

# Jenny set for Youth Parliament

Domestic violence and multicultural and indigenous issues are some “considerably concerning” agenda items for one local YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament representative.

Jenny Nguyen wants to bring attention to “the gaps between non-indigenous Australians and indigenous Australians” and the “growing prevalence of domestic violence” in her role as the Youth Parliament member for Pine Rivers.

The YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament gives young Queenslanders the chance to learn more about the parliamentary process, while promoting issues of importance for their local community.

It brings together people aged 15 to 25 years from every electorate in Queensland.

Ms Nguyen is on the Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs Committee for the Youth Parliament, which will table a bill to be debated during a mock sitting of Parliament this month.

“I have always been passionate about multicultural and indigenous issues and for me, it is sad that there is still a very clear gap between one racial group and the rest of Australia,” she said.

“I would love to gradually close that gap.”



Jenny Nguyen is the YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament representative for Pine Rivers.

The Genesis Christian College student believes society also “desperately needs to change the status quo” when it comes to domestic violence.

“As a female, who are mostly victims in these cases, the statistics scare me,” Ms Nguyen said.

“It is worrying for our current generation and the generations that follow that if this does not stop, they are very likely to suffer from violence from someone they know well.”

Ms Nguyen believes the best way to make changes in society is to “enact laws and create policies and to fund movements and organisations”.

“I am not into the political side of things but more how this change will benefit people and their families,” she explains.

“One of the best places to offer an opportunity for me to be part of a change like this is YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament.

“It also provides multiple ways for everyone involved to contribute back to the community, and to learn about yourself along the way.”

Representing other local electorates that cover *The Westerner* area in YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament are Amelia Gorlick (Ferry Grove electorate), Sabine Conolly (Everton) and Jasmine Elliot (Glass House).