



October 18 2011

rffada News

The rffada news features FASD news articles, research, announcements, new materials and other highlights from Australia and around the world.

Do you know anyone who needs support parenting or case managing an individual with FASD?

The rffada has recently obtained agreement from two very high profile individuals to be Patron and International Patron of the rffada....

Patron: The Honourable Dr Sharman Stone MP Co-chair 'Parliamentarians for the Prevention of FASD'

International Patron: Diane V Malbin MSW FASCETS Inc, FASD Expert and International Speaker

Terminology

The rffada has been asked to prepare a document which outlines the most appropriate language to use when discussing alcohol and pregnancy and fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. When discussing pregnant women and alcohol consumption the most appropriate language is that which takes the blame from pregnant women and places it on alcohol. For example language which states, "when a pregnant woman consumes alcohol", places a measure of blame on the pregnant woman. If we use language which focuses the listener and reader on the alcohol, "when alcohol is consumed while pregnant" we will have more acceptance of the fact that mothers and fathers are not to be blamed or shamed should they deliver a child or children with FASD. If we take steps to reduce the blame now, more birth mothers will feel confident in speaking up about the condition. Hundreds of books, tens of thousands of research and scholarly articles and untold public health reports have been generated in the last thirty years. Yet one voice has been mostly silent, the voice of the birth mothers themselves^[1]. The rffada recommends this way of speaking about alcohol and pregnancy to all who have cause to discuss this condition and its implications.

FASD News

[Experts differ on effects of alcohol in pregnancy](#)

[Executive Functioning Predicts Social Skills Following Prenatal Alcohol Exposure](#)

[Predictors of Stress in Parents of Children with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders](#)

[Hundreds of Finnish newborn babies damaged by alcohol](#)

[What it's like to live with FASD](#)

[Binge-Drinking Among Women Is Up: Study](#)

[Behavioral Interventions for Children and Adolescents with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders](#)

[Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: Experimental Treatments and Strategies for Intervention](#)

[Self-reported Alcohol and Drug Use in Pregnant Young Women: A Pilot Study of Associated Factors and Identification](#)

[What Do Mothers of FAS Children Have in Common?](#)

Calendar of Events

Tasmanian Conference on FASD – see attached Conference Notice from the Drug Education Network (DEN) in Tasmania

^[1] Sterling Clarren Keynote Address Northern Prairie Conference on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome 2002 Whitehorse

Diane Malbin 2 day training workshop – see attached advice from DEN in Tasmania

It is **Carers Week** this week and it's a good time to remember that there are many carers of people with FASD whether it is known or unknown to them who are in extremely difficult situations financially, emotionally and physically. Those people on our database who are living in families where there is also an individual with this condition need our prayers and our understanding of the huge role they play trying to keep our kids from making decisions which could affect them for the rest of their lives – its not an easy job and it doesn't stop when our children reach physical adulthood. – for more information on Carers Week go to <http://carersaustralia.com.au/?/carersweek/>. If you need help please contact 1800rffada.

'Like' rffada on Facebook

Do you know anyone who would like to join the rffada as a supporter? Ask them to complete the attached form and return to elizabeth@rffada.org.

The more people on our database the better we are able to lobby government

Take the poll on <http://rffada.org> and let us know whether you think that FASD is an important issue in Australia. We will soon be changing the poll for another relevant to FASD.