



29 May 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.

We all want to live in safe and happy families and communities. Violence and abuse are preventable. Political leaders need to commit to radically reshaping responses to stop family violence at its source. This requires political commitment to understanding the gendered nature of violence against women and children, the ongoing colonial violence towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children and how family violence intersects with racism, able-ism, homophobia and transphobia and this further compounds trauma and suffering. The government must adhere to their commitments under the National Agreement for Closing the Gap, in particular Target 13 and Priority Reform Area 2, alongside their National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children and invest in community led, self-determined solutions.

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.

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.

Address the ongoing colonial violence towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children

Ask: Invest in Aboriginal community controlled self-determined solutions

Violence against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women is occurring at epidemic levels in this country. Change will only happen when governments commit to long term, sustainable funding for Aboriginal led, specialist family violence services that prioritise the safety and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children.

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 **now**.

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:

 <p>awgsa Australian Women's and Gender Studies Association</p>	 <p>inTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence</p>	 <p>embolden</p>
 <p>Engender Equality</p>	 <p>CatholicCare NT</p>	 <p>Jesuit Social Services Building a Just Society</p>
 <p>switchboard</p>	 <p>NASASV NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SERVICES AGAINST SEXUAL VIOLENCE</p>	 <p>LOKAHI FOUNDATION</p>
 <p>THE SALVATION ARMY</p>	 <p>WOMEN & CHILDREN FIRST.</p>	 <p>YARREDI SERVICES INC.</p>
 <p>Centre for Non-Violence</p>	 <p>SCARLET ALLIANCE</p> <p>NATIONAL SEX WORKERS ASSOCIATION</p>	 <p>relationship matters Counselling & Mediation</p>



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PLUS
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CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay

FVREE



**Sexualities and Genders
Research (SaGR) at
Western Sydney University**



women's legal
service victoria





Individual Signatories

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