



Artwork by Karina Jeffrey

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ARTIST STATEMENT

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Garawa Aboriginal Designs

As a mother, I deeply resonate with this year's National Child Protection Week theme. My intention with this piece is to illustrate the significance of every conversation having the potential to generate genuine action to protect and nurture our children.

Central to the theme, this piece speaks to how dialogue can spark awareness and lead to tangible, actionable steps fostering safety and support for children. The use of circles and dots represents the interconnectedness, community, and the layers of support required to make this happen.

Using colours that deeply reflect the natural Australian landscape -- the waters that surround us and the rich earth beneath our feet -- this piece reminds us that protection of the children in our country needs to be the foundation of how we operate as a nation.

Interpreting the collective effort required to ensure every child's voice is heard and valued, the use of many journey lines is illustrated throughout this piece. We also see a child walking through the landscape of the piece, indicated by small tender footsteps, symbolising a child's journey toward safety, expression, and a sense of belonging.

The turtle is a symbol of harmony, wisdom, and protection and in this piece it speaks to reinforcing the nurturing environment essential for every child.