

History of Australian inquiries reviewing institutions providing care for children



Prepared by Professor Shurlee Swain

Australian Catholic University

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Project team

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse commissioned and funded this research project. It was carried out by the following researcher:

Professor Shurlee Swain, Dip Soc Studs, BA (Hons), PhD (Melbourne).

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The views and findings expressed in this report are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Royal Commission. Any errors are the author's responsibility.

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Royal Commission
into Institutional Responses
to Child Sexual Abuse

Preface

On Friday, 11 January 2013, the Governor-General appointed a six-member Royal Commission to inquire into how institutions with a responsibility for children have managed and responded to allegations and instances of child sexual abuse.

The Royal Commission is tasked with investigating where systems have failed to protect children, and making recommendations on how to improve laws, policies and practices to prevent and better respond to child sexual abuse in institutions.

The Royal Commission has developed a comprehensive research program to support its work and to inform its findings and recommendations. The program focuses on eight themes:

1. Why does child sexual abuse occur in institutions?
2. How can child sexual abuse in institutions be prevented?
3. How can child sexual abuse be better identified?
4. How should institutions respond where child sexual abuse has occurred?
5. How should government and statutory authorities respond?
6. What are the treatment and support needs of victims/survivors and their families?
7. What is the history of particular institutions of interest?
8. How do we ensure the Royal Commission has a positive impact?

This research report falls within theme four.

The research program means the Royal Commission can:

- obtain relevant background information
- fill key evidence gaps
- explore what is known and what works
- develop recommendations that are informed by evidence, can be implemented and respond to contemporary issues.

For more on this program, please visit www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/research

Table of contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Executive summary | 3 |
| Overview of inquiries in Australia reviewing institutions providing care | 4 |
| Scope and sources..... | 4 |
| Categorisation | 5 |
| Establishing a system | 6 |
| Damage control..... | 7 |
| Listening to the victims | 9 |
| Appendix 1: Australian inquiries into institutions accommodating those under the age of 18, 1852–2013 | 12 |

Executive summary

This paper documents Australian inquiries into institutions providing out-of-home care for children between 1852 and 2013. It identifies three categories of inquiries. The first, dating from 1852 through to the post-war period, was concerned with establishing and refining the child welfare system; the second, dating from the 1860s to the 1990s, convened in response to allegations of abuse. The third, dating from the 1990s to today, focuses on hearing survivor testimony. The paper argues that an inability or unwillingness to recognise abuse, and a tendency to individualise the problem where it could not be ignored, may well have served the interests of the government and non-government institutions that provided child welfare services, but did little to protect the children entrusted to the children's 'care'.

Overview of inquiries in Australia reviewing institutions providing care

Scope and sources

This document provides a survey of Australian inquiries since European colonisation that have investigated institutions providing out-of-home 'care' for children. It focuses on the period 1850 to 1980, looking at investigations which predate the move away from large-scale institutions. The major inquiries, both state and federal, since 1980 are examined in far less detail. The more recent inquiries included in this report are those focusing on the condition of children in out-of-home care, rather than those dealing with protecting children in their own homes or those dealing with sexual abuse in other institutional or community settings. Inquiries into the sexual abuse of children in boarding schools and immigration detentions centres, while raising similar issues to those in relation to out-of-home care, are also beyond the scope of this paper.

The full list of inquiries is included in Appendix 1. It was compiled from the Find & Connect Web Resource¹, augmented by a targeted search of the TROVE digital newspapers collection², and the major scholarly histories of child welfare in Australia.³ It has also drawn on the knowledge of the state-based historians employed in the development of the Find & Connect Web Resource. The numbers cited in the discussion that follows refer to the inquiries as detailed in the accompanying appendix. The appendix also names specific institutions mentioned in each report, but does not extend to others that may have been mentioned in submissions or in the minutes of evidence. To be named was not necessarily to be condemned, as institutions could also be cited as examples of good practice.

The timeframe for completing this report did not allow for detailed research into archival or governmental papers, including minutes of evidence, which would have allowed for a more textured reading of the situations being explored. Inquiries solicit answers only to the questions they raise. Before 1990 it was rare for sexual abuse to be directly addressed, and in cases where it was raised, the information provided was often excluded from public reports on the grounds of morality. A more detailed research project which provided the resources necessary to access minutes of evidence and other archival material would allow a skilled historian to read into the silences to establish what was not being discussed, as well as the issues that made it into the public record.

¹ <http://www.findandconnect.gov.au>.

² <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>.

³ Margaret Barbalet, *Far From a Low Gutter Girl: The Forgotten World of State Wards in South Australia 1887–1940*, Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 1983; Penelope Hetherington, *Paupers, Poor Relief and Poor Houses in Western Australia 1829–1910*, Perth: University of Western Australia Press, 2009; Donella Jaggs, *Neglected and Criminal: Foundations of Child Welfare Legislation in Victoria*, Melbourne: Phillip Institute of Technology, 1986; Nell Musgrove, *The Scars Remain: A Long History of Forgotten Australians and Children's Institutions*, Melbourne: Australian Scholarly Publishing, 2013; John Ramsland, *Children of the Backlanes: Destitute & Neglected Children in Colonial New South Wales*, Sydney: University of New South Wales Press, 1986; Dorothy Scott & Shurlee Swain, *Confronting Cruelty: Historical Perspectives on Child Protection in Australia*, Melbourne: Melbourne University Press, 2002.

Categorisation

The inquiries surveyed here took a range of forms. At the peak were the Royal Commissions, although this format does not appear to have had a constant meaning across time and jurisdiction.⁴ Also included are select committees of one or other house of the colonial or state parliaments, magisterial and coronial inquiries and investigations conducted by state departments, or, in a small number of cases, special interest groups aiming to influence government policy. Political context influences both the format and the impact of inquiries. Some, particularly in New South Wales, seem to be motivated more by political disputation than a desire to improve the lot of children. Where the political context changes after the establishment of an inquiry, often its import and momentum is lost.⁵ At its most extreme, this change of context could mean that the inquiry did not proceed or that its recommendations were not recorded.

The prevalence of inquiries also appears to have been influenced by the structure of state children's departments in the different colonies/states. Jurisdictions like Queensland, which traditionally had a strong, centralised department between the late 19th century through to the mid 20th century, were less likely to be pushed into holding an inquiry than those where departmental control was weaker. This may also have been the case in jurisdictions where voluntary, philanthropic interest groups had access to policy makers, either through the existence of State Children's Councils (SA and NSW), or through the informal ties that existed in areas with small populations. In the 19th century, Victoria, which had a substantial population and a strong philanthropic sector with no direct access to policy makers, produced the largest number of inquiries. South Australia, which prided itself on the quality of its provisions for neglected children, seldom saw the need for any form of inquiry.

Across this broad range of inquiries three categories emerge. While these categories are indicative of change over time, there is considerable crossover. The earliest group of inquiries can be understood as part of the process of establishing and then refining the various systems that provided 'care' for children outside their families. These began in the 19th century but continued into the 20th century as the states grappled with new groups of children identified as being in need of 'care,' and negotiated or re-negotiated their relationship with the non-government organisations that controlled a substantial proportion of the facilities in which such 'care' was provided. The second group are inquiries that respond to a particular crisis, investigating causes and suggesting remedies to ensure that the incident does not occur again. These inquiries are categorised in the discussion below as damage control. The earliest of these takes place in the late 19th century and they continue throughout the 20th. The final group is predominantly a creation of the late 20th and early 21st centuries and is marked by a shift in focus from the policy makers to the victims whose testimonies constitute the greater part of the evidence. This categorisation corresponds closely to a pattern common across the Western world, a trend that has led historian Jeffrey Olick to describe

⁴ This was particularly the case in WA where Select Committees sometimes later were transformed into Honorary Royal Commissions. For example, see the 1943 Select Committee on Juvenile Delinquency. The means by which this happens is encoded in S8 of the *Royal Commissions Act 1968 WA*.

⁵ In NSW, inquiries are as often reported in terms of their political import rather than their findings (examples are the 1920s inquiries, nos 37 and 38).

the early 21st century as an age of regret, in which governments turned from focusing on future policy to address the errors of the past.⁶

Establishing a system

During the 19th century, colonial governments were clearly focused on the future. They shared, in their different ways, a determination to avoid the introduction of the Poor Laws of England and Ireland which guaranteed, albeit at a very minimal level, a right to relief for the destitute. These governments sought alternative ways of meeting visible need. The earliest inquiries need to be understood in this context: as attempts by colonial governments to provide for children they saw as being both at risk and a potential risk in their current situations. Consequently, in 1852, in New South Wales, there was concern about the presence of destitute children in public spaces (inquiry number 1 in Appendix 1), and in Victoria four years later concern about the presence of children in prisons, either accompanying their parents or having been picked up under prevailing vagrancy provisions (inquiry number 2 in Appendix 1). The solution advocated in both cases was the children's confinement in child-specific institutions. (Note, subsequent bracketed numbers refer to the list of inquiries in Appendix 1.)

Many of the inquiries which follow were concerned with the form such institutions should take, and the role of government in their funding and development. Maximum economy was always a primary concern, but so was the necessity to train the children so they would not threaten the future of the colonies by following the bad example assumed to have been set by their parents. In Tasmania, inquiries focused on the pre-existing asylum established by the Imperial Government to house the children of convicts. A series of inquiries over a decade (3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10) recommended the separation of children from convicts and paupers, and explored a range of English models (industrial, pauper and reformatory schools) to provide them with training. The focus was not on the quality of care but on the quality of the outcome, sometimes combined with the promise that by making the children productive, the institution could become self-supporting. The inquiries also sought ways to make errant parents contribute to their children's care, a move designed to deter people from 'casting their children on the state'.

The systems developed in New South Wales and Victoria followed a similar pattern, and the next group of inquiries (11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18) reflect a disappointment in the results. Industrial schools did not make children industrious; they were plagued by disease, disorder and a sense that the children compared poorly with those growing up within families. So these inquiries made recommendations that the large institutions be dismantled and replaced by a system of boarding out. Children were to be placed with respectable working-class, and preferably rural, families in the hope that they would imbibe their industrious habits. An added attraction of boarding out was that it was far more economical than institutional care, and its early success is reflected in a further series of inquiries designed to reduce the cost to government of the grants paid to voluntary organisations, which had resisted the new trend (20, 21, 22, 25, 33). While there was considerable admiration for the order and economy with which Catholic and Salvation Army homes were conducted, there was no place for arguments about the need to enrich the quality of care. Institutions were to be removed

⁶ Jeffrey K. Olick, *The Politics of Regret: On Collective Memory and Historical Responsibility* (New York: Routledge, 2007), 12.

from high-value land, and costs were to be kept to a minimum so children would not grow up with a sense of entitlement to government assistance.

The late 19th century also saw the beginnings of a concern to segregate specific groups of children who were believed to be particularly at risk. In Western Australia, an 1883 inquiry recommends the removal of Aboriginal children from adult gaols (19), a recommendation extended to the rest of the Aboriginal population in the 1905 Roth Report (28). Roth argued that the Protector should be given extensive powers to institutionalise children from settlements across the state, a view repeated in the Mosley report 30 years later (49). A 1913–16 inquiry recommended that South Australia adopt a similar policy (32), with the Northern Territory later following suit (40, 45). An 1891 Western Australian report recommended that intellectually disabled children be separated from adults in the colony's lunatic asylum (23), a recommendation reinforced in four further reports over the next 40 years (27, 34, 39, 46).

The first half of the 20th century was a time of quiescence in relation to child welfare. Established state departments lumbered on, with little parliamentary interest except when scandals arose. From the late 1930s, however, concerns about what was perceived to be a rising tide of juvenile delinquency saw the child welfare system again exposed to public gaze. The shift began in South Australia where an inquiry for the first time highlighted the mental and physical distress experienced by children confined in the state's surviving institutions (51). A concern with delinquency is reflected in subsequent inquiries in Western Australia (52, 57) and Tasmania (55, 56), all of which combine an awareness that the current institutions were failing with a belief that a reformed institutional model could bring about behavioural change. By the 1970s, however, this faith was beginning to fail. The 1978 Tasmanian Inquiry (64) marked a shift away from institutional solutions.

Damage control

Concerns about order and economy left little space for inquiries to examine the quality of care or to articulate standards. However, there were instances in almost all jurisdictions where institutional abuse became public, forcing governments to respond. Inquiries rarely used such instances to reform the system. Rather a pattern emerges of authorities attempting to minimise reputational damage, closing down rather than widening the investigation as quickly as possible. For instance, the Tasmanian Legislative Council notes an inquiry into the conduct of the Matron at the Orphan Asylum but left no trace in the documentary record (4). An 1869 inquiry into the management of the New South Wales's training ship, *Vernon*, criticised the harshness of the punishments, but not their justification, recommending stricter supervision of the boys on board (10). Two 1870s inquiries produced a similar result. Although the allegations of excessive punishment were upheld, the solution was seen as lying in improving order in the institutions involved so that the need for such punishment did not arise (17, 18).

By the early 20th century some individuals were prepared to use allegations of excessive punishment to embarrass the people controlling institutions. After an internal dispute between members of the Victorian Neglected Children's Aid Society and their founder, Selina Sutherland, the Victorian Government ordered an inquiry into allegations that, in her old age, the legendary child rescuer had taken to excessive drinking and was excessively punishing the children in her care. Loyal supporters rallied around and the allegations were rejected, although the evidence does suggest that a wider investigation may have been warranted (29). In 1936, allegations of poor food and

excessive punishment at St John's Homes for Boys led to an inquiry which was quickly shut down when church authorities assured the government that the superintendent had resigned on the basis of ill health and was being relocated to England (50).⁷

Victoria also saw a long-running struggle between leading philanthropic individuals and the Child Welfare Department that manifested in a series of inconclusive inquiries into allegations of ill-treatment at the Depot at Royal Park (30, 36, 41). New South Wales was forced to hold inquiries in response to similar allegations in relation to the cottage complex in Mittagong (38, 44) and later in Garth (48). Likewise, Tasmania investigated the treatment of boys in Ashley (43, 54), and Western Australia was forced to defend claims that the Fairbridge Scheme involved little more than child slavery (35).⁸ The governments of Victoria, Western Australia, Queensland and New South Wales were also forced to launch inquiries into the treatment of children in mental health or other disability facilities (42, 53, 68, 72), again without leading to fundamental change.

Although many children died in 'care' there were only three instances in which the coronial inquiry led to criminal charges being laid. In 1896, the matron of Myora Mission, in Queensland, was sent to trial following the death of a four-year-old Aboriginal child. She entered a guilty plea and was sentenced to two years imprisonment but the sentence was immediately suspended and no time was served (24). The death of a child in the Swan Orphanage in Western Australia in 1911 led to an extensively reported coronial inquiry, at the end of which the matron was sent to trial for manslaughter, but the trial ended in her acquittal (31).⁹ This was also the outcome in the case involving the death of a boy at Victoria's Seaside Garden Home for Boys. During the course of the investigation the superintendent attracted considerable support from others in the child welfare field, but faced trial for manslaughter before three different juries, each of which was unable to reach a decision (47). The subtext, at least in the latter two cases, was that although the behaviour that led to the deaths was lamentable, it was understandable given the difficulties posed by the types of children who were being 'cared' for. Although there were more inquiries into specific allegations of abuse, particularly in reformatories (58, 59, 60, 61, 65) and disability institutions (71), no more child welfare officials were sent to trial as a result of these investigations.

Sexual abuse was rarely raised in the context of these investigations, although occasional references to problems with immorality in the institutions (8, 16, 33, 38, 42, 58) would suggest that this absence was indicative of a silence around sexuality. Where immorality was mentioned, it was taken as referring to sexual behaviour among the children and the risk of moral contagion when innocent children were placed amongst the already 'depraved'. There was little consideration of the possibility that staff could be involved in sexual relationships with the children. While some of the peer-to-peer behaviour was clearly abusive, it was problematised through the eyes of the officials. There was little space at this point for the children to speak.

⁷ 'Management of Boys' Home Board Satisfied', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic: 1848–1957), 23 October 1936, p. 7, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article11928410> (accessed 19 November 2013).

⁸ 'State Children', *The West Australian* (Perth, WA: 1879–1954), 26 November 1920, p. 7, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article27792343> (accessed 17 November 2013).

⁹ 'The Orphanage Sensation', *Sunday Times* (Perth, WA: 1902–1954), 18 June 1911, p. 3, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article57715208> (accessed 19 November 2013).

In this context, the three cases in which sexual abuse was an explicit focus of the inquiry take on a particular significance. At the special inquiry ordered in response to the chaotic conditions at Victoria's first purpose-built industrial school in 1865–66 (8), it was alleged that a staff member had engaged in improper relations with adolescent reformatory schoolgirls, some of whom were rumoured to be pregnant. Other staff members reported that he had engaged in similar behaviour at the Princes Bridge Industrial School from which he had been transferred. Although the staff member was stood down in the face of these allegations, he was allowed to remain at the school, where his wife and daughter were also employed.¹⁰ In a subsequent report his behaviour was largely excused on the basis of the 'character' of the witnesses who had 'sprung from the very dregs of society' and whose origins made 'the task of looking after them anything but easy or hopeful'. Characterised as incautious in placing himself in potentially compromising positions, the staff member was warned but left with his reputation intact.¹¹

The second inquiry, which took place in New South Wales in 1897–98, related to the House for the Blind at Strathfield, where the superintendent, Harry Prescott, was charged with having had improper relations with several of the female residents (26). Although some of the complainants had been children at the time of the alleged offences, all were adult by the time the inquiry was established, and able to speak as knowing subjects without a threat to their own character. In the interests of public morality the government ordered the report not be printed. However, some allegations became public as a result of a later libel case launched by Prescott against the *Truth* newspaper which had reported the allegations, claiming that Prescott's wife had sent girls to him because he was lonely. By the time the case went to court, the home, which had been Prescott's personal mission, had closed due to lack of support. Prescott's libel case collapsed too when he withdrew his claim.¹²

The third instance (67) relates to a 1992–93 inquiry in Western Australia which examined a case in which children had continued to be sexually abused while in foster care. This took place in a very different discursive context, but again particularised the issue. It examined flaws in departmental procedure and practice that allowed the abuse to take place, but made no attempt to extend the inquiry to a more general level.

Listening to the victims

The practices of individualising accusations of sexual abuse, discrediting witnesses and minimising reporting in the interests of public morality were successful only while inquiries looked to experts rather than victims for the answers to the problems they were addressing. The inquiries since the late 1980s, which have actively sought survivor testimony, have broken open such silences. While residents of children's institutions had in the past been invited to give evidence before inquiries (16), their testimony was always corrupted by their status. The shift in focus is linked to the apology

¹⁰ 'Frightful Immorality at the Industrial Schools', *Ovens and Murray Advertiser* (Beechworth, Vic: 1857–1918), 3 April 1866, p. 2, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article112908316> (accessed 19 November 2013).

¹¹ 'Prince's-Bridge Industrial Schools', *Ovens and Murray Advertiser* (Beechworth, Vic: 1857–1918), 26 May 1866, p. 3, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article112908922> (accessed 22 November 2013).

¹² 'That Newspaper Libel Action', *Evening News* (Sydney, NSW: 1869–1931), 24 August 1899, p. 6, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article113266917> (accessed 22 November 2013).

movement that has become increasingly evident across the Western world in the aftermath of World War II. Initially a function of recognising and remembering the Holocaust, apologies have since spread to the impact of war, racial discrimination and, more recently, social wrongs.

There is an increasing scholarly interest in the phenomenon of apology, with most accepting John Torpey's theory that it arises out of a 'declining trust in alternative visions of society'. Rather than organise to change, he argues, we now 'organise to mourn' with the result that history and memory have now become 'central to the political project'.¹³ Through apology, Govier and Verwoerd have written, the wrongdoing is recognised, victims are repositioned as moral equals, and their right to harbour feelings of anger and resentment is acknowledged.¹⁴ Apology, Melissa Nobles argues, is a political act, produced by 'organised groups and state actors' who, by focusing our attention on the past want to bring about change in the present and the future.¹⁵ Through this process, people who in their childhood were the objects of state and charitable intervention, are now asserting their rights to recognition as equal citizens whom the state has wronged.

The new model of testimonial-based inquiry came to Australia with the Royal Commission into Deaths in Custody (66). An extensive series of inquiries followed, as different survivor groups claimed their right to speak (71, 72, 73, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83). Within this series of inquiries the willingness to speak about sexual abuse has seen the issue rise in prominence to the point where it has become the primary focus of the current Royal Commission. The terms of reference for the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families (69) made no mention of sexual abuse but the evidence presented noted more than 502 instances, earning the phenomenon its own section within the final report released in 1997.¹⁶ The next two Commonwealth inquiries, *Lost Innocents* (71) and *Forgotten Australians* (72), followed a similar trajectory, with sexual abuse absent from the terms of reference but singled out for special treatment in the subsequent reports.¹⁷ In the report of the inquiry into abuse in Queensland institutions (70), sexual abuse was clearly identified as one of four forms of abuse that were found to be endemic in the system.¹⁸ By the time South Australia instigated its own inquiry early in the new century (78) the focus had narrowed, with sexual abuse positioned alongside deaths in care as the core subjects for investigation, as indeed it became for the recent Victorian inquiry (83).

¹³ John Torpey, 'Introduction: Politics and the Past', in *Politics and the Past: On Repairing Historical Injustices*, ed. John Torpey (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2003), 1. Michael Cunningham, 'The Ideological Location of the Apology', *Journal of Political Ideologies* 16, no. 1 (2011): 117.

¹⁴ Cited in Paul Muldoon, 'Past Injustices and Future Protections: On the Politics of Promising', *Australian Indigenous Law Review* 13, no. 2 (2009): 3.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 2. John Torpey, *Making Whole What Has Been Smashed: On Reparation Politics* (Cambridge, MS: Harvard University Press, 2006), 7

¹⁶ Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, *Bringing Them Home: Report of the National Inquiry into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families* (Sydney: HREOC, 1997). 162–7.

¹⁷ Australian Senate Community Affairs References Committee, *Lost Innocents: Righting the record report on child migration* (Canberra: Senate Printing Unit, 2001). 75–80. *Forgotten Australians: A Report on Australians who experienced institutional or out-of-home care as children* (Canberra: Senate Printing Unit, 2004). 103–5.

¹⁸ Leneene Forde, *Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Abuse of Children in Queensland Institutions* (Brisbane: The Inquiry, 1999), iv, 87–91.

The long list of institutions named in these reports is evidence of the blindness to sexual abuse which marked earlier investigations. The limitations of the discourse around sexuality and sexual abuse in the past made it unlikely that earlier inquiries would make this a focus of their work. The feminist recasting of such discourses, which dates from the 1980s, created a new language in which behaviours previously seen as the acts of individual ‘perverts’ or ‘sex fiends’ could be seen as systemic, and represented as the core transgression of childhood innocence.¹⁹ Institutions praised in the past for their order and economy now stand condemned for their failure to protect the children in their ‘care’. As recent inquiries have found, sexual abuse was endemic in institutional settings.²⁰ The inability of previous enquiries to recognise this reality, and their willingness to individualise the problem where it could not be ignored, may well have served the interests of the government and non-government institutions that provided child welfare services across Australia, but it did little to protect the children entrusted to their ‘care’.

¹⁹ Ibid., p. 276.

²⁰ Forde, *Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Abuse of Children in Queensland Institutions*: 87. Mullighan, *Children in state care: Commission of inquiry: Allegations of sexual abuse and death from criminal conduct*: xiii.

Appendix 1: Australian inquiries into institutions accommodating those under the age of 18, 1852–2013

| | Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|---|--------|--------------|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1852–4 | NSW | Select Committee on Destitute Children | Relief of destitute children and prevention of juvenile delinquency | Randwick Asylum | Saw establishment of Randwick Asylum as solving the problem |
| 2 | 1856–7 | Vic | Select Committee of Inquiry upon Penal Discipline | Children in prisons | Eastern Gaol Pentridge | Separate section for juveniles Chaplains to be appointed, with special oversight of juvenile prisoners |
| 3 | 1861–2 | NSW | Special Commission on the Benevolent Asylum, Sydney | Overcrowding | Benevolent Asylum, Sydney Orphans' School Destitute Children's School | Construction of a new building, and the placement of children aged three to 12 in the Orphans' or Destitute Children's School |
| 4 | 1857 | Tas | Legislative Council Inquiry | Conduct of the Matron | Orphan School | No record of outcome |
| 5 | 1858 | Tas | Joint Committee inquiring into | Conduct of charitable institutions | Queen's Asylum | Disapprove of convicts working with children |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| | | Charitable Institutions | | | Parents made to pay for children's upkeep Transfer from Imperial to colonial control | |
| 6 | 1860 | Tas | Commission of Inquiry | High mortality rates | Orphan Schools | Recommend improved diet, some new building, better supervision and training |
| 7 | 1862 | Tas | Select Committee on Industrial Schools Bill | Provision for young offenders | | Recommend establishment of industrial and reformatory schools Younger children to be placed in small homes and refuges |
| 8 | 1865–6 | Vic | Special inquiry | Excessive punishment Improper practices between boys and girls Staff accused of improper relations with girls | Sunbury Industrial School | Accused staff are stood down |

| | Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|----|------|--------------|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 1867 | Tas | Royal Commission on Queen's Asylum | Reduce expenditure and improve training | Queen's Asylum | Asylum to function on the English pauper school model Resisted calls for children to be farmed out |
| 10 | 1869 | NSW | Select Committee on the Training Ship Vernon | Management of the training ship | Training Ship Vernon | Criticises harshness of punishments, poor quality of supervision |
| 11 | 1870 | Vic | Royal Commission into Charitable Institutions | Administration of charitable institutions | | Reports very positively on conditions in children's institutions, but advocates boarding out on the grounds of economy and the appointment of an inspector of charities to exercise oversight over institutions |
| 12 | 1871 | Tas | Royal Commission on Charitable Institutions | Administration of charitable institutions | Queen's Orphan Asylum | Recommends adoption of boarding out |
| 13 | 1871 | Vic | Royal Commission on Sanitary Conditions in the Industrial Schools | Sanitary conditions | Geelong Convent Industrial School St Kilda Rd Industrial School Sunbury Industrial School | Finds schools overcrowded Calls for separation of non-criminal children from offenders |

| | Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|----|--------|--------------|---|---|--|---|
| 14 | 1871–2 | Vic | Royal Commission on Penal and Prison Discipline | Operation of industrial schools and reformatories | Abbotsford Convent Sir Harry Smith reformatory Sunbury Girls reformatory | Recommends boarding out and more stringent admission requirements to industrial schools |
| 15 | 1873–4 | NSW | Public Charities Commission | Working and management of public charities | Biloela Parramatta Orphan Schools Randwick Asylum Vernon | Advocated boarding out |
| 16 | 1878 | Vic | Board of Inquiry | Follows an ‘outbreak’ at the Reformatory and investigates allegations of excessive punishment Low morality | Jika Reformatory | Find claims of excessive punishment proven Recommends closure and trial of the family system |
| 17 | 1879 | NSW | Select Committee on the Randwick Asylum | Reports of ill-usage of children at the Randwick Asylum | Randwick Asylum | Recommended dismissal of one staff member and removal of refractory boys to a reformatory |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|--|---|--|---|
| 18 | 1883–5 | SA | Royal Commission to report on the Destitute Act, 1881 Often referred to as the Way Commission | Work of the Destitute Board and its work with children | Destitute Asylum Boys Reformatory Hulk, the Fitzjames Girls Reformatory, Magill Hardwick House Magill Industrial School The Orphan Home And 7 other institutions | Recommended move from large congregate institutions to cottage style care Segregation and classification of 'reformatory' children |
| 19 | 1883 | WA | Committee of Inquiry into the Treatment of Aboriginal Native Prisoners of the Crown | Provision for Indigenous population | Rottneest Island Prison | Recommends concentration onto missions which would provide training for children |
| 20 | 1884 | WA | Committee to Consider the Capitation Grant for Orphanages | Cost of caring for children in orphanages, level of state subsidy | St Joseph's Catholic Orphanage Subiaco Boys Orphanage Swan Boys Orphanage | Recommends increasing daily capitation grant from eight pence to one shilling |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|---|--|--|--|
| 21 | 1888 | Tas | Royal Commission on Charitable Institutions | Operation of charitable institutions | Boys' Home, Hobart Boys' Training School, Cascades Girls' Industrial Schools, Launceston Girls' Training School Reformatory, Hobart | Makes a series of recommendations about better/cheaper education and control of inmates |
| 22 | 1890–1 | Vic | Royal Commission on Charitable Institutions | Focus is on the funding and administration of charitable institutions but includes a clause to investigate disposal of children in subsidised orphan asylums | Abbotsford Convent Asylum and School for the Blind Ballarat Orphanage Deaf and Dumb Institute Geelong Protestant Orphanage St Augustine's | Removal of city-based institutions to less expensive rural locations Concentration of female rescue work onto single site Orphans to be boarded out in rural locations |
| 23 | 1891 | WA | Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly to consider and report as to what is necessary to place the Asylum | Mental health institutions | Fremantle Asylum Whitby Falls Hospital | Asylums not fit for purpose (children and youth were held in both asylums) |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|--|---|---|--|---|
| | | for the Insane on a satisfactory basis as to Accommodation and Maintenance | | | | |
| 24 | 1896 | Qld | Magisterial Enquiry | Death of a four-year-old child as a result of a beating by the matron | Myora Mission (Stradbroke Island) | Matron charged with manslaughter. Pleaded guilty and sentenced to two years jail. Sentence suspended under the <i>Probation Act</i> |
| 25 | 1897–9 | NSW | Royal Commission to inquire into the administration of metropolitan charitable institutions | Focus is on funding of charitable institutions | NSW Institution for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Salvation Army Society for Providing Homes for Children | Praises efficiency of Salvation Army Condemns sectarianism of some institutions Found that institutions were inadequately equipped and lacking in order and care Encourages boarding out of orphanage children and defunding of George Ardill's work |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|--|---|--|--|
| 26 | 1897–8 | NSW | Royal Commission into the conduct and management of the house for blind women, Strathfield | Allegations of immorality | House for Blind Women, Strathfield | Recommends removal of subsidy and stronger government supervision |
| 27 | 1900 | WA | Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly appointed to inquire into the condition of the Fremantle and Whitby Falls Lunatic Asylums | Mental health institutions | Fremantle Asylum Whitby Falls Hospital | Discontinue use of the Fremantle Asylum (children were held there) |
| 28 | 1905 | WA | Royal Commission to Enquire into and Report Upon [inter alia] the Administration of the Aborigines Department and the Condition of | Wages paid to Aboriginal youth labourers, systems for the welfare of Aboriginal people in the State | Beagle Bay Mission Orphan School Broome Sunday Island Mission School | Increased authority of Chief Protector |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|---------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|---|
| | | the Natives (Roth Report) | | | | |
| 29 | 1908 | Vic | Magisterial inquiry | Allegations against Selina Sutherland of drunkenness and harsh punishment | Victorian Neglected Children's Aid | Magistrate found charges not sustained |
| 30 | 1911 | Vic | Committee of philanthropic men and women | Neglected children's depot | Royal Park Depot | <p>Recommends improved conditions at depot</p> <p>Adoption of NSW system of cottages for children who cannot be boarded-out</p> |
| 31 | 1911 | WA | Coronial inquiry | Follows death of a child at the Swan Orphanage | Swan Orphanage | <p>Condemns conditions</p> <p>Recommends greater departmental supervision</p> <p>Matron sent to trial on manslaughter charges but acquitted</p> |
| 32 | 1913–16 | SA | Royal Commission on the Aborigines | Condition of Aboriginal population | Point McLeay Point Pierce | Recommends that State take control of all Aboriginal children at age 10 and place them 'where they deem best' |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|--|--|--|---|
| 33 | 1918 | WA | Select Committee on the State Children's Act Amendment Bill | Administration of child welfare | Clontarf Karrakatta Home Open Door Home Perth Girls' Orphanage Pinjarra Farm School Redhill Reformatory Salvation Army, Collie Swan Orphanage | Praises the existing children's institutions but also commends boarding out |
| 34 | 1919 | WA | Select Committee to inquire into the management of the Claremont Hospital for the Insane | Inquiry into mental health system | Claremont Mental Hospital Whitby Falls Hospital | Recommends establishing a separate institution and Board of Commissioners for 'mental defectives' |
| 35 | 1920 | WA | Royal Commission to inquire into State Children's Department and Charities Department | Operation of State Children's Department | Fairbridge Farm School Monmouth Home for Incurable Girls Parkerville | Recommends segregation of mentally deficient Denies claim of child slavery at Fairbridge |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|---|--|--|--|
| | | | | | Again advocates for boarding out | |
| 36 | 1920 | Vic | Parliamentary Inquiry | Conditions at Receiving Depot | Royal Park Depot | Condemns overcrowding and recommends children be moved to existing orphanages |
| 37 | 1920 | NSW | Royal Commission into Child Welfare Department | Administration of the Child Welfare Department | Receiving Depot | Leaves no trace |
| 38 | 1920 | NSW | ALP Committee | State Children's Relief Department (SCRB) | Mittagong Raymond Terrace | Finds 'depraved conditions' and recommends SCRB be disbanded |
| 39 | 1921-2 | WA | Royal Commission in Lunacy | Inquiry into mental health system | Claremont hospital | Recommends establishment of separate wards for imbecile children |
| 40 | 1921-4 | NT | Report on the Half Castes and Aboriginals of the Southern Division of the Northern Territory with Special Reference to the Bungalow at Stuart and the | Living conditions of all Aborigines in southern half of NT, including children at named institutions | The Half-Caste Institution, Alice Springs (The Bungalow) Hermannsburg Mission Station | Appointment of Aboriginal Inspector to patrol southern division on NT to investigate general conditions under which all Aborigines (sic), whether on stations, missions or in institutions, live |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| | | Hermannsburg Mission Station | | | <p>Establishment of a 'half caste' station separate from Aboriginal Reserve for training of half castes in 'industrial and domestic work'</p> <p>Commonwealth government to take over Hermannsburg Mission and appoint Salvation Army to run the Bungalow and the Mission on their behalf</p> | |
| 41 | 1922 | Vic | Parliamentary inquiry | Excessive punishment Mixing of VD children with others at Royal Park Depot | Royal Park Depot | Left no record |
| 42 | 1924 | Vic | Royal Commission into Kew Mental Asylum CMO | Allegations of cruelty and immorality | Kew Idiot Asylum | Accusations not upheld |
| 43 | 1925 | Tas | Committee of Inquiry | Conditions within the State Home for Boys | State Home for Boys, Deloraine | <p>Greater classification of boys</p> <p>Discipline to be 'constructive'</p> |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|--|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Greater variety of activities | |
| 44 | 1927 | NSW | Royal Commission to Inquire into the Child Welfare Department's Administration | Administration of the Department | Mittagong | Department is vindicated |
| 45 | 1928 | NT | The Aborigines and Half-Castes of Central Australia and North Australia: Report of JW Bleakley | Investigate the condition of Aboriginal and half-caste people in the Northern Territory | Half-caste home Darwin – Kahlin Half-caste Bungalow – Alice Springs Mission Stations at: Bathurst Island Oenpelli Goulburn Millingimbi Roper River Groote Eylandt Hermannsburg Leper Lazarette Darwin | All illegitimate half-caste children under 16 years of age should be placed in government-subsidised mission homes for the purposes of education and vocational training (Ling) That the Bungalow in Alice Springs be moved from the Telegraph Station to Jay Creek All children with '50 percent or more Aboriginal blood' or 'with preponderance of other dark blood' be transferred to Hermannsburg Mission 'Quadroons and octoroons where such can be done without |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | | hardship to the mother, be placed in European institutions such as the Salvation Army Homes in Adelaide' | |
| 46 | 1929 | WA | Select Committee on the Mental Deficiency Bill | Segregation of people identified as mentally deficient | Claremont | Segregation and control |
| 47 | 1934 | Vic | Coronial inquiry | Death of boy raises questions as to unreasonable punishment | Seaside Garden Home for Boys | Superintendent charged with manslaughter but acquitted at his third trial |
| 48 | 1934 | NSW | Commission of Inquiry | Operation of the Garth Home | Garth Home | Condemned the standard of care and location of the home and recommended closure |
| 49 | 1935 | WA | Royal Commission to Investigate, Report and Advise upon Matters in Relation to the Condition and | Systems for Aboriginal welfare | Moore River Native Settlement | Increased control by Protector of Aborigines over the removal of Aboriginal children from families |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| | | Treatment of Aborigines (Mosely RC) | | | | |
| 50 | 1936 | Vic | Special inquiry | Allegations of poor quality of food, excessive corporal punishment | St John's Home for Boys | Inquiry abandoned when Superintendent fell ill and resigns |
| 51 | 1938-9 | SA | Inquiry into Delinquent and other children in the care of the State | Established to investigate the way in which the state was caring for children in its care, particularly those who had committed offences | Boys' Probationary School (Salvation Army, Eden Park) Central Depot Edwardstown Industrial School Seaforth Convalescent Home | Praises boarding out but condemns institutions for inflicting mental and physical distress |
| 52 | 1943 | WA | Select Committee (later designated an honorary Royal Commission) on Juvenile Delinquency | Provisions made for delinquents | Bartons Mill Prison Government Receiving Home Home of the Good Shepherd Swan Boys' Orphanage Seaforth Home | Separation of boys from adult prison, provision of girls' home |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|--|---|---------------------------------|---|
| 53 | 1950 | WA | Royal Commission appointed to inquire into alleged cases of brutality at the Claremont Mental Hospital | Allegations of physical abuse | Claremont Mental Hospital | Better segregation of children, and training and supervision for staff |
| 54 | 1951 | Tas | Public Service Commissioner's Investigation | Allegations by a former staff member of harsh punishments | Ashley Boys Home | Findings minimised the issues that had been complained of in the light of the nature of the boys in the home |
| 55 | 1951–3 | Tas | Inquiry into management of Ashley Boys Home | Concern that boys did badly on release | Ashley Boys Home | Establish new home for younger boys and refurbish existing home Emphasised need for quality staff |
| 56 | 1952 | Tas | Standing Committee on Public Works | Plans for rebuilding Ashley Boys Home | Ashley Boys Home | Echoes many of the recommendations that came from concurrent inquiry Negotiate with NSW to provide facilities for 'incurable' boys |
| 57 | 1954 | WA | Investigation into the administration of the Child | | Seaforth Home Swan Homes | Facilities were substandard |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|--------------------|---|---|---|--|
| | | Welfare Department | | | The Department should establish its own training school | |
| 58 | 1961 | Qld | Commission of Inquiry into Farm Home for Boys, Westbrook | Primarily punishments. No specific mention of sexual abuse, but does note homosexual behaviour amongst boys | Westbrook | Nil |
| 59 | 1965 | Tas | Public service Commissioners Investigation | Allegations concerning conditions and treatment of inmates | Weeroona Girls' Training Centre | Found that Parliament had been misled as to conditions in the home, leading to the establishment of a Select Committee |
| 60 | 1965 | Tas | Select Committee Inquiry into Weeroona Girls' Training Centre | Focus was an accusation that Director of Social Welfare had misled the Parliament about operation of the unit | Weeroona Girls' Training Centre | Found to be an 'honest mistake' |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|--|---|---|---|
| 61 | 1973–4 | Tas | Inquiry into Weeroona Girls' Training Centre | Focus is on allegations of corporal punishment | Weeroona Girls' Training Centre | Found that the allegations were baseless |
| 62 | 1976 | WA | Committee of Inquiry into Residential Child Care | To examine the role and involvement of religious organisations providing residential child care | Castledare Clontarf Catherine Macauley Centre Good Shepherd Teen Centre Parkerville Methodist Homes for Children Sister Kate's Salvation Army: Cottesloe and Hollywood | The state should continue to nurture relationships with religious organisations |
| 63 | 1978 | Tas | Social Welfare Weeroona Inquiry | Focus is again on excessive punishment | Weeroona Girls' Training Centre | One claim is upheld; others dismissed |
| 64 | 1978 | Tas | Committee of Review into the <i>Child Welfare Act 1960</i> | Government and non-government child welfare services | | Scrapping of Act and development of new community-based services |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|----------|--|---|--|--|
| 65 | 1983 | NSW | Ombudsman's Report | Initial focus was on financial irregularities but shifted onto physical and emotional abuse | Brougham | Found allegations proven |
| 66 | 1987–91 | National | Royal Commission | Deaths in Police Custody and other places of Detention | Birralee Minda Remand Centre Rockhampton Prison SAYTC | An inquiry into the removal of Aboriginal children from their families |
| 67 | 1992–3 | WA | Duty of Care Inquiry | Sexual abuse of two children in state foster care | | Changes in practices and procedures |
| 68 | 1993–5 | Qld | Criminal Justice Commission Inquiry | Abuses and neglect of clients and harassment of staff | Basil Stafford Centre | Closure of the Centre |
| 69 | 1995–7 | National | National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and | Tracing history and effects of removal. No specific reference | Castledare Cootamundra Kinchela | Monetary compensation to victims Apology |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|---|---------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families | to sexual abuse in terms of reference | Sister Kate's | Record preservation and access | |
| 70 | 1996 | WA | Select Committee into Child Migration | Outcomes for people who had been sent to WA by British and Maltese governments as unaccompanied child migrants | Bindoon Castledare Clontarf Fairbridge, Pinjarra Methodist Children's Home Nazareth House St Joseph's Girls Orphanage St Vincent's Foundling Home Swan Homes Tardun Farm School | Establishing a Royal Commission |
| 71 | 1996-7 | NSW | Community Services Commission | Quality and standard of care at Hall for Children (disability home) | Hall for Children, Hazelbrook | Claims upheld. Institution closed |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|----------|---|---|---|--|
| 72 | 1996–8 | NSW | Community Services Commission | Care and treatment of residents at Cram House | Cram House | Better accountability for funded services |
| 73 | 1999 | Qld | Commission of Inquiry into the Abuse of Children in Queensland Institutions (Forde Inquiry) | Specifically addresses allegations of abuse, positioning sexual abuse as the third of four forms of abuse identified. | John Oxley Centre Moreton Detention Centre Nazareth House Riverview St Vincent’s Orphanage Silky Oaks Sir Leslie Wilson Centre Warilda Westbrook Wilson Youth Hospital | Mandatory reporting of all abusive situations Increased regulation and supervision |
| 74 | 2001 | National | Inquiry into Child Migration | Unsafe, improper or unlawful care or treatment of children in institutions: sexual | Barnardos, Mowbray Park Barnardos, Normanhurst Bindoon | Compensation for victims Recommended further investigations of conditions faced by other children in institutions |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|----------|---|--|---|--|
| | | | abuse is the first of eight forms of abuse identified | Castledare Clontarf Dhurringle, Vic Fairbridge, Molong Fairbridge, Pinjarra Goodwood, SA Magill, SA Melrose, Parramatta Murray Dwyer, Newcastle Salesians, Tas St Vincent's, Neerkol St Vincent's, Westmead Tardun | | |
| 75 | 2003–4 | National | Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care | Unsafe, improper and unlawful care or treatment of | Ashley Home, Tasmania Ballarat Orphanage Bayswater Boys' Home | Compensation for victims Files to be opened to investigate prevalence |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|------|--------------|-------|--------------------------|--|---|
| | | | children in institutions | Berry Training Farm Bexley Bidura Bindoon Box Hill (Salvation Army) Brougham, Woollahra Burn Brae Burnside Carlingford Castledare Clontarf Gill Memorial, Goulburn Good Shepherd, Abbotsford Hartnett House Hopewood Kilmany Park | Royal Commission to investigate criminal sexual assault |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|------|--------------|-------|-------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | | Mater Dei, Camden | |
| | | | | Melbourne Orphanage | |
| | | | | Methodist Cottages, Brisbane | |
| | | | | Morningstar | |
| | | | | Nazareth Boys House | |
| | | | | Nazareth House, Ballarat | |
| | | | | Nazareth House, Brisbane | |
| | | | | Nedlands (Salvation Army) | |
| | | | | Queen Alexandra Home | |
| | | | | Phillip House, Gosford | |
| | | | | Riverview (Salvation Army) | |
| | | | | Royleston | |
| | | | | St Augustine's, Geelong | |
| | | | | St Heliers | |
| | | | | St John of God | |
| | | | | St John's, Goulburn | |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|------|--------------|-------|-------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | | | | St Joseph's, Kincumber | |
| | | | | St Joseph's, Lane Cove | |
| | | | | St Joseph's, Largs Bay | |
| | | | | St Joseph's, Surrey Hills | |
| | | | | St Vincent's Orphanage (Goodwood) | |
| | | | | St Vincent's Orphanage (Neerkol) | |
| | | | | St Vincent's, South Melbourne | |
| | | | | Salvation Army Box Hill | |
| | | | | Sandgate | |
| | | | | Tardun | |
| | | | | The Laurels | |
| | | | | Turana | |
| | | | | Westbrook | |
| | | | | Westmead | |
| | | | | Winlaton | |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|--|--|---|---|
| 76 | 2003–4 | Qld | Crime and Misconduct Commission | Abuse of children in foster care | | Concluded that foster care system was broken and recommended the establishment of a new Department of Child Safety |
| 77 | 2003–6 | Tas | Listen to the Children: Ombudsman’s Report | Arose out of media Exposure of paedophilia in institution for children | Barrington Boys Home Gilburn Receiving Home Glendel Children’s Home Laroona Family Group Home Omaru Receiving Home Rochebank Hostel St Joseph’s Orphanage Weeroona Girls Training Centre | Ex gratia payments Counselling |
| 78 | 2004–8 | SA | Children in State Care Commission of Inquiry (Mullighan Inquiry) | Allegations of sexual abuse and death of children in state care | <u>Government institutions</u> Seaforth Home, 1921–75 Glandore Industrial School/Glandore Children’s Home, 1950–73 Struan Farm School, Naracoorte, 1947–69 | Recommends strategies to keep children safe, encourages them to report abuse, and services to support them during and after the process |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|------|--------------|-------|-------|---|--------------------------|
| | | | | <u>Non-government institutions</u> | |
| | | | | Farr House, Anglican Church, 1860–1982 | |
| | | | | Kennion House, Anglican Church, 1886–1984 | |
| | | | | St Vincent de Paul Orphanage (Goodwood Orphanage), Catholic Church, 1866–1975 | |
| | | | | Convent of the Good Shepherd (The Pines), Catholic Church, 1941–74 | |
| | | | | Salvation Army Boys Home, Eden Park, 1900–82 | |
| | | | | Salvation Army Girls Home / Fullarton Children’s Home, 1900–86 | |
| | | | | Salvation Army Boys Home, Kent Town, 1929–72 | |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|------|--------------|-------|-------|---|--------------------------|
| | | | | <u>Homes for Aboriginal children</u> | |
| | | | | Koonibba Children’s Home, 1913–63 | |
| | | | | Gerard Mission Children’s Dormitory, 1946–61 | |
| | | | | Colebrook Home, 1927–81 | |
| | | | | Campbell House Farm School, Meningie, 1959–63 | |
| | | | | Kurbingai Hostel, 1958–62 | |
| | | | | Oodnadatta Children’s Home, 1924– 27, 1946–74 | |
| | | | | Otherway House, 1983–84 | |
| | | | | <u>Homes for children with disabilities</u> | |
| | | | | Lochiel Park Boys Training Centre / Community Unit, 1958–present | |
| | | | | Minda, 1898–present | |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|------|--------------|-------|-------|--|--------------------------|
| | | | | <u>Government cottage homes</u> | |
| | | | | Clark Cottage, 1963–79 | |
| | | | | Merrilama Cottage, 1960–79 | |
| | | | | Hay Cottage, 1968–79 | |
| | | | | Fullarton Cottage, 1970–79 | |
| | | | | Stirling Cottage, 1962–79 | |
| | | | | Pleasant Avenue Cottage, Glandore, 1975–79 | |
| | | | | Slade Cottage, Glandore/Somerton Park, 1973–88 | |
| | | | | Southern Region Group Home, Glenelg 1979–81, Glandore 1981–90 | |
| | | | | <u>Non-government cottage homes</u> | |
| | | | | Smith Street Cottage, 1976–84 | |
| | | | | Kennion Cottage, 1984–unknown | |
| | | | | Rose Cottage, 1988–93 | |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|------|--------------|-------|-------|--|--------------------------|
| | | | | <u>Government hostels</u> | |
| | | | | Allambi Girls' Hostel, 1947–77 | |
| | | | | Davenport House, 1964–77 | |
| | | | | Elizabeth Grace Hostel, 1972–79 | |
| | | | | Nindee Hostel, 1971–present | |
| | | | | Kumanka Boys' Hostel, 1946–80 | |
| | | | | Stuart House, 1964–90; North Adelaide Community Unit, 1990–97 | |
| | | | | <u>Youth shelters</u> | |
| | | | | Exodus Youth Shelter, 1985– unknown | |
| | | | | Unit Living, Marion, 1974–90 | |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|------|--------------|-------|-------|--|--------------------------|
| | | | | <u>Residential care units</u> | |
| | | | | Gilles Plains Community Unit, 1979–90; Gilles Plains Assessment Unit, 1992–present | |
| | | | | Hay Community Unit, 1979–88 | |
| | | | | Clarence Park Assessment Unit, 1989–92 | |
| | | | | Northern Region Admission Unit, 1979–90 | |
| | | | | Southern Region Admission Unit, 1979–90 | |
| | | | | Central/Western Region Admission Unit, 1979–86 | |
| | | | | Sturt Assessment Unit, 1995–present | |
| | | | | Enfield Community Unit, 1990–present | |
| | | | | Campbelltown Community Unit (Cornerways), 1995–present | |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | North Adelaide Community Unit, 1990–97 | | |
| 79 | 2005 | WA | Independent Review | Allegations of abuse against children in state care | Bindoon | Reviewed substantiated allegations of abuse |
| 80 | 2007–08 | WA | Taskforce to identify the scope and extent of the 'stolen wages' issue, and to suggest policy options and administration issues | Wages held in trust for Aboriginal youth and adults | Carrolup Karralundi Mission Marribank Mogumber Moola Bulla Station Moore River Native Settlement New Norcia Mission Roelands Sister Kate's | Found wages held in trust could not be assured as having been paid. Recommends establishing a fund for ex gratia payments |
| 81 | 2012 | WA | Special Inquiry | Allegations of sexual abuse in hostels | Albany Residential College Carnarvon High School Hostel | Found systemic failures in governance of hostels |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations |
|------|--------------|-------|---|---|--|
| | | | | Craig House Dellahale House Hardie House John Frewer House Kartanup Merridin Residential College Narrogin Residential College St Andrew's Hostel St Christopher's Hostel Swanleigh | Recommended ex gratia scheme |
| 82 | 2012–13 | Qld | Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry | To review the progress of implementation of recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into Abuse of Children in Queensland Institutions and | John Oxley Youth Detention Centre 1. Early intervention 2. Building professional capacity in the child protection workforce 3. Stronger collaboration between sectors |

| Date | Jurisdiction | Title | Focus | Institutions named | Relevant recommendations | |
|------|--------------|-------|---|---|--|----------------------------------|
| | | | Protecting Children: An Inquiry into the Abuse of Children in Foster Care; and a review of the effectiveness of the current child protection services system in Queensland | | <p>4. Greater control by Indigenous people over child protection services in their communities</p> <p>5. Ongoing support to young people leaving care up to 21 years</p> <p>6. Adoption to be a consideration for children in out-of-home care</p> <p>7. Recommended closure of Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian</p> <p>http://www.childprotectioninquiry.qld.gov.au/publications</p> | |
| 83 | 2013 | Vic | Select Committee | Handling of child abuse in religious and other non-government organisations | <p>Bayswater Boys Home</p> <p>Box Hill Boys Home</p> <p>Morningstar</p> <p>St Augustine's Boys Home</p> <p>St Vincent de Paul's Boys Home</p> | Creating child safe environments |