

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc.

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Think Globally. Act Locally!

MEDIA RELEASE

Sunday, 17 August 2025

Re: HOPE Inc. Launches New Research Paper: A Critical Analysis of Eco-Social Justice in Australia

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. is pleased to announce the release of "Eco-Social Justice in Australia: A Critical Analysis of The People's Charter for an Eco-Social World" written by Laura Little, Human Services student from the University of Southern Queensland, as part of her field placement with HOPE Inc.

This compelling paper critically examines how the globally endorsed "People's Charter for an Eco-Social World" is applied in Australian policy and practice, with a strong focus on Indigenous-led frameworks and community-driven initiatives. It highlights the urgent need to address the systemic gaps between social welfare and how it is affected by the environment.

The research paper explores key themes, including:

- The role of Indigenous knowledge in climate adaptation and ecological grief.
- Policy gaps between human services and environmental governance.
- Opportunities for change by embedding ecological determinants in human service models, reforming education pathways, and empowering grassroots organisations to advocate for transformative change.

The paper presents eco-social justice as a guiding paradigm for place-based reform, identifying opportunities for integrated systems that prioritize Indigenous sovereignty, ecological wellbeing, and participatory governance. It also features HOPE Inc. as a model organisation for grassroots reform, demonstrating how global principles can be enacted locally through non-violent lobbying, storytelling, and strategic partnerships.

Frank Ondrus, Office Manager for HOPE Inc., commented, "We are immensely proud of Laura Little's excellent work. Her research provides a vital, in-depth analysis that aligns perfectly with our mission to 'Think Globally, Act Locally!'. This paper is a significant contribution to the national conversation on how we can create a future where no one, and no ecosystem, is left behind."

The full research paper is available for download on the HOPE Inc. website at <u>2025</u> Projects and Events - Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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