



*Learning for Life*

Maryborough Education Centre  
P-12 and Special School

Resilience,  
Rights and  
Respectful  
Relationships  
Education

Harmony  
Martin-Binks &  
Shelby Steel

# Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we gather here today and acknowledge them as the past, present and future caretakers of this land.



*Learning for Life*

# Sensitive Topic

We would like to acknowledge that the information that we will be talking about may be sensitive to some people and if you need to excuse yourself, feel free to so.



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# Our Presentation

Our presentation will be in 3 parts:

1. About Us
2. Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships program at our school
3. Our Community and how it is addressing gender equality and gender based violence



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# About Us



Shelby Steel



Harmony Martin-Binks

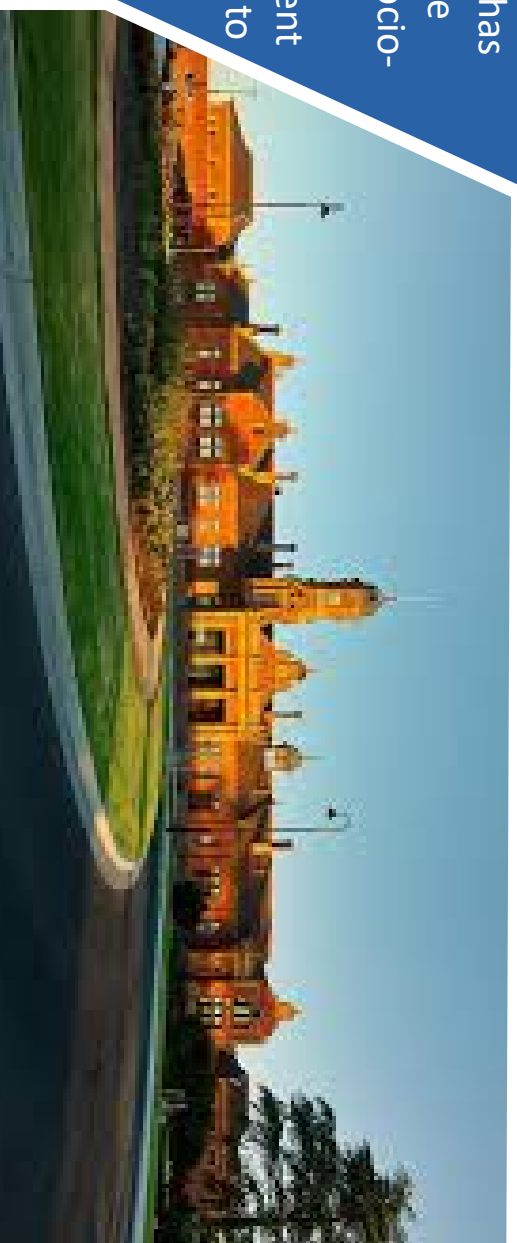


# Where are we from?



# About Maryborough, Victoria

- Maryborough is the main business centre of the Central Goldfields region of Victoria (population 12,500)
- It is famous for its heritage architecture and takes pride in its sporting facilities, agricultural industries and a developing tourism sector
- It suffers from disadvantage in the economy, health, education and jobs
- Police reports on family violence indicate the region has one of the highest rates of family violence in the state
- Central Goldfields Shire is at the lowest end of the socio-economic scale. It has unemployment rates of 11 percent which is twice the state average of 6.7 per cent
- Strong community spirit and desire among residents to improve and transform the community





# About Maryborough Education Centre

- P-12 and Special School (5-18 years old plus a school for children with disabilities)
- Government (public) school
- 1000 students
- Our school is 12 years old
- Low Socio Economic Status - 65% of our families are on health care card (no employment)
- Lots of opportunities and facilities in performing arts, STEM, trade skills, sport











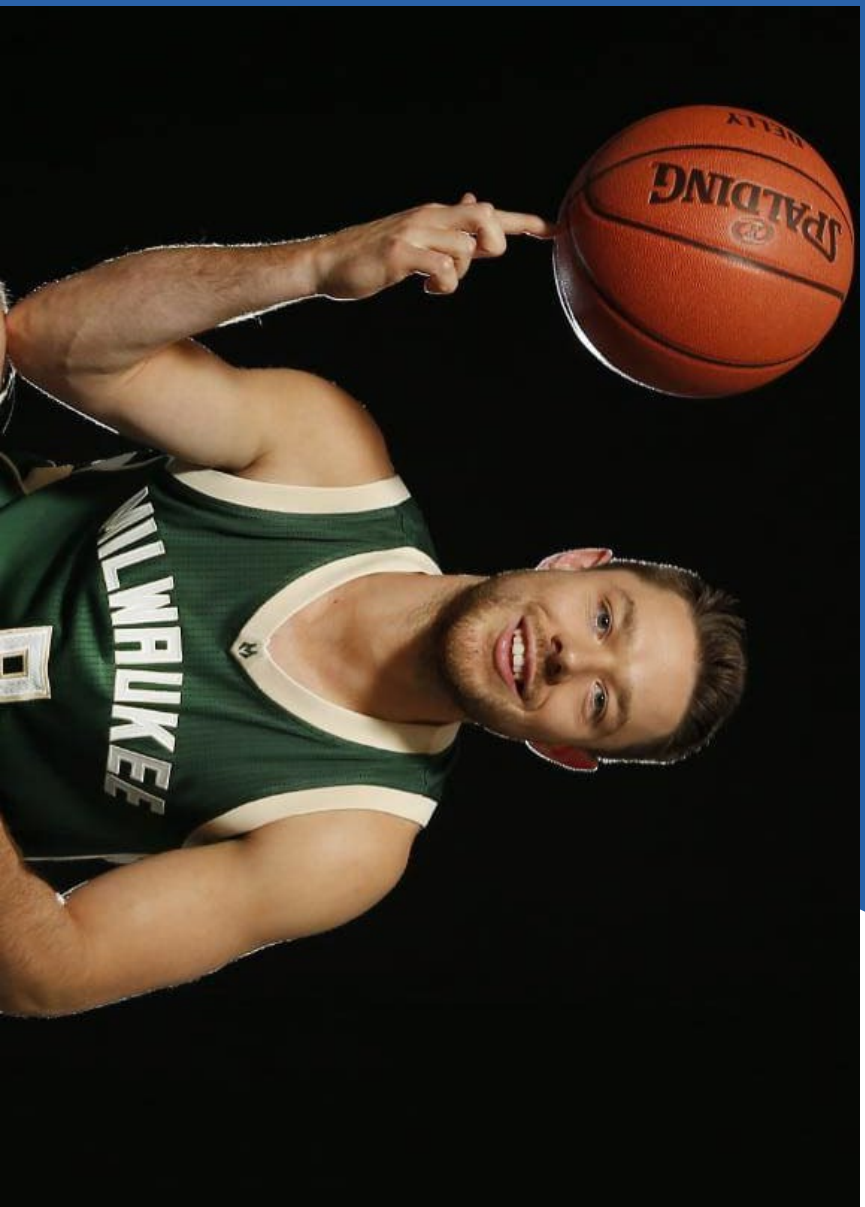








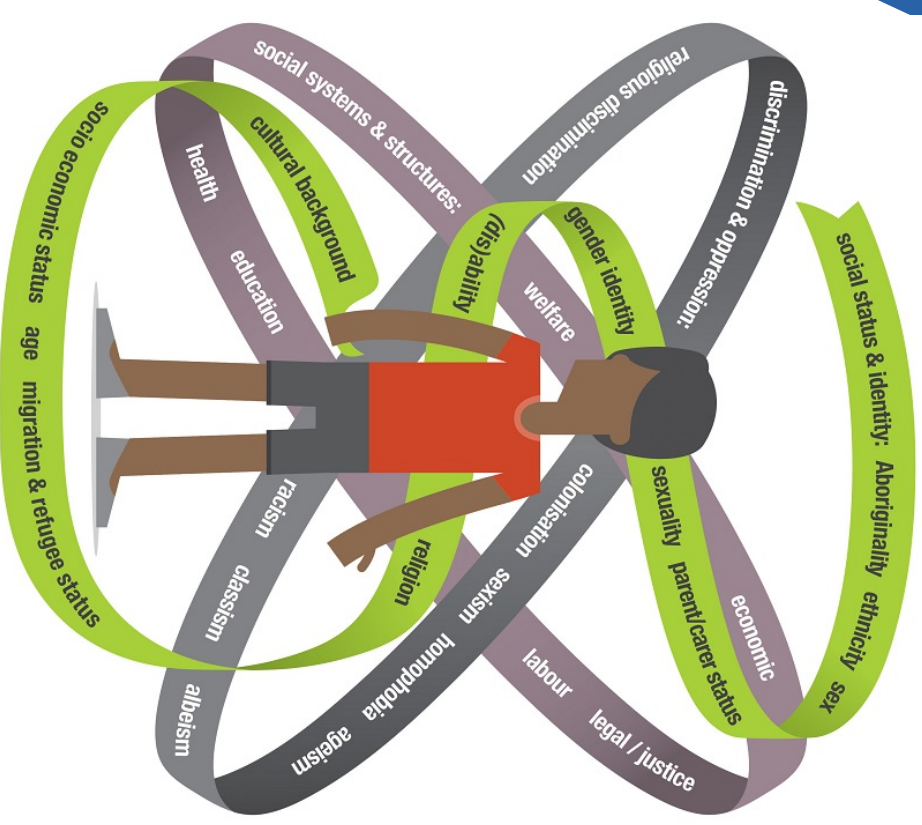
# A famous student of our school



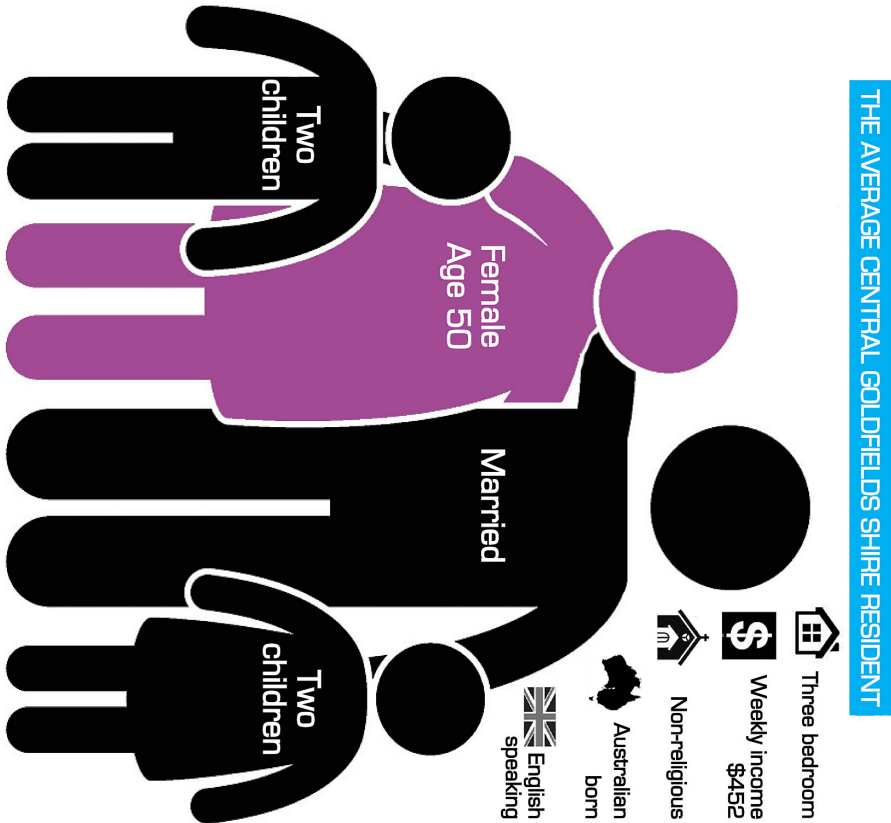


# Video

Why we need a Resilience, Rights  
and Respectful Relationship Program



# Statistics



Respectful Relationships

Achieving generational change



# Maryborough Education Centre





# Activity

What is Violence?



# Activity-What is Violence?

## Scenario 1

On Thursday Jessica was walking to school. Usually she walks with her friends, but that day they were not there and she did not want to be late for school. Two blocks from the school, she had to walk past a group of boys from an older class who were waiting in a large group. They started calling out things like 'sexy legs' and 'cute girl come and kiss me' and one of them tried to touch her buttocks as she walked past.

- *What type of gender-based violence is happening in the scenario? (physical, verbal, psychological, sexual)*
- *How might this affect the person who is experiencing the violence?*
- *What needs to change to prevent this from happening?*



# Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships Education

## The Royal Commission

### Family Violence Recommendation:

*...mandate the introduction of respectful relationships education into every government school in Victoria from Prep to Year 12. Implementation should be staged to ensure school readiness and to allow for ongoing evaluation and adaptation. It should be delivered through a whole-school approach and be consistent with best practice...*

The whole school approach supports schools to do this through six elements:

1. Leadership and commitment
2. School culture and environment,
3. Professional learning
4. Teaching and learning
5. Community partnerships,
6. Support students and staff who experience family violence



# Resilience, Rights and Respectful Relationships Education at Maryborough Education Centre

## The Grey Areas of Consent



# Activity

To what extent do you think your country has achieved a situation in which men and women are treated equally?

Show with your fingers, how  
advanced you think your country is  
now in achieving gender equality

1 = no equality

10= perfect score



# Activity

## Fact Cards

Please read the information and discuss the THINK questions with the other people on your table group

### FACT CARD 1: EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES & UNEQUAL PAY

**In Australia, there is a 'pay gap' between men and women. On average, men earn more money than women when they are in the same jobs.**

**How big is the difference?**

On average women earn 17% less than men for doing the same job. This pay gap means that on average, women earn \$1.4 million less than men over a lifetime.

**Do men on average get higher pay for the same jobs because they are better qualified than women?**

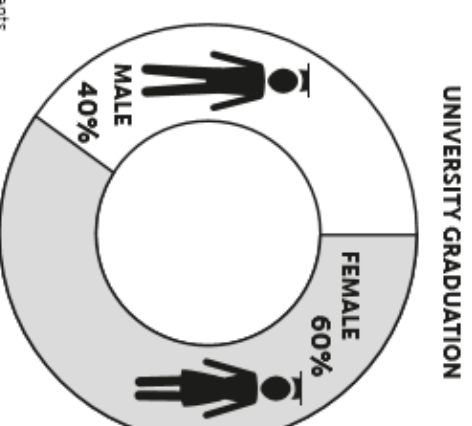
No. In Australia, girls as a group score better than boys in almost all Year 12 subjects and are also more likely to finish Year 12.

On average, girls also do better than boys at university. In 2012, 60% of Australians who graduated from university were female. This is a pattern that is reflected globally with females now outnumbering males in global university attendance and graduation rates.

**THINK: Why do you think this is so?  
What effect might this have?**

#### SOURCES:

Workplace Gender Equality Agency (2014) Gender pay gap statistics  
Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (2015) Grade Distributions for Graded Assessments  
Australian Bureau of Statistics (2015) 4125.0 – Gender Indicators  
Australian Government Department of Education and Training (2015) Selected Higher Education Statistics  
UNESCO (2012) World Atlas of Gender Equality in Education



## Achieving generational change



## Respectful Relationships

Supports our schools and early childhood education settings to promote and model respect, positive attitudes and behaviours, and teach children how to build healthy relationships, resilience and confidence.

1,000+  
schools  
In 2018

All  
government  
schools  
By 2021

Early  
childhood  
educators  
trained  
Up to 6,000  
by 2020



# Maryborough Community

There are many community groups working on Family Violence in Maryborough:

## Maryborough Rotary Club

- #SayNo2FamilyViolence
- SAFE Model
- Family Violence Forums



# #SayNO2familyviolence

Maryborough  
**Rotary**  
Club



go goldfields  
aspiring and achieving

# Maryborough Community

## Go Goldfields

- Family Violence Action Group
- 16 Days of Activism
- Marigold Project

## Zonta

- Scholarships to promote opportunities for women

## Maryborough District Health Service

- Family Violence sub committee
- Strengthening hospital responses to family violence
- Wear it Purple Days

## Maryborough Police

- Behaviour change program training





# Respect a priority in secondary learning

MARYBOROUGH  
EDUCATION CENTRE

Secondary and specialist schools are working in partnership to build respectful relationships in 2018.

Maryborough Education Centre (MEC) is a school for the Respectful Relationships program, which focuses on gender-based violence, bullying, and cyberbullying. The program is designed to build the program's values and respect for all.

"Unfortunately for our area of Victoria, we have a high rate of gender-based violence," MEC PE and Health K/LA leader Rachel says. "As teachers here we're in a really privileged position to be able to support our young people and help them to build respectful relationships."

This year MEC combined its Rights Resilience and Respectful Relationships program with the school's existing values program, about positive gender-based violence and social and emotional learning (SEL). The program is designed to help students build their strengths, help seeking, positive coping strategies, and management and resilience.

Respectful Relationships is a program that focuses on building a culture of respect at the school. Since the program was introduced, students have shown a significant increase in their understanding of themselves and their relationships with others. The program has also helped students to move forward in a positive way.

As a lead school, we also help support other schools in the area to implement the program.



CREATING RESPECT: MEC secondary students William McDonald, Myah Linton, Jocelyn Horner, Jake Whittle and Brandy Sarton admire the school's Respect wall which was recently painted by students.

## Bendigo Advertiser

Maryborough says no to domestic violence

By Garry Eider, 21 September



Local area Maryborough residents and police officers, including Garry Eider, are taking a stand on domestic violence. Photo: Eider Jim

## THE AGE Victoria

Victoria News Traffic Conditions State Election 2014 AFL News Quotes

### Maryborough takes on domestic violence through special programs

June 8, 2014

John Eider

Led by its Rotary Club, Maryborough residents are working to curb family violence.

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Garry Higgins (front row, center) with Maryborough residents who are taking a stand on domestic violence. Photo: Eider Jim

# Successes of Maryborough Projects

- encouraged community leaders including politicians, public servants, business people, emergency responders, teachers, religious and sporting groups, as well as families and individuals, to take a public stand against family violence
- statistics for the region indicate an increase in family violence incidents reported to Victoria Police
- improved awareness and understanding of family violence
- created links to agencies where help can be found
- obtained national media exposure and interest from overseas
- enquiries from people interested in adopting the model in their own communities
- Australia Day Community Award for its #SayNO2familyviolence campaign





# #SayNO2FamilyViolence Video

#SayNO2FamilyViolence





# Thankyou

# Questions?

