

FILM SCREENING & PANEL DISCUSSION

Paid Family and Domestic Violence Leave: a step in the right direction but more needs to be done

Victorian Women Lawyers, Nicholes Family Lawyers & The College of Law are proud to present this event for Victorian Law Week 2023.

**Victorian
Law Week**
15–21 May 2023

Many people attend work each day trying to hide the physical, emotional and psychological impact of experiencing family and domestic violence – either directly themselves or as a result of seeing their children being abused in this way.

Recent changes to paid family and domestic violence leave have gone some way towards helping deal with the impacts of family and domestic violence, but much more still needs to be done, because there is never an excuse for any form of family and domestic violence.

Date Wednesday, 17 May 2023

Time 5.30pm - 7:30pm
(includes light refreshments post formalities)

Location The College of Law
Level 1, 555 Bourke St
Melbourne 3000

Cost Free

Register vwl.asn.au/events-3/

Michaela Maloney is a partner at K&L Gates and specialises in labour, employment and workplace safety practice. She is a member of the Employment and Industrial Law Committee of the workplace relations section of the Law Institute of Victoria and the Australian Human Resources Institute.

Michaela is a Board Member of Women's Information Referral Exchange and is a registered mediator passionate about assisting clients with education and training in areas including Fair Work provisions and equal opportunity.



Professor Kate Fitz-Gibbon Director of the Monash Gender and Family Violence Prevention Centre and Professor of Social Sciences in the Faculty of Arts at Monash University.

In 2021, Kate was appointed Chair of Respect Victoria by the Victorian Government. Kate has made significant contributions to the field of criminology, her research has advised homicide law reform, family violence and youth justice reviews in several Australian and international jurisdictions.

Shaynna Blaze award-winning Interior Designer, Author, Creative Director, Executive Producer, musician and TV personality, best known for The Block and Selling Houses Australia.

Shaynna is a passionate advocate for women, and a social justice campaigner who has leant her voice and profile to a number of organisations tackling domestic violence in Australia including Kids Under Cover and Safe Steps as well as co-founding 'Voice of Change Australia'.



The panel event will be moderated by **Catherine Giles**, Partner at Nicholes Family Lawyers and a highly skilled and experienced family and criminal lawyer. Catherine is dedicated to assisting all members of the community to access legal advice in their time of need. With a Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice from Flinders University in South Australia, Catherine was admitted to practice in the South Australian Supreme Court, the Northern Territory Supreme Court, the Victorian Supreme Court, and the High Court of Australia.

Join our panel of experts as they discuss:

- prevalence and impact of family and domestic violence including supports that is available
- recent changes to paid family and domestic violence leave and how it can be accessed
- best-practice ways for employers to implement the paid leave and support employees facing domestic violence
- domestic and family violence and family law
- what further reforms might be needed

THE FORT

The live panel discussion will be preceded by a screening of family and domestic violence awareness-raising film *The Fort*, which is set in regional Victoria and tells the story of a mother and son living with family and domestic violence.

Special thanks to event partner Voice of Change a charity using the arts to amplify the voices of victim-survivors of abuse, to change the cultural attitudes that underpin family violence.

Voice of
CHANGE