



MEDIA RELEASE - 26/10/2016

The National Rural Women's Coalition Announces the Release of Children's Book about domestic violence named "Brave Danny"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The **National Rural Women's Coalition (NRWC)** is proud to announce the launch of *Brave Danny*, a picture book for children aged 4-8 years. Written by Robin Adolphs, and illustrated by Nicky Johnston, *Brave Danny* is a sensitive and engaging story of a young child living in a domestic-violence situation.

Brave Danny is about a small boy who makes a difference by being brave enough to speak up.

This book brings the subject of family and domestic violence out from behind closed doors and serves as a tool for educators, teachers and parents to engage young children about the subject.

"Empowering the voices of our 'little people', like Danny, with his loyal companion, Rarfie, helps all of us to overcome one of the greatest human rights challenges of our time, family violence. Family violence is not an easy subject to speak about with young children. The effects on women and caregivers are well documented, but far less is known about the impact on the children—often the forgotten victims—who witness a parent being the subject of abuse. It can be frightening. It is the sincere hope of the NRWC that Brave Danny plays a strong role in helping some of our smallest victims." Dr Patricia Hamilton, President, National Rural Women's Coalition.

Accompanying notes, activities and worksheets have been designed to support the underlying messages inherent in the book by Nicky Johnston (illustrator) and Jenny James (design).

"This book is powerful in its simplicity targeting an age group who are invisible. The teaching notes and activities add depth to the story giving teachers and children the opportunity to fully engage with the concepts that underpin the story. This will be an outstanding teaching tool that fills an enormous gap in children's literature." Dr Deborah Walsh, Family Violence Specialist & Lecturer, University of Queensland.

The National Rural Women's Coalition (NRWC) is funded by the Office for Women and works to support and grow vibrant rural, remote and regional (RRR) communities throughout Australia. The NRWC provides a collaborative voice for women living in rural, remote and regional Australia. It represents the diverse views of women helping to build a positive profile of their achievements and issues. NRWC provides policy advice to the Australian Government on matters relevant to the views and circumstances of rural women and also takes a leading role in ensuring that it helps as many rural, regional and remote women as possible to achieve their goals. Formed in 2002 and funded by the Australian Government, the National Rural Women's Coalition is one of five alliances taking the lead and ensuring the voices of as many women as possible are heard by Government, especially those women, who in the past have found it difficult to engage in advocacy and decision making.

Pre-orders for **Brave Danny** are currently available via the website – click or copy and paste this link - <http://www.nrwc.com.au/resources-policy/children-s-book-brave-danny>

The official launch of Brave Danny will be held as a White Ribbon Event at the Grand Mercure Hotel, Melbourne on 24th November 2016 from 5.00pm-7.00pm.

ALL MEDIA WELCOME – PLEASE RSVP

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