

The National Drug Research Institute invites you to

*'I'm trying to get somewhere like everyone else is on this good earth': experiences of young people attending AOD treatment services in Perth*

*A free public seminar by*

*Dr Mandy Wilson, Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University  
and Professor Sherry Saggars, National Drug Research Institute*

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2008, 2pm**

National Drug Research Institute Seminar Room  
Health Research Campus, Curtin University of Technology  
Level 2, 10 Selby Street, Shenton Park, WA

*Substance use among young people in Australia is on the rise and initiation to drug use is occurring at an increasingly young age, with consequent health and social impacts on the lives of young people. Access to formal treatment is an important part of demand and harm reduction, but meaningful measures of treatment outcomes are rare in many services. In addition, quantitative approaches to measurement are resisted by some AOD staff who have neither the knowledge of these instruments nor the expertise or time to administer them. Our participatory, qualitative study of perceptions of progress among young people attending two Mission Australia substance misuse services explores the use of narratives to construct a composite profile of young people throughout the course of their treatment.*

*Dr Mandy Wilson is a Research Associate at the Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University (currently based at NDRI). Completing her PhD in anthropology in 2003, she lectured in Anthropology and Sociology at the University of Western Australia before taking her current position. Her research interests include gender and sexuality, transgender, young people and substance misuse.*

*Professor Sherry Saggars is Team Leader of the Social Contexts of Substance Misuse team at the National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University of Technology. An anthropologist, she was formerly Foundation Professor of Applied Social Science and Director of the Centre for Social Research, Edith Cowan University. Her current research explores child, family and community-based models of prevention and the social determinants of health and substance misuse among diverse population groups across Australia.*

**Please RSVP by telephoning NDRI Reception on (08) 9266 1600 or  
emailing [ndri@curtin.edu.au](mailto:ndri@curtin.edu.au) by Monday 23 June, 2008.**