

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS & WELLBEING IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

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TODAY

- Children's digital practices and online safety in the context of the pandemic
- Risk and opportunity online
- Children's rights in context
- Engaging children in digital research, policy and programming
- Messaging for parents



2400+

Children aged 10 to 25

69

Countries

100+

Partners

30+

Researchers



Children's Rights in the Digital Age

A download from children around the world

Amanda Third
Delphine Bellerose
Urszula Dawkins
Emma Keltie
Kari Pihl



YOUNGANDWELL
Cooperative Research Centre



Young and Online: Children's perspectives on life in the digital age

The State of the World's Children
2017 Companion Report

Amanda Third
Delphine Bellerose
Juliano Diniz De Oliveira
Girish Lala
Georgina Theakstone



Published
December 2017



Children's digital practices in the context of the pandemic



Children have been
dramatically affected
by the pandemic

25%

increase in
numbers of
children calling
helplines in high-
income countries

Increased time online

75%

Australian children reported increased online engagement



Each day during lockdown, Australian children:

23% spent < 1 hour online

32% spent 1-2 hours online

26% spent 2-4 hours online

13% spent 4-6 hours online

3% spent 6-8 hours online

3% spent > 8 hours online



continuity & connection

Increased
exposure to
risks of harm





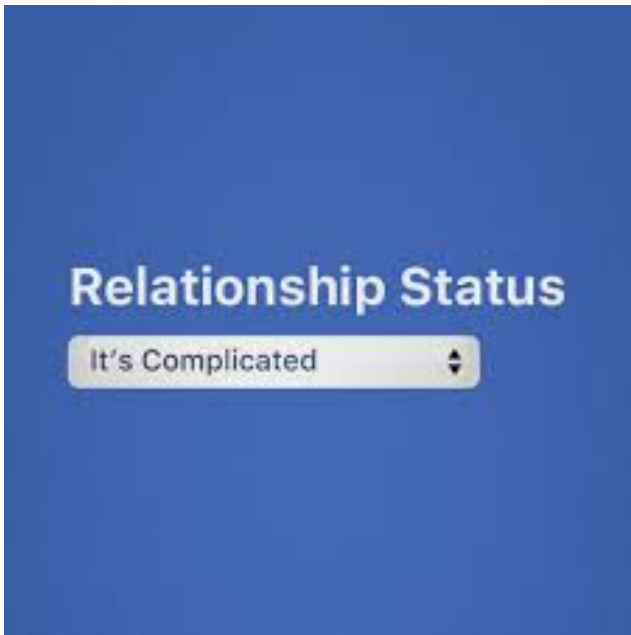
Risk and opportunity online



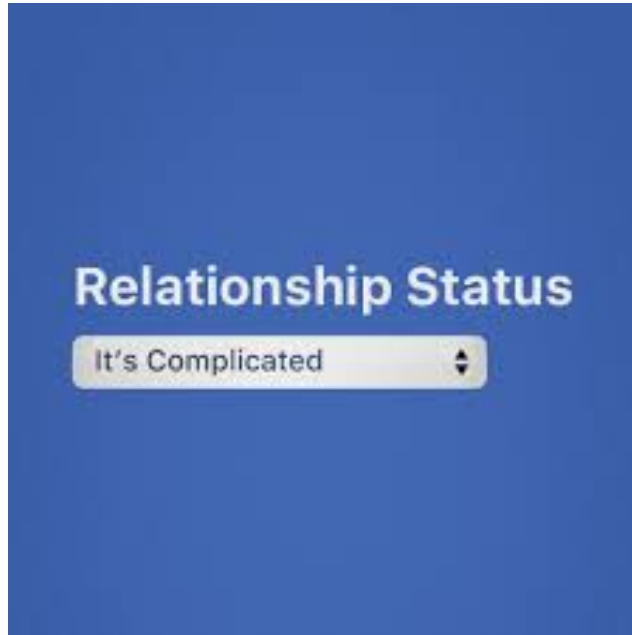
During the pandemic, by virtue of being online more, children are more at risk of harm

BUT...

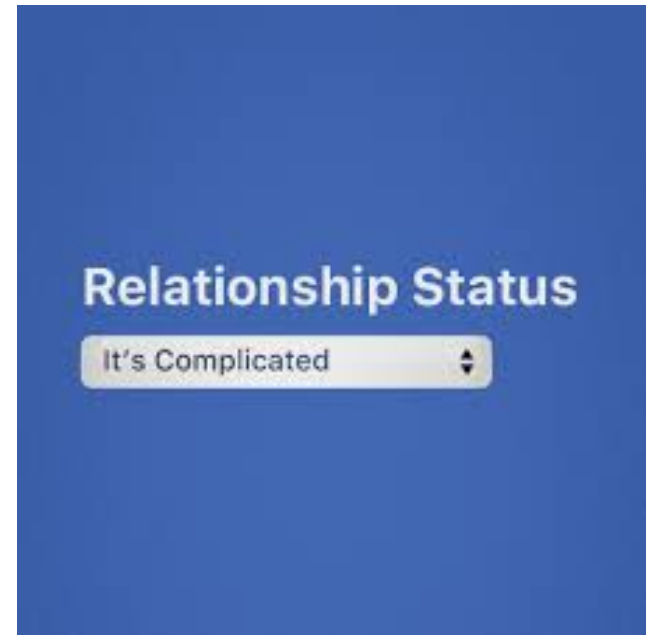
More time online means more opportunity to develop protective skills



RISK



HARM



BENEFIT



RESILIENCE

SURVIVE | ADAPT | TRANSFORM



vulnerability

Children's rights in context



1989



WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS?

DONATE

HOME

ABOUT US

ISSUES

HUMAN RIGHTS
BY COUNTRY

WHERE WE
WORK

HUMAN RIGHTS
BODIES

NEWS AND
EVENTS

PUBLICATIONS AND
RESOURCES

English > Human Rights Bodies > CRC > GC children's rights in relation to the digital environment

The Committee

[Introduction](#)

[Membership](#)

[Meeting of States parties/Elections](#)

[Upcoming elections for all treaty bodies](#)

Basic documents

[Convention](#)

[OP on Sale of Children](#)

[OP on Children in Armed Conflict](#)

[OP on a communications procedure](#)

COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

General Comment on children's rights in relation to the digital environment

The Committee on the Rights of the Child is currently drafting a general comment on children's rights in relation to the digital environment.

In March 2019, the Committee invited all interested parties to comment on the concept note of the general comment. Submissions on the concept note can be found [here](#).

The Committee now invites **all interested stakeholders** to comment on its draft general comment. After due consideration of inputs provided, the Committee will decide on the contents of the final version of the general comment.

Country-specific information

Select a country

Meetings and deadlines

[Sessions](#)

[Calendar of country reviews by treaty bodies](#)

[Deadlines for the submission of documentation](#)

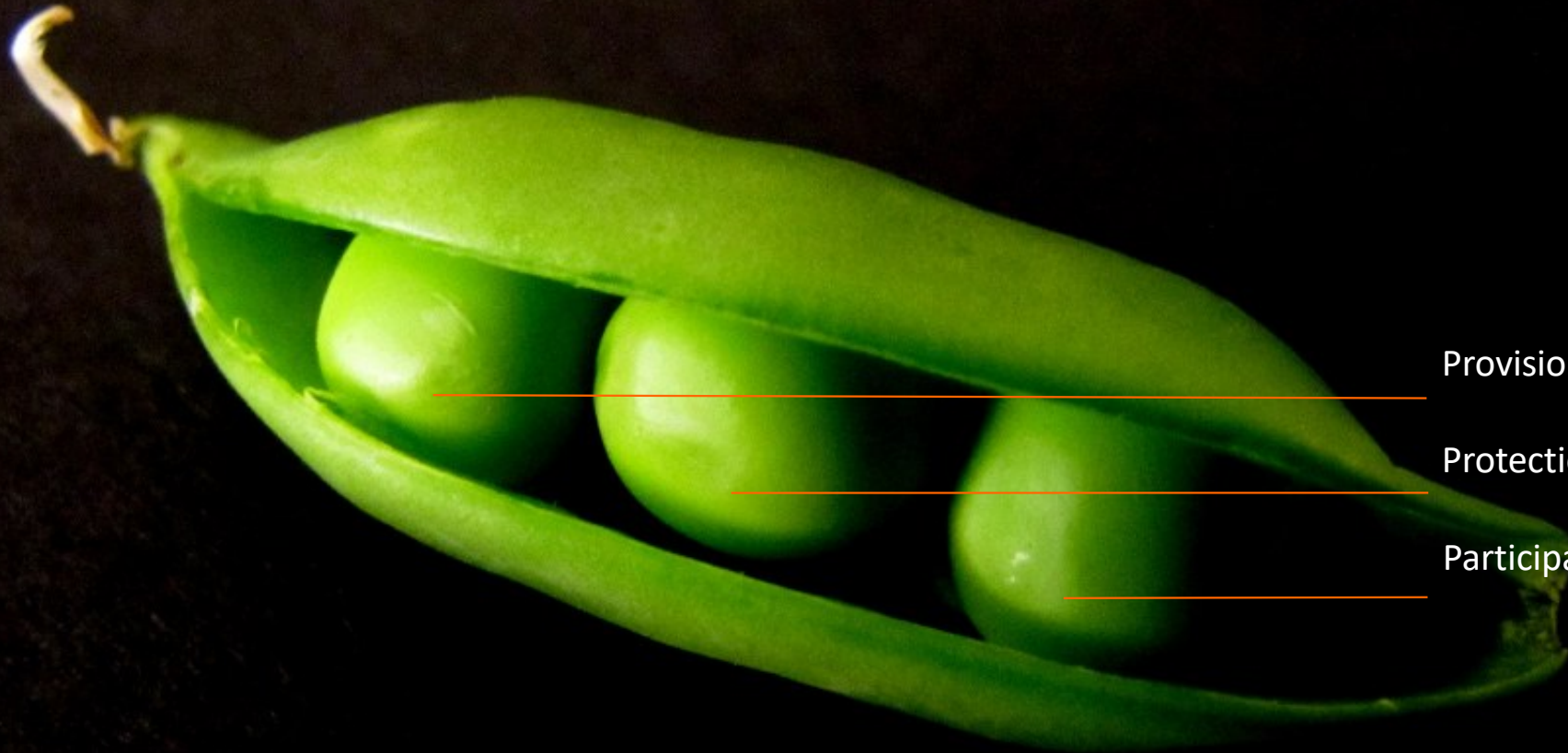
Search

[Treaty body database](#)

[Universal human rights index](#)

Publication

// THE 3Ps OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS



Provision

Protection

Participation

// FOUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES



RIGHT TO NON-
DISCRIMINATION

BEST INTERESTS OF
THE CHILD

RIGHT TO SURVIVAL
AND DEVELOPMENT

RIGHT TO
PARTICIPATION





// A RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH

RIGHTS
TO
DIGITAL MEDIA

RIGHTS
IN
ONLINE SPACES

DIGITAL
FOR
RIGHTS



SOURCE OF TENSION
BETWEEN GENERATIONS



POSITIVE IMPACTS OF DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT ON **WELLBEING**



FORMAL AND INFORMAL **LEARNING**

HEALTH LITERACY

CIVIC AND/OR POLITICAL **PARTICIPATION**

PLAY AND RECREATION

IDENTITY

BELONGING

PEER, FAMILY AND INTERGENERATIONAL
RELATIONSHIPS

INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY **RESILIENCE**

SWIST ET AL., 2015

@amandaj3rd

// THE MOMO CHALLENGE

MYTH





“The biggest challenge is
that adults don’t trust us”

AUSTRALIA, GIRL, 15

@amandaj3rd



// THE SANTA CLAUS EFFECT



Engaging
children in
research, policy
and design





// THE LIMITATIONS OF CONVENTIONAL FORMS OF CONSULTATION...

Extractive

Adult-defined questions addressing pre-defined challenges

The 'usual suspects'

Tick box, one-off or very short-term

e.g. fly in-fly out consultations

'WE FLY THEM IN, WE HEAR THEIR SAD STORIES, THEY GO HOME, AND NOTHING CHANGES'

Time and resource intensive

Benefit for children?

Power dynamics



// CREATIVE & PARTICIPATORY METHODS





HOW DO OUR INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS NEED TO TRANSFORM IN ORDER TO WORK WITH CHILDREN?

MESSAGING FOR PARENTS

Continuity of parenting across online
and offline spaces

Parenting styles

Don't ban... Assert alternatives

CREATE SPACES FOR
INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE



ROLE MODELLING





Activating children's rights for the digital age is a collective responsibility

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