

## Young people in AOD spaces: participation in advocacy, research, practice and policy

### Authors:

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**Aim:** Discuss how young people are involved in AOD spaces in Australia, and explore possibilities for future engagement.

**Chair:** Penny Hill (Prompt Response Network Lead and Emerging Drugs Research Fellow)

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**Panellist 1:** Nick Kent (Director at Students for Sensible Drug Policy Australia)

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**Panellist 2:** Isabelle Volpe (PhD Candidate investigating youth participation in drug policy)

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**Panellist 3:** Bee Hayes (DanzeWize Program Coordinator)

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### Detailed description of topics to be discussed:

Our panel comprises experts with experience working with, as, and on behalf of young people, across AOD advocacy, research, practice and policy. We will discuss recent involvement of young people in AOD spaces in Australia, challenges to involving young people today, and how AOD spaces can include young people in future. Panel members will share their own experiences of young people being involved in AOD spaces, principles for participation, as well as challenges, learnings, and examples of what progress might look like.

Preference: 75 minute panel

### Discussion Section:

The panel symposium will be split into approximately 40 minutes of panel member discussions (with each panel member providing short prepared responses to three questions), followed by 35 minutes of discussion with the audience. Audience members will be invited to reflect on how they might rethink their own practice, what barriers hinder them from involving young people in their practice, how they currently involve young people in their practice, and what resources they have available (or what resources they allocate) to engaging with young people.

### Disclosure of Interest Statement:

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