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Young people leaving care and protection

**A report to the National Youth
Affairs Research Scheme**

by

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1999, 95pp. ISBN 1 875236 45 7 \$20

Young People Leaving Care and Protection describes the experience of young people discharged from State care and identifies factors which assisted and impeded their transition to independent living. The report presents:

- an overview of Australian Government youth policy as this relates to young people leaving care and protection arrangements;
- an overview of care and protection exit arrangements of Australian governments;
- the circumstances and needs of young people making the transition from State care; and
- the mechanisms or initiatives which Australian governments could set in place to improve levels of support to young people making the transition from State care to independence, with a view to minimising their risk of becoming homeless.

Assumptions of dependence and independence implicit in government policy are examined, means of supporting the role of the family are identified, and models of effective support to young people leaving care are recommended. This report should be essential reading for any policy-makers, politicians, service providers, teachers, youth and community workers, and social workers who have an interest in young people leaving care and protection.

This report is available from:

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Information reproduced from *Youth Studies Australia*, Vol 18 No 2, June 1999