



28 April 2025

To the leaders of parties from across the political spectrum,

RE: End violence for stronger families and safer communities

No to Violence and a coalition of our members and allied organisations are calling on all parties across the political spectrum to take men's violence seriously and put domestic, family and sexual violence at the centre of the 2025 election platform.

We all want to live in safe and happy families and communities. Violence and abuse are preventable. In this 2025 Federal Election, political leaders need to commit to radically reshaping responses to stop family violence at its source. This means:

Developing a dedicated strategy to stop violence at its source

Ask: Commit to developing a national strategy to end perpetration of family violence.

Right now, we have a scattergun approach to identifying and responding to people using violence. It is not working. Too many people using violence remain out of sight. The safety and dignity of children, families and communities is decreasing because people using violence are not being identified and responded to early. To create the integrated system necessary for reducing the escalating impacts of violence on victim-survivors, we need a dedicated strategy focused on people using violence. We need a strategic and coordinated approach to move out of crisis mode and respond much earlier. We need to disrupt pathways followed by young men and boys into using violence and we need a coordinated approach to identify people using violence early - to help put them on the path out of using violence. As a nation, we need to ensure all our efforts to end people's use of family violence are targeted, effective, mutually reinforcing and adequately resourced.

Building resources to ensure systems and communities to stop violence at the source

Ask: Establish a National Knowledge Hub focused on people using violence

More people need to know how to stop violence at the source. Government systems, workplaces, communities, families and friends need to be empowered to identify and intervene early with people at risk of or using family violence. Knowledge held by expert practitioners working with people using violence and gathered through evaluations and research needs to be accessible and communicated so that all Australian organisations and communities are better able to identify and respond.

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Advancing transformative ways of ending violence

Ask: Expand the Innovative Perpetrator Response initiative

Right now, Australia spends a tiny amount on **directly ending perpetration of family violence**, and even less on ending it early. To ensure safer families and stronger communities, there needs to be an enormous investment uplift. Commitment and funding is needed to grow the range of interventions available for people using violence, including community-centred responses, and rapidly expand the types of services available for individuals' using violence, for families and for their communities. Victim-survivors, including children and young people, deserve to live safe and dignified lives. Achieving this means growing and expanding our responses to stop violence at its source and to stop it early.

Fund the domestic, family and sexual violence frontline to thrive

We will not make the radical change we need to end domestic, family and sexual violence until the Commonwealth government commits to funding frontline services properly. Without this investment, we will remain stuck in crisis mode with victim-survivors and people using violence unable to get support and get it early. For children, families and communities to thrive, free from violence, we need increased investment in prevention, early intervention and recovery and healing <u>now</u>.

Australia needs bold leadership to end family violence. The time for transformative change is now—will you stand with us to make it happen?

Kind regards,

Phillip Ripper Chief Executive Officer, No to Violence

Endorsed by

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Arkiri, Community Member

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Carmen Reid, Men's Family Violence Counsellor

Dr Stephen Burrell, Lecturer in Criminology at the University of Melbourne