

The SRV Implementation Project and *family*

A D V O C A C Y

Present:

# Life-Threatening Public Policy

An Eight-Part Lecture Series

Tuesday 3 to Friday 27 May 2022



Public policy that threatens the lives of people with disability and other devalued groups is not a new concept.

**However, the legitimising of methods and policies that result in the deaths of people in today's world is unprecedented.**

This eight-part series explores contemporary examples of public policy that result in death for devalued groups. It will highlight a pattern that contributes to the vulnerability of people with disability and other devalued groups and calls participants to careful reflection and positive action.

## Participants will:

- Develop a deeper understanding of the vulnerability of devalued people to having their lives shortened
- Consider the connections among all forms of life-threatening public policy
- Consider examples of ways to oppose life-threatening public policies.



## Times\* and dates (online via Zoom)

- 7 - 10pm Tuesdays 3, 10, 17 & 24 May
- 7 - 10pm Thursdays 5, 12, 19 & 26 May
- Discussions: 8-9pm Wednesdays 11, 18, & 25 of May; and 9-10am on Friday 27 May

Attendees must be able to commit to all Tuesday and Thursday sessions. Discussion sessions are optional.

**\*All times are Australian Eastern Standard Time (AEST)**



## Who are the presenters?

Jo Massarelli, Jack Yates, and Marc Tumeinski, with guests Linda Higgs and Bill Forman.

Please turn over the page for their bios and the topics they will be covering in each session.



## Who is this series for?

Anyone interested in defending the lives of people with disability, especially those who are willing to consider that ours is a society that legitimises practices that can result in loss of life.



## Bookings essential

**Only 25 places available**

Register at:

[family-advocacy.com/events](https://family-advocacy.com/events)

\$275 for people with disability and families

\$350 for professionals

**Questions? Call us 1800 620 588 or email [communications@family-advocacy.com](mailto:communications@family-advocacy.com)**

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## Topics covered:

- Session 1 - A Lesson From History: The German Euthanasia Program and Its Echoes in Our Own Day
- Session 2 - Social Devaluation and the Killing Thought: Common Life Experiences of Human Service Recipients and How This Contributes to Their Deaths
- Session 3 - The Values of Modernism and the Contemporary Culture of Death
- Session 4 - Structural Violence in Contemporary Society
- Session 5 - An Exploration of Violence in Human Service with a Focus on Restraint as a Human Service Technique
- Session 6 - Materialised Medicine
- Session 7 - Euthanasia Versus Good End of Life Care
- Session 8 - Conclusion: Standing in contradiction to the Culture of Death



## About the Presenters:



### Jo Massarelli

is Director of the SRV Implementation Project, human service training and consultation based in Worcester, Massachusetts (USA). Jo spends her time teaching Social Role Valorization-based workshops, and working with families, human service staff and people with disability to bring about positive change, one person at a time. She has delivered at workshops and lectured at conferences across the United States, Canada, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand and Japan to a variety of human service workers.

Jo has evaluated dozens of human service programs for children, adults and elders, including residential, day and work programs, schools, hospice, prisons, and homeless shelters.

Jo has been a teacher closely affiliated with the late Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger of the Training Institute in Syracuse, New York (USA) since 1983. She has a particular interest in advocacy in medical settings. She teaches a variety of workshops on protecting vulnerable people in the hospital, and on medical decision making. Jo is also a member of the Medical Safeguards Project, which is a group of nurses and doctors in Massachusetts who are committed to safeguarding the health and lives of people with disability with significant medical needs.

# Life-Threatening Public Policy



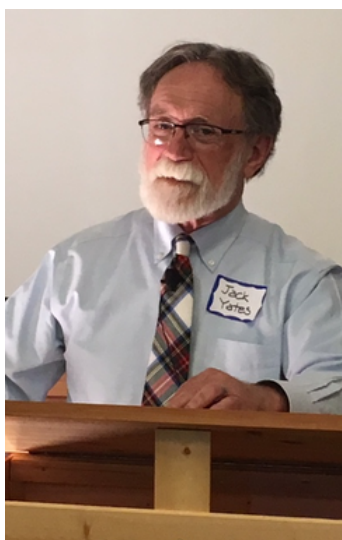
## About the Presenters:



### **Marc Tumeinski PhD**

is the Training Coordinator for The SRV Implementation Project in Worcester, MA (USA). He has co presented at workshops throughout the US and Canada primarily, all based on the work of Dr. Wolfensberger of Syracuse University (NY, USA). As a service worker, he has supported children and adults with physical and/or intellectual disability, as well as psychosocial disability. Marc has evaluated a variety of services in North America. He has presented at conferences on issues of violence in services, as well as the use of restrictive practices such as restraint, in the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the Netherlands.

Marc consults to a group of family members and human service workers in Ontario (CANADA) who are working to bring about an end to the use of, and training in, restraints by human services in that province (<http://citizensagainstrestraint.org/>). Marc is the Editor of The SRV Journal, published twice a year, containing original articles, vignettes, book and film reviews, etc. on topics related to Social Role Valorisation and PASSING. (<http://www.srvip.org/>). He is a member of the North American SRV Training, Development and Safeguarding Council.



### **Jack Yates**

has taught service workers and families of people with intellectual disability for five decades. Nearly all of his teaching has been derived from the ideas and practices of his principle teacher, Dr. Wolf Wolfensberger. In addition to teaching and supervising in staff development roles for state government and non-profit providers, Jack has for over forty years been one of the team of teachers in the workshops offered by the Syracuse University Training Institute, founded and led until 2011 by Dr. Wolfensberger.

Jack has offered his shorter classes scores of times as a guest lecturer at several universities, and for three years

was the teacher for a full course at the Harvard Divinity School entitled "The Inclusive Community." Jack was also a pioneer of person-centred planning, and has conducted such individual design sessions several hundred times with families and with service agencies.