



## Hon Kiri Allan

Minister of Justice

invites you, in association with the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse  
and the Michael and Suzanne Borrin Foundation,

to the book launch, lecture and networking event:

### **Intimate partner rape and the trial process: Research, reflections and reform**

in the **Banquet Hall, Parliament Buildings, Wellington**

**from 5:30pm to 7:30pm**

**on 8 March 2023**

RSVP required. Please RSVP by 3 March 2023.

RSVP online via the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/23Jmb4vAgk> or with the QR code below



For questions, contact the NZ Family Violence Clearinghouse at NZFVC Webinars & Events  
[nzfvwebinarsevents@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:nzfvwebinarsevents@auckland.ac.nz)



# Intimate partner rape and the trial process: Research, reflections and reform

*book launch, lecture and networking event*

This book launch will share research findings from the book by Elisabeth McDonald *Prosecuting Intimate Partner Rape: The Impact of Misconceptions on Complainant Experience and Trial Process* (Canterbury University Press, 2023). This is the final in a series of three books examining how sexual violence is addressed in Aotearoa New Zealand's Courts. Elisabeth conducted in-depth analysis of case materials for over 70 adult rape trials from a 10-year period (2010-2020), including both jury and judge-alone trials. Drawing on this research, she will reflect on some of the reforms to law and procedure that may help reduce the negative impacts of participation on victim/survivors as complainants. The book will be launched online (Open Access) on the night. It considers

the particular and significant in-court challenges for those who have reported experiencing multiple forms of family and sexual violence.

The Minister of Justice, Hon Kiritapu Allan, will respond by providing an overview of changes already implemented and potential future changes planned to address some of the challenges outlined in the research.

*The Michael and Suzanne Borrin Foundation generously funded the research and its publication.*

**Elisabeth McDonald** is an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Canterbury. She has taught and published in the areas of sexual and family violence, law and sexuality, criminal law and the law of evidence for over 30 years, as an academic and as the Policy Manager for the evidence law reference at the New Zealand Law Commission. Elisabeth is the author of a number of evidence law textbooks and online legal resources, including *Rape Myths as Barriers to Fair Trial Process* (Canterbury University Press, 2020) (co-winner of the JF Northey Memorial book prize) and *In the Absence of a Jury* (Canterbury University Press, 2022), and is also co-editor and co-author of *From "Real Rape" to Real Justice* (VUP, 2011) and *Feminist Judgments Aotearoa: Te Rino, the Two-Stranded Rope* (Hart, 2017). In 2018 she became a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for her contribution to law and education. In late 2022 Elisabeth took up a role as Deputy Director Curriculum Design & Delivery at Te Kura Kaiwhakawā | Institute of Judicial Studies.

**Co-hosted by Charlotte Moore** (Rangitāne o Wairau), Kaiwhakahaere at the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse and **Tupe Solomon-Tanoa'i**, Chief Philanthropic Officer for the Michael and Suzanne Borrin Foundation.

*The event will be live streamed online and a video recording made available after the event. You may register to attend in person or to receive notification of the livestreaming.*

