

## **Theme 3 – Love, intimacy and family**

The way we connect, share and belong is different to our parents' and grandparents' experiences. Society's attitudes to gender and sexuality are changing. Some of these trends include more South Australians never marrying or having a long-term partner while others may partner many times. New technologies mean revolutions in when and with whom we can have children. Also with how we connect and even how we understand our relationships as human being is going to continue to unfold.

Love will never go out of fashion. We have women giving birth long after menopause and an older generation of fathers emerging (Mick Jagger isn't the only man who became a Dad at 70). Genetic matter from three people is now making a single human.

In the future, even more of our family members are dispersed, separated by distance and other challenges. Some of us are without families and others are creating families in brand new ways. How we build connections may have changed too and who knows, if you are a 70s online dating coach, you might find yourself in demand! In the future, we might find more people talking about their legacy, and what they will be leaving behind; talking about a 'nil balance' and giving their money away before they die. Others maybe talking about how they are building gardens and teaching about food security for families and friends. The intimacy and friendship pets offer will continue to be important.

Technology and web-based platforms continue to help build connections but aren't available to everyone and not everyone is able to use the technologies to ease participation, or because of where they live, be able to afford the hardware.

The deep connection with the land and the stars of Aboriginal people is reaching new heights. Imagine the continuing unfolding of the genome showing who we are and where we have all come from, sharing the unique and most ancient of cultures in the world online. The idea and reality that we are all connected is truer than it has ever been.