

This video outlines research on the experiences and outcomes of individuals who were in out-of-home care in Australia, particularly focusing on three vulnerable cohorts: "Forgotten Australians," members of the "Stolen Generations," and British child migrants. The study highlights the responsibilities of state governments regarding child protection and the increasing number of children in care due to mandatory reporting laws.

Key findings include:

1. **Care Statistics**: In 2021, approximately 275,000 children were reported for abuse, with over 45,000 cases substantiated, leading to around 45,400 children placed in out-of-home care in 2022.
2. **Vulnerabilities in Care**: The research reveals significant issues faced by children in care, such as high rates of emotional and behavioral problems, educational neglect, placement instability (with some experiencing 1 to 27 placements), and widespread maltreatment.
3. **Maltreatment Statistics**: 96% of participants reported experiencing some form of maltreatment during their time in care, including sexual, emotional, and physical abuse.
4. **Transition to Adulthood**: Many care leavers reported feeling unprepared for transitioning out of care, often facing homelessness, limited educational achievements, and difficulties with employment. Mental health issues were prevalent, with many experiencing disabilities, physical health problems, and high levels of psychological distress.
5. **Support and Resilience**: Despite various challenges, some individuals displayed resilience, with a small percentage obtaining vocational or higher education degrees, often attributed to supportive relationships.
6. **Future Needs**: Participants expressed a strong desire for trauma-informed care, especially as they age, and emphasized the need for better access to mental health services and compensation for the abuse endured during their childhood.

The study advocates the importance of a compassionate, supportive approach to the care and aftercare of these vulnerable populations, indicating that lessons learned from historical experiences should inform current and future child protection and welfare systems.