

<b>DPA</b>
Home
About us »
Publications »
People
Students
Research capacity building »
<b>Events &amp; media</b> ⌵
Events »
Media
News
Video & audio podcasts
Contact us

<b>RESEARCH AGENDA</b>
Overview
Politics and the nature of the state
Geopolitics and regionalism
Gender, social change and inclusion
Security, stability and resilience

<b>PROJECTS</b>
State of the Pacific 2020
Pacific Research Colloquium 2019
2019 Solomons Election Observation
Past projects »

<b>SCHOOL COMMUNITY</b>
Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs
Asia Pacific College of Diplomacy
Centre for Democratic Institutions
International Relations
Political & Social Change
Department of Pacific Affairs
Strategic & Defence Studies Centre

[Home](#) » [Events & media](#) » [Research on Family Protection Orders in Papua New Guinea](#)



by Lindy Kanan

## Research on Family Protection Orders in Papua New Guinea

14 January 2020

The Department of Pacific Affairs (DPA) is conducting research on how Family Protection Orders are being used in Papua New Guinea.

Family Protections Orders were introduced by the [Family Protection Act](#) which came into effect in 2014 as a legislative response to domestic violence. A Family Protection Order is a court order that is intended to reduce the risk of future harm by one family member who is considered to be a threat to another.

The research builds on a pilot project that was undertaken in Lae, Morobe Province in 2018 in conjunction with local service provider [Femili PNG](#). An overview of the findings and related reports from the pilot project are available [here](#).

This second phase of research runs from mid-2019 to mid-2020 and aims to obtain a broader view of Family Protections Order use by covering five locations:

- Port Moresby, National Capital District
- Lae, Morobe Province
- Mount Hagen, Western Highlands Province
- Popondetta, Oro Province
- Arawa, Autonomous Region of Bougainville

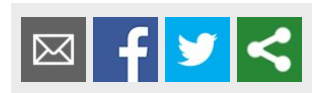
DPA has partnered with a number of organisations to conduct the research including [Femili PNG](#), the [University of Papua New Guinea](#) in Port Moresby and the [PNG University of Technology](#) in Lae. Local Papua New Guinean researchers have been engaged to conduct interviews in the provincial locations.

The DPA research team members include [Dr Judy Putt](#) and [Ms Lindy Kanan](#).


The research is hoping to answer questions such as:

- What do complainants want when seeking family protection orders and what do they expect as a result of being issued one?
- How is the process being conducted?
- How many orders are being granted and are they meeting the needs of complainants?
- Are the conditions of the orders being respected, and if not, what are the consequences if they are breached?
- How are family protection orders being used by complainants to try to ensure their safety?
- How do court-issued family protection orders interact with community, customary and church-based mechanisms of ensuring safety?

The research also includes a survey of young people to understand their attitudes and perceptions of domestic violence, as well as their knowledge of the law and relevant services. The survey is being lead by Dr Francis Essacu of [PNG University of Technology](#) and Ms Geejay Milli of [University of Papua New Guinea](#).



### More information

Senior Research Officer - DPA 

### You might also like

[Advancing Equal Outcomes in the Pacific](#)

In this seminar recording, we hear from Leituala Kuiniselani Toelupe Tago-Elisara, director of the Pacific Community's Social Development Programme (SDP).

[New report on Protection Orders in Lae, PNG](#)

[Family Protection Orders in PNG Research Report - A Pilot Study in Lae, Papua New Guinea](#)

[IB 2019/04 Family Protection Orders in Lae, Papua New Guinea: Part 3 Factors Affecting the Accessibility and Effectiveness of the Orders](#)

[Advancing models of parliamentary gender quotas in the Pacific](#)

[Do No Harm: The Relationship between Violence Against Women and Women's Economic Empowerment in the Pacific](#)

The findings of the project are expected to be published in mid to late 2020.

The research project is supported by the Australian Government in partnership with the Government of Papua New Guinea as part of the [Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development program](#) and the [Justice Services and Stability for Development](#) (JSS4D) program.

For further information see the following links:

- Presentation at the 'PNG Update' at the University of Papua New Guinea on 9 August 2019: [article](#), [presentation](#) and [audio](#).
- Lae Pilot Project (February 2019) [Final Report](#), In Brief [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#) and [Part 3](#).
- Devpolicy Blog, 23 November 2018: [Family protection orders in Lae: some positive signs](#)
- Femili PNG report November 2018: [Protection Order Data: 2014 to 2018](#)

Tags: [Gender](#), [gender violence](#), [Pacific](#)

---

Updated: 16 May 2020 / Responsible Officer: [Bell School Marketing Team](#) / Page Contact: [CAP Web Team](#)

Contact ANU  
Copyright  
Disclaimer  
Privacy  
Freedom of  
Information

+61 2 6125 5111  
The Australian National University,  
Canberra  
CRICOS Provider : 00120C  
ABN : 52 234 063 906

