

Y&R 2026 SEMINAR SERIES

14 October: Professor Jioji Ravulo

Enacting culturally responsive child protection projects in the Pacific

In this presentation, Professor Jioji Ravulo will explore two initiatives supported by UNICEF in supporting a culturally responsive approach to child protection in the Pacific. The first includes curriculum development in the undergraduate social work degree at the University of the South Pacific. With the need to support workforce capacity in responding to social and welfare needs across the region, a new set of subjects are being developed. However, the challenge lies in ensuring content taught is culturally responsive and safe for practitioners to utilise with indigenous populations across the Pacific. This includes the meaningful integrations of Pacific epistemologies and ontologies that may guide social work practice, policy and research.



Professor Jioji Ravulo

The second is a Pacific Adolescent Boys Advisory Group, the first of its kind, which works with and alongside young Pacific men to proactively respond to social issues across the region. Titled Young Pasifika Wayfinders, the initiative empowers young men aged 15 - 19 years old to be advocates, advisors and allies for an array of topics and movements including gender equality, mental health and wellbeing, substance use, HIV and climate change. By proactively enabling young Pacific men to contribute to these critical conversations, whole of community initiatives can be developed, further supporting shared outputs and outcomes.

Biography

Professor Jioji Ravulo is Professor and Chair of Social Work and Policy Studies at The University of Sydney, and an Adjunct Professor at The University of the South Pacific. His father is iTaukei (indigenous) Fijian, and late mother is Anglo Australian. He is a proud product of Western Sydney University, completing a Bachelor of Social Work, Master of Education and Doctor of Cultural Research. Jioji's research, writing and areas of interest include mental health and wellbeing, alcohol and other drugs, young people, critical theory and educational engagement. He has been involved and invited to author over 100 publications, including peer reviewed journal articles, scholarly book chapters, research reports, and opinion pieces. Further information on his work can be found here: <https://linktr.ee/JiojiRavulo>

 **14 October, 2:00 to 3:00 PM**

 **Parramatta South EZ.1.57 & online**

Lunch will be provided 