

Family and Domestic Violence, Western Australia

Violence against women is a widespread problem in Australia.

In Australia, **one in six women** (1.6 million) and **one in sixteen men** (547,600) has experienced at least one incident of violence by a partner.⁽¹⁾

In 2018, of the **18,800 violence-related assaults** recorded by the WA police, **61.3%** (n=11,524) of the assault victims were victims of family and domestic violence.⁽²⁾

In 2018, there were **37 homicides** related to WA family and domestic violence.⁽³⁾



If you, or someone you care about is in danger and you think immediate action is needed, call the police immediately on 000.

Alternatively, if there is no immediate danger, contact a 24 hour support service, such as:

Crisis Care Helpline
9223 1111

Women's Domestic Violence Helpline
9223 1188

Men's Domestic Violence Helpline
9223 1199

1800 RESPECT
1800 737 732

Violence Prevention Initiatives

Deliberately causing physical harm to another person is illegal in Australia. Police Orders, Violence Restraining Orders and policies regarding the availability and harmful use of alcohol, guns, and other weapons are currently in place to reduce the incidence of violence in the community.

In Western Australia (WA), there are a number of community-based initiatives, including community awareness campaigns, educational programs and training for frontline workers, which aim to change social norms that foster violence. Here are some examples of what you can do:

The Department of Communities annual campaign, 16 Days in WA to Stop Violence Against Women, starts on the 25th November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, and runs to 10 December, Human Rights Day, each year.

The Department of Communities is working in partnership with FDV organisations to deliver the WA Respectful Relationships Teaching Support Program. Information and resources can be found here: www.communities.wa.gov.au/projects/wa-respectful-relationships-teaching-support-program/

Lifeline's DV-alert is a free national training program that aims to build the capacity of frontline workers to recognise signs of domestic violence, respond with appropriate care and refer women and children subjected to or at risk of domestic and family violence to appropriate services. Find out more about DV-alert training: www.dvalert.org.au

Everyone has an important role to play in preventing violence. As individuals and communities, it is possible to shift the way we think about and behave concerning gender and violence. Together we can work to shift social norms, change institutional practices, and influence attitudes that contribute to violence.

Additional information and resources

WA's Family and Domestic Violence Prevention Strategy to 2022
www.dcp.wa.gov.au/Documents/WA%20FDV%20Prevention%20Strategy%20to%202022.pdf

Know Injury Violence Resource Kit
www.knowinjury.org.au/know/injury-topics/violence/

OurWatch | www.ourwatch.org.au/

Stop it at the Start campaign | www.respect.gov.au/

Women's Council of WA | www.womenscouncil.com.au/

Partner:



Department of Health



Know Injury is provided by Injury Matters and funded by the State Government through the Department of Health.

References:

1. Australian Bureau of Statistics. Personal Safety Survey. 4906.0 - Personal Safety Australia 2016 (2017).
2. Australian Bureau of Statistics (2018b). Proportion and total number of assault victims who were victims of family and domestic violence-related assault, selected states and territories, 2017.
3. Australian Bureau of Statistics. Recorded Crime - Victims, Australia, 2017. (2018).