



ROYAL COMMISSION
INTO DOMESTIC, FAMILY
AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Issues Paper



Easy Read

Acknowledgment of Country



We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



- across South Australia,



- across Australia.

They are the traditional owners of



- the land,
- the waters.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are working to stop domestic, family and sexual violence.

We will work with them.

How to use this paper



The Royal Commission into Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence wrote this paper.

A short name for us is the Royal Commission.

When you see the words 'we' or 'us', it means the Royal Commission.



We wrote this paper in an easy to read way.

Bold
Not bold

We have written some words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these words mean.

You can find out what they mean in the Word List.

The Word List is on page 19.



This Easy Read paper is a **summary** of our Issues Paper.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other Issues Paper on our website www.royalcommissiondfsv.sa.gov.au



You can ask for help to read this paper.

A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.

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What the Royal Commission is



A **Royal Commission** is an official way of looking into a big problem.

It helps us to work out what went wrong and what we need to improve.



We are looking into domestic, family and sexual violence.

In this paper we will say DFS violence.

What DFS violence is



DFS violence is domestic, family and sexual violence.



DFS violence can happen to anyone.

There are lots of kinds of DFS violence.

Intimate partner violence



Intimate partners are people who are supposed to care for each other, like married people or boyfriends and girlfriends.

Intimate partner violence is when a partner hurts you with their words or actions.

Family violence



A **family** is a group of people who live together and take care of each other, like mums, dads and kids.

Family violence is when people in your family hurt you with their words or actions.

Coercive control



Coercive control is when someone close to you makes you do what they want.

They say mean things to you.

They stop you from seeing friends or getting things that you need.

Sexual violence



Sexual violence is when people:

- Make you have sex when you do not want to,
- Touch your body when you do not want them to,
- Say sex jokes or words that make you scared,
- Take or share naked photos or videos of you when you do not want to,
- Make you have sex for money,
- Do sex things to a child.

How does DFS violence make you feel?



DFS violence hurts people.

It can make you feel

- Scared,
- Sick,
- Unsafe,
- Shamed,
- No good,
- Alone,
- Helpless.

Why we are looking at DFS violence



There is too much DFS violence in South Australia.

DFS violence makes things bad for everyone in the community.



We want to stop DFS violence.

So we need to know more about it.

What we want to know



- How can we find out who might start doing DFS violence?
- How can we help them to stop?
- How can we find victim-survivors?
- What are the best ways we can help them?
- How can we make sure that everyone in the community feels better and safer?

Who we want to hear from

Victim-survivors



We want to hear from **victim-survivors**.

Victim-survivors are people who:

- Have DFS violence happening to them,
- or
- Used to have DFS violence happen to them.



Adults can be victim-survivors.

Children and young people can be victim-survivors.

Other community groups

We want to hear from other people too. People like



- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people,



- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people who come from other cultures,



- LGBTQIA+ people,



- People with disability,



- Children and young people,



- Older people,



- People from the country,



- Experts in DFS violence,



- Doctors, including mental health doctors,



- Police officers



- People who work in the courts.

You can tell us what you think



You can tell us about your experiences with DFS violence.



You can tell us your ideas about stopping DFS violence.

How to tell us what you think



You can send us an email to royalcommissiondfsv@sa.gov.au



You can visit the Commission website at www.royalcommissiondfsv.sa.gov.au



Please tell us by Friday 16 August 2024.



We are also going to have a **survey**.

A survey is a group of questions. Your answers help us know more about you and your ideas.



The survey will start in September 2024.

If you feel upset or worried



In this paper we talk about some things that might upset you.



You can talk to someone about how you feel.

You can talk to someone you trust, like a friend, family member or support person.



You can call a **counsellor**.

A counsellor's job is to listen to you and help you talk about your feelings.



A counsellor will not tell anyone what you say. They will keep it private.

Counsellors you can call



You can call these counsellors for free.

- 1800 RESPECT.
Call 1800 737 732.
- Men's referral service (No To Violence).
Call 1300 766 491.
- 13 YARN crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
Call 13 92 76.

If you are in danger



If you are in danger right now call the Police on 000.

If someone is hurting you



If someone is hurting you, call 1800 RESPECT.
Call 1800 737 732.

You can ask us questions



You can find out more about this paper.

You can call us on 8207 1555.



You can send us an email to
royalcommissiondfsv@sa.gov.au



You can visit the Commission website at
www.royalcommissiondfsv.sa.gov.au

Word List

Coercive control



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Counsellor



A counsellor's job is to listen to you and help you talk about your feelings. A counsellor will not tell anyone what you say. They will keep it private.

Family violence



Family violence is when people in your family hurt you with their words or actions.

It could be mum, dad, your brothers and sisters, aunties and uncles, or other family.

DFS violence



DFS violence is domestic, family and sexual violence.

Intimate partner violence



Intimate partner violence is when a partner hurts you with their words or actions.

Your partner could be your husband or wife, your boyfriend or girlfriend, or your ex.

Royal Commission



A Royal Commission is an official way of looking into a big problem.

It helps us to work out what went wrong and what we need to improve.

Sexual violence



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Summary



A summary only includes the most important ideas.

Survey



A survey is a group of questions. Your answers help us know more about you and your ideas.

Victim-survivors



Victim-survivors are people who:

- Have DFS violence happening to them,
- or
- Used to have DFS violence happen to them.

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Phone: 8207 1555

Toll-free (from landlines only): 1800 177 076

Email: Attorney-General'sDepartment@sa.gov.au

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