



The Problem of Family Violence

Family violence can happen to anyone, in any community.

Family violence includes violent, threatening, or any other form of behaviour that coerces or controls a family member, or causes that family member to be fearful. It can include physical violence, sexual violence, financial abuse, stalking and harassment, isolation, emotional and psychological abuse, spiritual abuse, and honour-based violence (OurWATCH).

Family Violence in Geraldton

Family violence in Geraldton is significantly higher than the state, metro and regional rates.

WA Police Force Crime Data shows the following number of cases of sexual assault, family assault and threatening behaviour towards family in 2024.

1,997 reported cases

Over 5 cases per day

83% never reported

(ABS Personal Safety Survey, 2016)

Relevance to the workplace

62% of women subject to intimate partner violence are employed.

(Cortis & Bullen, 2016)

2 in 5 women

reported experiencing unwanted or unwelcome sexual behaviours at work in the last 5 years.

(Safe Work Australia)

Violence at home has **negative impacts** on work performance, workplace safety and job satisfaction.

(Cortis & Bullen, 2015)

Preventing Family Violence

Family violence is preventable. Primary prevention is about stopping violence before it starts.

Research over the last decade, has helped us identify the contributing factors that are common across all acts of family violence – things like attitudes that excuse or minimise violence, disrespect, rigid gender roles, and gender discrimination.

To end family violence, we start by shifting the social conditions that drive family violence.

Everyone has a part to play. Prevention efforts are most effective when they are carried out across all areas of peoples' lives: where they live, work, study and socialise.





Community, Respect & Equality

Community, Respect and Equality is a community alliance, comprising local Geraldton businesses, workplaces, schools, media, sporting and community groups. Collectively, we work on creative and sustainable strategies for the prevention of family violence, and the promotion of respect and gender equality across the whole-of-Geraldton community. It is the first program of its kind in Western Australia.

Community, Respect & Equality works across the community to prevent family violence by:

- Promoting non-violent and non-discriminatory attitudes and social norms
- Educating and building awareness of what drives family violence
- Development of safe, inclusive and gender-equitable organisations
- Creating opportunities to work together, stand up and speak out for a violence-free community.

How can my organisation support Community, Respect & Equality?

Research shows that when our workplaces and organisations are more gender-equal, there is less family violence. Those that become a part of Community, Respect & Equality benefit from improved culture, safety, and productivity; and contribute to a community that values respect and equality.

Organisations can become a part of the Community, Respect & Equality alliance by endorsing the Agreed Values and Codes of Behaviour. From there, they can choose to undertake simple actions to change the norms, systems and practices that allow family violence to occur.

Community, Respect & Equality Agreed Values and Codes of Behaviour



Community Collaboration

Stand up, speak out and work together with others for a violence free community.



Respect and Cultural Diversity

Acknowledge and value traditions and cultural differences, and demonstrate respectful relationships with family, friends, work colleagues and other community members.



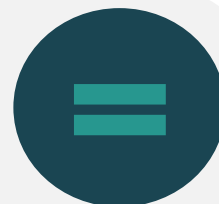
Equality

Support gender equality by promoting women's independence and decision making in the workplace.



Safety

Promote non-violent attitudes, language and behaviour to create a safer community.



Social Justice

Work together to address unequal norms, practices and structures that lead to increased family violence.

To find out more, or to join the Community, Respect & Equality movement:



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communityrespectandequality.com.au



Community Respect and Equality



#WeSayNOtoFamilyViolence ORGANISATION