



## Shifting the Power

By Michelle Derrig

*Thank you* so much for participating in the SAFE Kids Series – I hope that you have learnt lots of valuable information and that you now feel truly equipped to empower and protect the children in your care.

For me, the journey started with a night out – where I heard the shocking stories of young children being abused by their peers. As the ‘shock’ subsided, determination set in, and I quickly become a passionate advocator for protecting and empowering young children, authoring, publishing and distributing a picture book that is now being used by over 13,000 Australian families and organisations.

I never dreamed that I could make such a big difference – but I have. Quite often it is bittersweet hearing the details of lives that have been changed – particularly from those children that have disclosed something, after reading *Only For Me*. But at the end of the day I know that lives have been changed for the better.

Unfortunately, I don’t have an advertising budget, a famous ambassador or a publicity agent.

Instead I rely solely on the power of parents to help spread the word about the importance of educating our children about body safety. So I encourage you to talk to your friends and family, about all that you have learnt. I urge you to use the power of social media to share my message and to make other parents aware of their responsibility.

Ultimately, I am hoping and praying for a generational shift – where body safety conversations simply become a part of every family’s agenda. Where the power is shifted away from predators, as they’re disarmed of the tricks and techniques they rely upon, to groom and coerce their victims.

I know that this won’t happen overnight but together I know we can make a difference. We CAN stand up for our precious children. We CAN say ‘no more’. We CAN educate, empower and protect. We CAN shift the power.