

## PRESENTERS

### **Dr Nicola Atwool, University of Otago, Dunedin**

Nicola is a senior lecturer in the Department of Sociology, Gender and Social Work at the University of Otago having recently returned to this position following six years as a principal advisor in the Office of the Children's Commissioner. Prior to that she was a senior lecturer in social work at the University of Otago and worked with the Children's Issues Centre. Nicola was employed in a variety of roles by what is now Child, Youth and Family for nearly twenty years before taking up an academic position. She has professional qualifications in social work and child psychotherapy and a long-standing interest in advocacy for children and young people. Nicola has a particular interest in attachment theory and resilience and in 2008 completed a PhD exploring the use of attachment assessments in decision-making for children in care.

### **Tracey Gunn, Tracey Gunn Barrister, Hamilton**

Tracey has practised in the family law area for 21 years and is a senior Lawyer For The Child. She has acted for children, parents and caregivers in Child Youth and Family Services Care and Protection proceedings over that period. Tracey has also sat on a Care and Protection Resource Panel. She is a current Executive member of the Family Law Section and has presented Lawyer for Child Forums in Hamilton, Auckland and Whangarei as well as local Law Society seminars on a range of topics.

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