

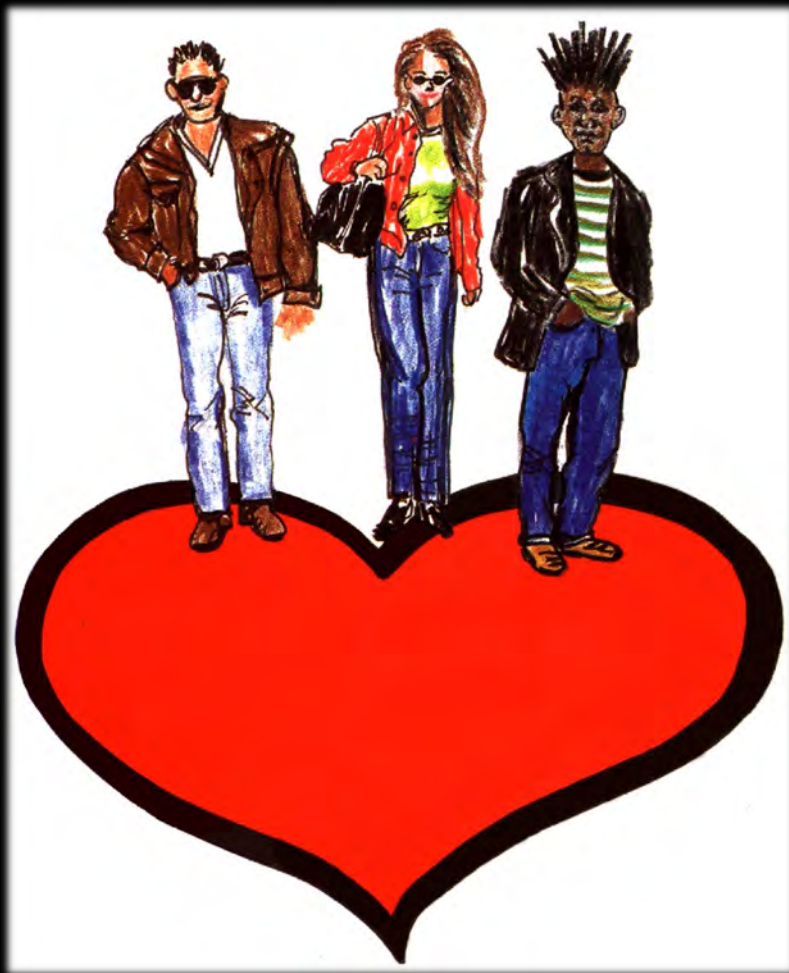
# How it Started?

Initiative (1990) & Documentary (1993)

Launched in Melbourne



*Celebrating the 30th Anniversary (2023)*



## Before it's Too Late Project



The "Before it's Too Late" project was implemented between 1990 and 1995. It supported many leading edge groups, in particular the Lighthouse Foundation, founded by Susan Barton AO. During that time there were many major events held in Melbourne & Sydney. A documentary was produced called, *"Our Children's Future in our Hands,"* (distributed to schools around Australia, including a Manual for teachers); the project generated awareness through national TV, with Max Walker and Robert Kiyosaki as the Spokespersons.



The project also channelled human and material resources to youth support groups. It created educational programs for empowering Youth Groups including a major "Success Congress for Teens" in Sydney, which was supported by leading sports and entertainment celebrities.



The Project and the video received wide acknowledgment within the community. This has included many Government officials and celebrities, who commented:

*"It is pleasing to see your efforts in this regard. I wish you well in your continuing efforts for young people..."*, The Honourable Vin Heffernan.

*"The 'Before it's Too Late' project is important to help young people in a positive way."* The Honourable Michael John.



*"The video only confirmed everything that I have actually felt and know, how important it is for business and Government and Welfare Agencies actually get together and address this problem, not individually but all together. That's the only way we have any chance of solving the problems in our community."* The Late John Bell, Managing Director, ESPRIT International.



*"I think it's a fantastic idea because too often if you have something to give, what do I do? This way here you will steer me in the right direction."* Derryn Hinch, the Middy Show.

*"It's people coming to you with skills that can be utilised to help these kids."* Steve Liebman on the Today Show.



*"The video is one of the most powerful tools you would ever want to use."* Max Walker from the Nine Network.

*"...your video was fantastic."* Jennifer Keyte, Channel 7 News.

*"There are a lot of important issues covered in the video. Congratulations!"* Anne Sanders from 11AM, National TV.

GPO Box 4959 Sydney NSW 2001 Australia  
anatole@kononewsky.com · www.kononewsky.com

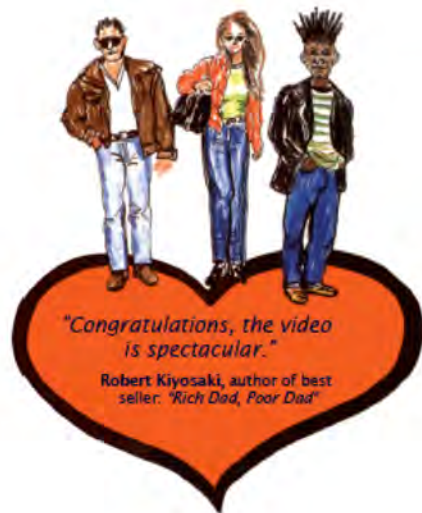
DVD

Documentary Playing time: 13' 38" Stereo, plus Interviews.  
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Our Children's Future...in our hands

Before it's Too Late Project

## Our Children's Future...



...in our hands

Video Documentary

Written & Directed Anatole Kononewsky

(Originally released in 1993, re-edited 2005)

## Documentary Released Melbourne (1993) 30th Anniversary (2023)



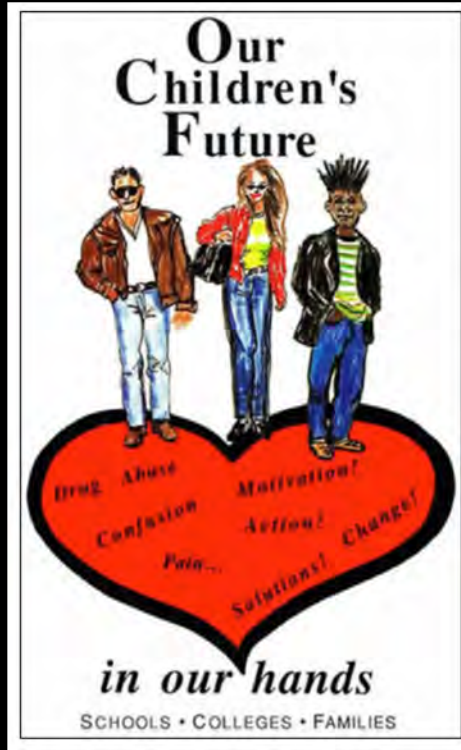
*"Congratulations, the video is spectacular. Thank you for giving me back my childhood."*

Robert Kiyosaki, Author, Educator  
& International Speaker



*"...your video was fantastic."*

Jennifer Keyte, Channel 7  
News, Melbourne,



Documentary produced with an amazing team of people in Australia. It was launched around Australia in 1993 as a part of the initiative, "Before its Too Late".



*"...was very impressed with your work."*

Joseph Chilton Pearce, U.S. Senate Adviser on  
Early Childhood Development, U.S. Lecturer  
and international best-selling author



*"The video is one of the most powerful tools you would ever want to use, it touched my heart..."* Max Walker AM,  
Australian Cricketer, National  
TV Sports commentator

# "Before it's Too Late" Initiative (1990 to 1996)

Documentary Released Melbourne (1993)



*"Her Majesty Queen Noor has requested me to convey Her appreciation for sending her a copy of the letter to the Prime Minister of Australia, which She read with interest, and for your commitment to humanitarian causes."*

Private Secretary to HM Queen Noor of Jordan,



Max Walker AM Master of Ceremonies for Documentary Launch (1993) Before it's Too Late Team: Dianne Costin, Anatole Kononewsky, Kalli Pulos



*"You have always been so committed to the betterment of humanity — specially children's conditions. We'll always support your work!"*

DC Cordova PhD, CEO of Excellerated Business Schools and Money & You

## "Before it's Too Late" Initiative (1990 to 1996)

Documentary Released Melbourne (1993)



The "Before it's Too Late" initiative was implemented in 1990.

The documentary, "Our Children's Future in our Hands," was produced and was distributed to schools around Australia, including a Manual for teachers. The project generated awareness through national TV, with Max Walker and Robert Kiyosaki as the Spokespersons.

It supported many leading edge groups, in particular the Lighthouse Foundation, founded by Susan Barton AM.

There were many major events held in Melbourne & Sydney.

## "Before it's Too Late" Initiative (1990 to 1996)

Documentary Released Melbourne (1993)



The project also channelled human and material resources to youth support groups. It created educational programs for empowering Youth Groups including a major "Success Congress for Teens" in Sydney, which was supported by leading sports and entertainment celebrities.

The legacy of the initiative lives on via our support of the great work of the Lighthouse Foundation, based in Melbourne.

# OVERVIEW



The Before it's Too Late initiative supported a selected number of youth groups around Australia, via the three projects:

MOVE | LINK | GIVE

(Motivating & Empowering) | (Linking & Networking) | (Getting Involved Very Easily).

The documentary was distributed to schools around Australia with a specially designed handbook.

# "Before it's Too Late" Initiative (1990 to 1996)

Documentary Released Melbourne (1993)



## *Lighthouse Foundation*

The aims of the Lighthouse Foundation are to care for and give support to disadvantaged children and teenagers, within a safe, loving family environment. The children are also guided into personal growth programs, which encourage them to take responsibility for their own lives. The group was formed to support Susan Barton who has worked tirelessly in this area for over 16 years. The second Lighthouse is starting in 1991.

## *808*

808, otherwise known as the Doncaster and Templestowe Youth Resource Centre, provides a wide range of services to youth in the area. The centre provides accommodation to homeless youth, counselling, personal development courses as well as a variety of recreation, holiday and entertainment activities for all young people in the area, including those with disabilities.

## Groups Supported

### *Kairos Housing Project*

The Kairos Housing Project has established supported accommodation to young people aged 15-24 in the Lamberwell area. The programme is focused specifically on maintaining youth in the education system that may otherwise be lost due to unsuitable circumstances. This is achieved by providing housing to those in need, safe shelter to those at risk and dispensing support to young people so they develop their own independent living skills and self-worth in a stable home environment.

### *S.E.E.K.*

S.E.E.K. was designed to find the most innovative and creative ways of making learning easy. The aim of the group is to give children and teenagers life skills and success strategies for increased academic and personal performance. The group operates regular programmes in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and New Zealand.

### *Worawa Aboriginal College*

Worawa College is the first and only registered Aboriginal independent secondary school in Victoria. The college's underlying education philosophy is based on elements of both traditional Aboriginal and current Western education. The college aims to shape Aboriginal persons proud of both their cultural traditions and identity, and who have the ability to contribute effectively to the community at large.

# "Before it's Too Late" Initiative (1990 to 1996)

Documentary Released Melbourne (1993)



## *Alma Doepel*

Alma Doepel is a three masted schooner which has been restored by volunteers in order to give young people the opportunity to learn the rigours of sailing a tall ship. The nine day voyage is designed to instill confidence in the participants by involving them in shared decision making which will effect the group as a whole and to realise their own self-worth through their ability to deal with others. The Alma Doepel celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 10 1993.

## *Discovery*

Discovery is a seven day residential adventure offering practical life skills in relationships, communication, education and life understanding. It aims to assist young people to learn more effectively, engender self-esteem and fosters the development of leadership skills.

## Groups Supported

### *Breaking the Cycle*

Breaking The Cycle is an organisation which conducts programmes for unemployed and/or homeless youth between the ages of 15-21. The programme involves a wilder ness challenge to build self-esteem and teamwork, educational training to promote a positive attitude to work and life, and business training to gain constructive experience in the workplace and employer placement support. The basic aim of the programme is to "break the cycle" of welfare dependence and to provide young people with the necessary skills to enable them to fulfil their potential.

## *Warrandyte Youth Services*

Warrandyte Youth Services is a youth organisation which provides a range of services to local youth at risk. They assist in the development of these young people by enabling them to take control of their own lives and creating their own opportunities.

## *Big Brothers / Big Sisters*

The Big Brother/Big Sister program is based on the ongoing friendship between an adult and a young person. The "little brothers" and "little sisters" are 7-16 year old youth whose situation in life indicates the need for additional adult support. The "big brothers" and "big sisters" are adults from all fields of life, who seek to support their "match" by providing a range of everyday activities for them to share and by encouraging and taking an interest in their individual welfare.

**OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE**  
*in our hands*



**LIGHTHOUSE**  
FOUNDATION *for youth*

## The First 'Lighthouse' (1991)



*"I have worked on some of these programs and they are doing great work. They are focused on creating a cooperative spirit by motivating the community, business and youth support organisations to work together to help solve the vast array of challenges facing our kids."*

**Angry Anderson AM** Singer /  
Performer & Social Activist



*"...there's so much to be done, and if everyone can all chip in a little bit we can solve a big, big problem."*

**Jim Steyne OAM**, AFL Footballer,  
Brownlow Medallist 1991



**Shelley Taylor-Smith**, Nine-time gold medal marathon swimming champion,  
Speaker at 'Before it's Too late' Event

## OVERVIEW

This national initiative was completed in 1996 when the Before it's Too Late Trust donated all of its surplus funds to the Lighthouse Foundation Ltd (helping homeless youth at risk).

We had the special support (which continues to this day) of Doria Cordova, CEO of Excellerated Business Schools® and Money & You® with over over 200,000 graduates.

### *Vision of Soft Diamond Light*

*Creating a World of Peace & Prosperity for Everyone.*

*Ending Child Abuse. Creating remarkable kids!*

# 'SEE WHAT WE CAN BE'

*'Can't you see, what we need, is some love,  
just to see what we can be.'*

*'If you look up above to see what is love,  
in a little child's eyes is just where it lies.*

*It's time that we took some time for a look,  
just to see what is real and really makes us feel.*

*Now you can wait, just for fate, but I'd  
rather make a move before it's just too late.'*

Jerry Speiser (drummer from "Men at Work") helped to produce the demo recording in Melbourne as a guide-track for the Fitzroy Community School Choir who performed the song at the launch in 1993.

Many thanks to Victor Jurkenas - Sound Engineer, Caz-u-al Recording Studio  
Fitzroy Community School: Philip O'Carroll, Drusilla Hendry, Sumitra Phoenix

# Documentary Released (1993 ) Melbourne 30th Anniversary (2023)



Ann Sanders, 11AM Channel 7, National TV, 1993

*"There are a lot of important issues  
covered in the video. Congratulations!"*

# Documentary Released (1993 ) Melbourne



Excerpt – “Our Children’s Future, in our hands” (1993)

30th Anniversary (2023)

## Documentary Released (1993 ) Melbourne



Excerpt – “Our Children’s Future, in our hands” (1993)  
30th Anniversary (2023)

# Documentary Released (1993 ) Melbourne



Excerpt – “Our Children’s Future, in our hands” (1993)  
30th Anniversary (2023)

# "Flowing Streams"

(Instrumental of Song: "See What We Can be")

Words & Music by Anatole Kononewsky

This song was composed in 1993 for the launch  
of the documentary and the initiative.

Produced with Jerry Speiser.

HEART OF AUSTRALIA  
OCTOBER 26



We respectfully acknowledge the First Nations peoples of these lands, we now all call home. The ingenuity, strength and diversity of Indigenous cultures enriches us all and we aspire to walk together, as a community, honouring the deep and profound foundations that they have laid for us.





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(26 October)