Candidate’s declaration

Except as acknowledged in the text, the work presented in this thesis is my own original research and has not been submitted, in whole or in part, for a degree or diploma at this or any other tertiary institution.

Katherine Maree Sullivan
Acknowledgements

This project was funded by the Australian Research Council as a Linkage Project with the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR).

I would like to thank all the participants and their families who made time to share with me their stories and insights into the process of desistance. I regret that they cannot be named for reasons of privacy and confidentiality.

I am grateful to the staff of the Western Aboriginal Legal Service, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Attorney General’s Department (Court workers), and to certain parole officers of the Corrective Services Department who provided information and insights, advertised the project and showed great hospitality. I am especially grateful to the Western Aboriginal Legal Service and certain Court staff in various centres for allowing me to use their offices for interviews. Again, I cannot name individuals for reasons of confidentiality.

I thank my friend (and Dubbo neighbour) Ms Evelyn Barker who provided introductions, insights, hospitality and fun during my stay, and Ms Lorna Brennan for her ongoing friendship and practical assistance.

I thank staff of the regional office of the Department of Education for their time and insights and especially Daryl Healey for the preparation of materials. Similarly Jessica Holmes of the Bureau of Crime Statistics responded efficiently to my requests for various crime statistics. Mr John Hughes and Ms Gillian Cosgrove of the Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research (CAEPR) kindly provided assistance with maps and graphs and Dr Nicolas Biddle provided demographic data. Ms Annick Thomassin kindly transcribed a series of interviews with service providers.

I acknowledge the support and encouragement of my supervisors Dr Jerry Schwab and Dr Boyd Hunter of CAEPR, and Dr Don Weatherburn of BOCSAR. Jerry was always positive and encouraging, and Don made time in his very busy schedule to provide guidance. I would particularly like to thank Boyd Hunter for his active, invaluable, consistent moral support and academic guidance throughout my research program.

I thank all my colleagues at CAEPR for their ongoing support and encouragement, especially Ms Denise Steele for her care, efficient service and friendship. Dr Maggie Brady provided professional advice and invaluable personal support. Dr
Will Sanders was always generous with his time. He provided thoughtful listening and practical suggestions that allowed me to see ways forward in moments of indecision. Professor Nicolas Peterson at the school of Archaeology and Anthropology at ANU provided valuable advice at certain key points and I am particularly grateful for his expansive knowledge of the Australian literature and directing me to relevant references.

I would like to thank those who read and commented on early drafts of some or all of the work. These include Dr Jack Clegg, Mr John Clegg, Dr Maggie Brady, Professor Sharon Sullivan AO, Professor Michael Bounds, Ms Annick Tomassin, Ms Jenni Laird, Ms Catherine Smith, Ms Claire Colyer and Mr Harry Clegg.

Professional editor, friend and colleague Claire Colyer edited the thesis and provided skilled and stoic assistance with final formatting in difficult circumstances. I thank Claire for her moral support, encouragement and advice throughout the project and her ready availability to answer questions about grammar and style at almost any time of day or night. Tao Deards, my sons Jack and Harry Clegg, and my sisters Mary Ann Das Neves, Hilary Sullivan, Sharon Sullivan and Ellin Pooley undertook proofreading.

My husband, John Clegg, supported and encouraged me throughout, including commenting on and correcting grammar in early versions of the work. I thank him for this and for his forbearance during my long absences. Two people in particular, my friends Marie Loftus and Tony Mandl, ‘kept the home fires burning’ and they together with Lesley Maynard kept company with John for which I am especially grateful. During the final months of editing, John’s visiting great niece (ZDD) Tao Deards kept up a constant supply of Cornish pasties, and other delicious food that assisted with sustenance and sanity.

Finally, I wish to thank many friends for understanding my need to absent myself from social interaction over the past year or so, and for their quiet, non-intrusive support throughout.

I dedicate this thesis to my parents, Ann and Jack Sullivan, who despite their meagre formal education instilled the value of education and scholarship in all their daughters. I am grateful for the sacrifices they made that have led to opportunities that continue to benefit me and my children.
Abstract

Aboriginal people are over represented in prison in Australia, being 13 times more likely to be incarcerated than non-Indigenous people. Repeat offenders make up a high proportion of the Aboriginal prison population, yet most repeat offenders eventually cease offending or desist from crime. Why do they stop? The process of desistance is complex, non-linear and varies between individuals. North American and British studies report the role of structure and, more latterly, cognition and agency in desistance and re-formation of offender identities. Few of these studies examine the context, particularly the cultural context, of desisters and desistance. This thesis uses anthropological and ethnographic approaches to present and analyse the life narratives of Aboriginal men from north-western New South Wales who have been repeat offenders and are now ‘going good’ (i.e. have ceased offending). Concepts of agency (and its temporal orientations), cultural schemas and figured worlds are applied. The stories of the early lives of participants and the views of community members paint the backdrop of offence, desistance, identity formation and re-formation. The agentic role of the motivating cultural schemas of fatherhood, life partnership, committed kin and respected man are found to operate in the initiation of desistance as men consider ontological security and extricate themselves from the figured world of repeat offender. The interplay of contingency and capacity is critical in the maintenance of desistance, with shortfalls in the individual’s capacity sometimes being bolstered by spousal and family support. The thesis examines the role and interaction of Aboriginal and offender identity in desistance and maps the repeated expression of the underlying value of ‘looking after’ family and kin, and in this context the role of post-release occupation in desistance is critically examined. Continuity of aspects of identity are discovered to be critical in achieving desistance and paradoxically, achieving continuity often involves innovation in relationships with kin and/or in expression of the moral value of ‘looking after’ or ‘caring for’ (kin).
# Table of contents

Candidate’s declaration .................................................................................................................. i
Acknowledgements ........................................................................................................................ iii
Abstract ........................................................................................................................................ v
Table of figures ................................................................................................................................ xi
Glossary .......................................................................................................................................... xii
Kinship terms .................................................................................................................................. xiv
A note about style ............................................................................................................................ xv
Key people (alphabetical order) ...................................................................................................... xvi
Noel, Brad, Randall and Ben kinship diagram ................................................................................. xviii
Mick’s family kinship diagram ...................................................................................................... xix

## CHAPTER 1. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

The rationale for the study ............................................................................................................... 1
The study ......................................................................................................................................... 4
Nature and profile of Indigenous crime in NSW ........................................................................... 5
The make up of the over-representation .......................................................................................... 5
Characteristics that correlate with crime ....................................................................................... 7
Theories of cause of Indigenous crime and re-offence ................................................................. 9
The present study ........................................................................................................................... 14
About the discipline ...................................................................................................................... 17
Structure of the thesis .................................................................................................................... 18

## CHAPTER 2. DESISTANCE AND ITS STUDY

The nature of desistance .................................................................................................................. 21
Desistance models and explanations ............................................................................................. 24
The environment and the individual in desistance literature ......................................................... 28
Continuity and change .................................................................................................................. 28
Structure, agency and context – key studies ................................................................................. 29
Structure accommodating agency: Sampson and Laub ............................................................... 30
Agency accommodating structure: phenomenological and cognitive approaches ..................... 32
Debates and differences ............................................................................................................... 38
Race and ethnicity in desistance studies ...................................................................................... 41
Ethnicity and criminal careers research ..................................................................................... 41
Disadvantage, ethnicity and crime ............................................................................................... 42
Race, ethnicity and desistance ...................................................................................................... 42
Reframing approaches to desistance for an Aboriginal context ...................................................... 48
Agency, identity and social schema ............................................................................................... 48
Agency .......................................................................................................................................... 52
Social schema and motivation ..................................................................................................... 55
Identity, figured worlds and agency ............................................................................................ 58
An application of approaches to agency, cultural schemas and figured worlds ......................... 60

## Concluding remarks

## CHAPTER 3. THE FIELD AND METHODOLOGY

The field .......................................................................................................................................... 63
The nature of the field .................................................................................................................... 63
The location and the community (where and who) ..................................................................... 65
Confidentiality and pseudonyms ................................................................................................. 66
The region ...................................................................................................................................... 66
Population ..................................................................................................................................... 68
Aboriginality ................................................................................................................................. 68
Employment, income, education and housing ............................................................................. 69
Crime data for north-western NSW ............................................................................................. 73
# Sociality

*Place, kin and language group affiliation* ................................................................. 75

*Separateness and distinction* .................................................................................. 77

## Participant selection - desistance and serial offence.

- Serial offence and progress in desistance ......................................................... 81
- Age and gender .................................................................................................. 83

## About the ethnographic method

- The nature of the field work: finding participants, meetings, ‘hanging out’ and interviews ...................................................................................................................... 85
- Analysis ................................................................................................................. 87
- Dealing with variation .......................................................................................... 88

## CHAPTER 4. YOUNG LIVES OF DESISTERS AND COMMUNITY CONTEXT

### Common experience and community attitudes

- Separation and abandonment, parenting and neglect ........................................ 93
- Raising children the “Aboriginal way” ................................................................. 96
- Origins of “Aboriginal way” .................................................................................. 96
- The lived experience of rejection ........................................................................ 99
- Perceptions of neglect .......................................................................................... 108
- Socialisation to autonomy .................................................................................... 109
- Cousins as peers .................................................................................................... 112
- Communication with authority: an intercultural experience .................................. 113

### The normalcy of violence and its relationship to drug and alcohol use

- Violence in the childhood home ........................................................................ 122
- Casualness in mention and the language of violence ........................................... 123
- “A bad record for domestic violence” .................................................................. 125
- The violence of crime ........................................................................................... 126

### Aboriginal community perceptions of Aboriginal crime and the criminal justice system

- Aboriginal perceptions of the criminal justice system ......................................... 129

### Intergenerational and family incarceration

- Attitudes to detention and beliefs about attitudes to detention.............................. 132
- The inevitability of gaol and gaol as choice - choosing cultural models ............... 133

### Stuck in the mess

- Participant experience of and attitude to parole .................................................. 135

### Road traffic and driving offences and penalties

- Housing and employment ....................................................................................... 138
- Police surveillance ................................................................................................. 142

### Conclusion

- Communication with authority: an intercultural experience .................................. 144

## CHAPTER 5. INITIATION OF AND MOTIVATION FOR DESISTANCE

### Introducing motivation

- Agency, motivation and the beginning of change .................................................. 148
- Sequences of intentions ........................................................................................ 149
- Aspects of agency in the initiation of desistance ................................................... 150

### Eight short cases most involving alcohol

- Two-step desistance .............................................................................................. 152
- *Dean (aged 33)* .................................................................................................... 154
- *Daryl K (aged 34)* ............................................................................................... 157
- Alcohol and domestic violence (DV) .................................................................. 161
- *Ray (aged 39)* ...................................................................................................... 161
- *Terry (aged 45): two-step?* ................................................................................ 165
- *Robbie (aged 48)* ............................................................................................... 169
- *Eddie (aged 43)* .................................................................................................. 171

### Youthful desisters

- *Ricky (aged 21)* .................................................................................................. 174
- *Allan (aged 21)* .................................................................................................. 176

### Two long cases – longer and more serious criminal careers

- *Randall (aged 40)* ............................................................................................... 179
- *Aethan (aged 40)* ................................................................................................ 186

---

**viii**
Discussion ................................................................. 196
Catalysts, disruption and re-evaluation: the beginning of identity shift .................. 198
Aspects of goal as catalysts for change ................................................................. 199
Motivators: children and partners – more than mere context ............................. 201
Being a physically present father .......................................................................... 202
Partnering for the long-term ................................................................................. 205
Maintaining kin networks, another motivating schema? ...................................... 208
Respect, responsibility and/or alternative perception of self in motivating and maintaining desistance ................................................................. 208
Choice and commitment ...................................................................................... 211
Something to do ................................................................................................. 212
Orientation to the future: mortality, adulthood and awareness of the passage of time ......................................................................................... 213
Progress and process .......................................................................................... 216
Agency and the context for action ..................................................................... 217

CHAPTER 6. MAINTENANCE AND CAPACITY ................................................. 219
The importance of contingency and capacity in maintenance of desistance ......... 221
Mick, aged 36 in 2010 ......................................................................................... 221
Mick’s desistance process .................................................................................. 221
Mick’s initial motivation ...................................................................................... 222
Maintenance of desistance ................................................................................ 223
The origin of Mick’s capacity ........................................................................... 226
Kyle, aged 31 in 2010 ........................................................................................ 228
Initial motivation ................................................................................................. 228
Maintenance of desistance ................................................................................ 230
The source of Kyle’s capacity to maintain desistance ........................................ 231
Chance happenings and capacity ...................................................................... 235
Maintenance with less capacity – Widetown brothers ........................................ 236
Marriage and employment effects – the criminological approach ......................... 236
Aboriginal views of ‘marriage’ ........................................................................... 237
Noel, aged 27 in 2010 and Brad, aged 26 in 2010 ............................................... 241
Noel’s desistance process .................................................................................. 241
Brad’s desistance process .................................................................................. 242
Different outcomes ............................................................................................ 243
The brothers and work ....................................................................................... 243
Different partner – different values? Noel’s and Brad’s partners ......................... 246
Noel and Alanna ................................................................................................. 248
Brad and Savanna .............................................................................................. 251
Noel and Brad ..................................................................................................... 253
Discussion ........................................................................................................... 253
Capacity, chance events and socialisation ........................................................... 253
Family support ..................................................................................................... 255
Agency, equality and strong women in partnership ............................................. 256
Role of work in maintenance ............................................................................. 259
Relationship between motivation and maintenance ........................................... 262
Threats to maintenance ..................................................................................... 263
Different values ................................................................................................. 264

Concluding comment ......................................................................................... 265

CHAPTER 7. IDENTITY, CHANGE AND CONFORMITY ................................ 267
Identity ................................................................................................................. 269
Aboriginality and ‘repeat offender’ status ........................................................... 273
Aboriginality ........................................................................................................ 273
Self and Aboriginality – kinship, relatedness and autonomy ................................ 274
Maintaining identity and achieving conformity .................................................. 286
Improvisation: changing values, changing relationships ................................. 290
A genealogy of changing values ........................................................................ 298
Generativity, work and identity: moving from imagination to action .................. 305
Narratives: redemption or autonomy? ................................................................. 306
From projectivity to generativity ................................................................. 309
The professional ex...................................................................................... 310
Being ’normal’: generativity at home and at work ........................................... 318

Discussion ....................................................................................................... 322
Impacts of sociality and identity on desistance and vice versa......................... 323
Conventionality and identity ......................................................................... 323
Relatedness and innovation .......................................................................... 324
Autonomy ...................................................................................................... 327
Generativity and identity, context and capacity .............................................. 328
Concluding remarks ...................................................................................... 330

Overview of findings ..................................................................................... 332
The role of cultural schemas in motivation for and initiation of desistance: where agency and culture connect ................................................................. 333
Catalysts for motivation ................................................................................. 333
The schema of ’being a father’ ....................................................................... 334
The schema of ’long-term partnership’ ............................................................ 334
Maintenance of kin relationships as cultural schemata ..................................... 335
Being free: autonomy as a motivating schema ................................................. 335
Employment or vocation as motivating schemas in initiating desistance......... 336
The mechanics of maintenance ..................................................................... 338
Contingency, capacity and social support ..................................................... 338
Employment during maintenance ................................................................... 339
Culture, agency and social capital .................................................................. 341
Continuity and change in identity .................................................................. 343
Kinship and identity: balancing autonomy and relatedness in desistance and changing identity ................................................................. 343
Religion and cultural renewal not reported as motivation .............................. 344
Religion ......................................................................................................... 345
Aboriginal cultural renewal .......................................................................... 346

Considerations for the field of desistance and for future research ................. 347
Continuity of identity .................................................................................... 347
Autonomy and relatedness ........................................................................... 349
A fuller understanding of aspirations ............................................................. 350
Exploring age-related variation in motivation, aspiration and agency .......... 351
Methodological approaches to future research ............................................. 352

Implications for future policy development and practice .............................. 352
Identification of intention to desist ................................................................. 353
Support in the initiation stage of ’staying out of trouble’ ................................ 354
Taking care of immediate needs and identifying longer term needs ............. 354
Support which allows the take up of motivating schemas to flourish .............. 355
Issues for long-term maintenance ................................................................. 356
Facilitating the coalescence of capacity and opportunity............................... 356
Provision of culturally effective counselling for separation and abandonment issues ................................................................................................................. 356
The contribution of macro structural reparations to desistance ...................... 357
The role of kin ............................................................................................... 358
Family support .............................................................................................. 358
Peer-cousins ................................................................................................. 358

Concluding comment .................................................................................... 359

Bibliography .................................................................................................. 361
Table of figures

Figure 1.1 Age specific conviction rates for Indigenous and non-Indigenous offenders, 2010, NSW Children's, Local and Higher Courts: rate per hundred thousand. ..........................................................1

Figure 1.2 Age-specific imprisonment rates for Indigenous and non-Indigenous offenders, 2010, NSW Children's, Local and Higher Courts: rate per hundred thousand. ..........................................................2

Figure 2.1a Desistance and offence ........................................................................22

Figure 2.1b Primary and secondary desistance .....................................................23

Figure 2.2 Explanations of desistance groups by theory .....................................26

Figure 2.3 Models of stages of desistance .............................................................36

Figure 3.1 The study area ..................................................................................67

Figure 3.2 Attended secondary school by remoteness areas, Indigenous persons ....70

Figure 3.3 Highest year of school completed, Indigenous persons aged 15 years and over ............................................................71

Figure 3.4 NSW Recorded Crime Statistics Oct 2010 to Sept 2011 .......................74

Figure 3.5 Strength of desistance versus frequency and/or seriousness of offence...89

Figure 7.1 Details of some partnerships of differing backgrounds ....................294
## Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Alcoholics Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aboriginal</td>
<td>The term Aboriginal refers to the people who are the descendants of the original inhabitants of mainland Australia. It does not include Torres Strait Islander people. See Indigenous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstudy</td>
<td>An Australian Government allowance for Indigenous secondary or tertiary students or full-time Australian apprentices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABS</td>
<td>Australian Bureau of Statistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATSIC</td>
<td>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVO</td>
<td>Apprehended Violence Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big gaol</td>
<td>‘Big gaol’ is the term commonly used to refer to adult prison.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOCSAR</td>
<td>Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys homes</td>
<td>Colloquial term for juvenile detention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDEP</td>
<td>Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP). CDEP is an Australian Government funded program for unemployed Indigenous people in remote locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centrelink</td>
<td>Centrelink is an agency of the Commonwealth Department of Human Services. It provides a range of payments and services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circle sentencing</td>
<td>An alternative sentencing program which involves members of Aboriginal communities in the sentencing of Aboriginal offenders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Working Party</td>
<td>Most towns in the Murdi Paaki Region have Community Working Parties representing the different Aboriginal demographic groups and community organisations. There is also a Working Party in Dubbo to progress matters in partnership with the general community. The Murdi Paaki Region was an ATSIC region in Western NSW.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detox</td>
<td>Detoxification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoCS</td>
<td>Department of Community Services (NSW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dry out</td>
<td>Colloquial term for a drug and/or alcohol rehabilitation centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DV</td>
<td>Domestic violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBH</td>
<td>Grievous Bodily Harm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘going good’ or ‘doing real good’</td>
<td>Local expression for ‘staying out of trouble (with police)’ or having been out of trouble for some time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Commission</td>
<td>Now ‘Housing NSW’ but still commonly referred to as ‘the Housing Commission’. This is the provider of public housing in NSW, i.e. subsidised, publicly-owned housing, also called ‘Commission Houses’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous people</td>
<td>The term refers to Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander people collectively. The term ‘Aboriginal people’ does not include Torres Strait Islander people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICS</td>
<td>Intensive Court Supervision</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kinship terminology

Koori
Term for ‘Aboriginal person’ used by some Aboriginal groups in parts of NSW and Victoria, for instance the Wiradjuri in the west and central west refer to themselves as Kooris

Lifers
Prisoners serving ‘life sentences’.

Link-up

LDS
Liverpool Desistance Study (Maruna 2001)

Mission
(see Reserve)

Mish
Colloquial usage for Mission (see Reserve)

NATSIS
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey. This survey was conducted throughout Australia during April to July 1994 by the Bureau of Statistics.

NATSISS
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey. This survey is conducted every six years by the Bureau of Statistics and compliments the NATSIS.

NSW
New South Wales, an Australian state.

OPK
Ogijiita Pimatiswin Kinamatwin, which means “learning to become a protector and provider for the community”, is a program run in Manitoba, Canada for a particular group of Canadian Aboriginal ex-offenders (Deane et al. 2007:127)

OxyContin
OxyContin (oxycodone) is an opioid pain reliever used to treat moderate to severe pain. It is often used by heroin addicts.

Reserve
Missions and reserves are small Aboriginal settlements on the outskirts or within a short distance (5-10 kilometres) of towns. Originally settled in 19th or early 20th century, many still exist in NSW under the ownership of Local Aboriginal Land Councils. Local people will refer to them as ‘the mission’ or ‘the Mish’ depending upon their history. In the interests of disguising locations and therefore identities, I use the term ‘reserve’ to refer to all of them.

RCIADIC
Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. (Commonwealth of Australia 1991)

TAFE
Department of Technical and Further Education. This is the (state run) major provider of vocational education

Yarndi
Marijuana, cannabis

Yetta Dhinnakkal
Yetta Dhinnakkal Centre is a NSW Corrective Services Department minimum security institution for Aboriginal males, located in north-western NSW, 800 km from Sydney.
Kinship terms

M  Mother
F  Father
S  Son
D  Daughter
B  Brother
Z  Sister
W  Female spousal partner
H  Male spousal partner

These terms are used in combination to describe relationships, for example:

FZ  Father’s sister
FBS  Father’s brother’s son
FMM  Father’s mother’s mother
MMZSD  Mother’s mother’s sister’s sons’s daughter
A note about style

Because I wished to maintain as much of the ‘voice’ of participants as possible, single quotation marks have been used to denote colloquial expressions and particular terms or meanings, while double quotation marks have been used for short direct quotes, whether verbal or from text.

Text quotes more than five lines long are in indented block text and longer voice quotations are in indented block italics with no quotation marks. Interviewer questions and comments are in bold italics.
### Key people (alphabetical order)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Main ref</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Key relationships</th>
<th>Key features of narrative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aethan</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Kylie (W)</td>
<td>3-4, father left; 7-10, stealing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Allan (S)</td>
<td>13-14, juvenile detention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15, mother murdered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18, met his biological father in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19-24, 7 year sentence for assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>26-33, 7 year sentence for assault, life in danger by end of this term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>33, met Kylie, then 6 months “on protection”; starts a family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>38, stops drinking alcohol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>39, drug rehabilitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allan</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Aethan (F)</td>
<td>Visited in juvenile detention by estranged father Aethan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Unnamed (W) and child</td>
<td>Did ICS program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nearly run over by truck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Influenced by “good policeman”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Randall is MZ,S</td>
<td>Repeated driving offences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Noel and Brad are MZ,S</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brad</td>
<td>Ch 4</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Savanna (W)</td>
<td>10, father died, mother started drinking, neglecting children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Noel (B)</td>
<td>13, expelled from school year 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Randall (MZ,S)</td>
<td>14-18, 3 times in Juvenile detention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16, met Savanna, 19 first child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18-21, all birthdays in gaol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21-25, no offences, mostly working</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>26, nine months for assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daryl</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Gail (W)</td>
<td>Heroin, then alcohol, scared of waking up not knowing what he had done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fig 7.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Main motivation: partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David</td>
<td>Fig 7.1</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Charlene (W)</td>
<td>22 - 25, several sentences for assault DV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25, Met Charlene, an older women, strongly affiliated with land issues of their language group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>28 both stopped drinking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>33 traineeship, then job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dean</td>
<td>Ch 4</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Unnamed (W)</td>
<td>15, lived alone looking after siblings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19, gaol, alcohol and assault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Main motivation: children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eddie</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>Unnamed (W)</td>
<td>Alcohol and family violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Job working with Aboriginal culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>Fig 7.1</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Merrily (W)</td>
<td>Was a ‘colleague’ (in crime) of Mick’s, used heroin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18 met Merrily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20, 9 months gaol, many robberies not caught</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>22, birth of child changed his life, got a job</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Now sees little of cousins, works at community controlled organisation and studying Certificate 4 level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Chapter(s)</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Relationship Status</td>
<td>Key Life Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle</td>
<td>Ch 4, Ch 6</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Not named</td>
<td>15mths, mother left, 2-7 lived mostly with Auntie (FZ) called ‘Mum’, 7-12 oscillated between (FZ) and (FM), 14 met partner, mother of children, 15 expulsion, intermittent juvenile detention, gaol, drugs, 24, rehabilitation, AA, found apprenticeship by chance, 25, tradesman’s job.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mick</td>
<td>Ch 4, Ch 6, Ch 7</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>Suzie (W), Jason (‘F’), June (step-M), Stuart (FB), Sarah (FBW)</td>
<td>2, mother left; 16, Jason moved away, Mick found out Jason not his biological father, 18-28, more in gaol than out, 26, met Suzie while in gaol, 30, rock-bottom and rehabilitation, 32, found out about course of study by chance, manages relationships with cousins, 34 found out about job by chance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noel</td>
<td>Ch 4, Ch 6, Ch 7</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Alanna (W), Brad (B), Randall (MZS)</td>
<td>11, father died, mother started drinking, neglecting children, 14-20, all birthdays in gaol, 21, met Alanna.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randall</td>
<td>Ch 4, Ch 5</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Kristi (W), Noel (MZS), Brad (MZS), Ben (MZS)</td>
<td>12/13, mother left, father in rel’shp with (MZS) and mostly absent, 13-18, juvenile detention 5-6 times, 18, heavy drugs, 18-30 in and out of gaol, 24, stabbed in gaol, 30, gaol classification changed from B to A, 32, “got together with Kristi”, 37, methadone program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ray</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Unnamed (W)</td>
<td>Catalyst was ‘brief intervention’ re alcohol consumption. Main motivation: children.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ricky</td>
<td>Ch 5, Fig 7.1</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Julie (W)</td>
<td>14/15, break and enter, expelled, 17, break and enters, met Julie, Juvenile detention when nearly 18, Rehabilitation, traineeship, main carer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbie</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>Unnamed (W)</td>
<td>Alcohol and family violence, Met up with his son in gaol, Trained to be offender delegate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Unnamed (ex-W)</td>
<td>Stabbed his partner, Advice from ‘lifers’, Main motivation: children, Recruiting young to football.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Noel, Brad, Randall and Ben kinship diagram

Female ●  p = person  Fostered/adopted
Male ▲  C = child  Divorced or deceased
M = mother  F= father  Z = sister
Mick’s family kinship diagram