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13–14 JULY 2026

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the many individuals and organisations whose contributions have made this conference possible.

We extend our sincere thanks to all presenters, keynote speakers, panel members, and session chairs for generously sharing your expertise, research, and insights. Your participation is central to the intellectual vitality and success of this event. We also thank all delegates for their engagement, discussion, and collegiality.

Acknowledgement for organising the conference goes in particular to Benjamin Hemmings, Vivian Gerrand, and Michael Flood, with additional support from Joshua Roose, Josh Lindsay, and Debbie Ging.

We are grateful to the Australian Research Council for its financial assistance, via an ARC Discovery Grant, and to the Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation at Deakin University for its further support.

Thank you to Deakin University’s administrative and professional staff for their assistance. Finally, we thank the volunteers and staff who have assisted with registration, audiovisual support, communications, and hospitality.

We hope that you find the conference stimulating, enjoyable, and productive, and we thank you for being part of it.

Welcome to Country

We would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather for the *Masculinities and Misogyny Online: Current Findings and Future Directions in Research on the Manosphere* conference, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation. We also acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the unceded lands, skies, and waterways from which many people are joining us today.

As we come together both in person and online, we pay our respects to Ancestors and Elders of Wurundjeri Country, where we meet today, and to the Ancestors and Elders of all the lands from which people are joining us.

We extend a warm welcome to all First Nations people joining us for this conference and pay our respects to their ongoing connection to land, waters, culture, and community.

Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 00113B

Welcome

Welcome to Masculinities and Misogyny Online: Current Findings and Future Directions in Research on the Manosphere.

It is a pleasure to welcome you to this conference, whether you are joining us in person or online. We are delighted to bring together researchers, practitioners, policy-makers, educators, and advocates to examine one of the most significant and rapidly evolving challenges in contemporary gender relations: the rise and influence of the manosphere.

The manosphere encompasses a diverse and dynamic ecosystem of anti-feminist and male supremacist communities, influencers, and platforms. Its online environments, ideologies, and advocates shape understandings of masculinity, relationships, and gender. While experiences and forms of participation within the manosphere vary considerably, these spaces frequently reproduce misogynistic narratives, reinforce rigid and patriarchal forms of masculinity, and normalise hostility toward women, LGBTQ+ people, and gender equality. Manosphere communities may offer forms of identity and belonging, but they also promote sexist social norms, contribute to misogynist and extremist radicalisation, and condone or even orchestrate harassment and violence against women. As digital technologies continue to transform social life, understanding these phenomena has become an urgent scholarly, policy, and public concern.

This conference responds to that urgency by bringing together interdisciplinary perspectives to map the current state of research on the manosphere and related online masculinities, examine the connections between online misogyny and broader forms of harm, and identify effective strategies for prevention and intervention. Across two days of presentations and panels, participants will explore emerging research findings about the manosphere, methodological and ethical challenges in studying these communities, and promising approaches for countering misogyny and promoting both men’s and boys’ wellbeing and gender justice.

A central aim of this conference is to foster dialogue across disciplines and sectors. The complexity of online misogyny demands collaboration among researchers, practitioners, policy-makers, educators, technology experts, and civil society organisations. By sharing knowledge and building networks, we hope to strengthen collective efforts to understand and address the harms associated with the manosphere while advancing more equitable and inclusive digital futures.

We extend our sincere thanks to all presenters, participants, and supporters for contributing their expertise and engagement. We are especially grateful to our organising institution—the Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalisation at Deakin University—and our funding body—the Australian Research Council—for their support in making this event possible.

We hope that these two days generate new insights, foster productive collaborations, and help shape future directions in research, policy, and practice on masculinities and misogyny online.

Welcome to the conference.

Professor Michael Flood
Associate Professor Joshua Roose
Professor Debbie Ging
Dr Benjamin Hemmings
Dr Vivian Gerrand



Conference Co-convenors
Masculinities and Misogyny Online: Current Findings and Future Directions in Research on the Manosphere

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DAY 1 **MONDAY** **JULY 13**

Time	Speaker	Title
8.30 – 9.30am	Registration	
9.30 – 9.45am	Welcome and Overview	
9.45 – 10.30am	Keynote Debbie Ging	Contesting Hegemonic Masculinity? Dynamics of globalisation and glocalisation in the (neo)manosphere
10.30 – 11.15am	Keynote Benjamin Hemmings, Michael Flood and Joshua Roose	Pathways to Participation in the Manosphere
11.15 – 11.40am	Morning tea (25 min)	
11.40 – 12.00pm	Anthony Morgan	Reducing Exposure to Misogynistic Fringe and Radical Content Online: The role of parents and prevention messages
12.00 – 12.20pm	Lucy Nicholas	Domestic and Family Violence and the Manosphere
12.20 – 12.40pm	Tessa Boyd-Caine (ANROWS)	From Online Misogyny to Real-world Harm: What systems need to do now across perpetration, safety and accountability
12.40 – 1.40pm	Lunch (60 min)	
1.40 – 2.00pm	Benjamin Hemmings	“I think someone in my WoW guild suggested it”: Friendship and men’s engagement with the manosphere
2.00 – 2.20pm	Simon Copland	A Community of Manly Men: The centrality of connection and bonding to the appeal of the manosphere
2.20 – 2.40pm	Lauren Gurrieri and Taylor Hardwick	“Bro you stole my kill, bro!”: How the ‘ranked masculinity’ ideal is constructed through YouTuber gaming content
2.40 – 3.10pm	Afternoon tea (30 min)	

DAY 1MONDAYJULY 13

Time	Speaker	Title
3.10 – 3.30pm	Ben Adams and Nathan Manning	“If you’re a man who’s capable of violence, you’re capable of protecting her”: Exploring connections between Australian ‘manosphere’ and far-right social media influencers on TikTok
3.30 – 3.50pm	Laura Doherty	Understanding Disengagement from Misogynistic Incel Communities and its Implications for Attitudes Towards Gendered Violence
3.55 – 4.10pm	Vivian Gerrand	Navigating (in)visibility: understanding the impact of online misogynistic harassment, abuse and threats on public-facing women’s lives.
4.15 – 4.55pm	Keynote podcast Nadia Faragaab and Vivian Gerrand	Navigating (in)visibility: Podcast discussion Please note: No photos or video are to be taken during this session.
4.55 – 5.00pm	Announcements and day wrap-up	
5.00pm	Finish	

DAY 2TUESDAYJULY 14

Time	Speaker	Title
8.30 – 9.30am	Registration	
9.30 – 9.40am	Welcome	
9.40 – 10.25am	Keynote Julie Inman Grant	Challenging the Manosphere: Stemming the spread of harmful online narratives
10.25 – 11.10am	Panel Michael Flood, Mary Lou Rasmussen, Stephanie Wescott and Jak Osborn	Navigating Youth and the Manosphere
11.10 – 11.30am	Morning tea (20 min)	

DAY 2TUESDAYJULY 14

Time	Speaker	Title
11.30 – 11.50am	Stephanie Wescott	Manosphere-pilled Classrooms: Beyond linear models of online influence
11.50 – 12.10pm	Naomi Pfitzner	Disrupting Digitally-mediated Misogyny: Professional learning strategies for schools to address the manosphere
12.10 – 12.30pm	Sara Meger	Generation X-treme: Online misogyny and youth radicalisation in Australia
12.30 – 1.30pm	Lunch (60 min)	
1.30 – 2.15pm	Keynote Krista Fisher	‘Some of it’s fucked, some of it’s useful’: Young men, the manosphere and what we need to do about it
2.15 – 3.00pm	Panel Shane Tas (Our Watch), Stephanie Wescott, Amanda Keddie and Jess Strickland	Engaging Young People in Online Gender-transformative Change
3.00 – 3.25pm	Afternoon tea (25 min)	
3.25 – 3.45pm	Theresa Rajah	From Understanding to Interrupting: What intervention data tells us about reaching misogynist violent extremism online
3.45 – 4.05pm	Joshua Thorburn	Exiting the Manosphere: Considering radicalisation, diversion and deradicalisation narratives from r/IncelExit and r/ExRedPill
4.05 – 4.25pm	Jared Dmello	Re-imagining Masculinity within the Security Landscape: Advocating for a human-centred approach to CVE
4.25–4.55pm	Debbie Ging, Joshua Roose and Michael Flood	Conference closing remarks
5.00pm	Finish	