

WODONGA IS IN THE TOP 17% IN VICTORIA FOR INCIDENCE OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

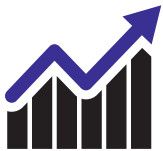


A woman dies at the hands of a current or former partner almost every week in Australia.



Forty per cent of family violence occurs in front of children. This can lead to:

- Acceptance of violence for solving conflict
- Children becoming perpetrators of violence themselves

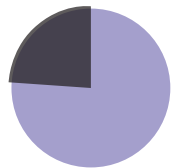


Between 2012 and 2017 rates of family violence in Wodonga increased by 36 per cent.



Almost half of all family violence incidents in Wodonga involve alcohol or drug use.

Nearly one quarter of Australians still believe that a man should be in charge of a relationship



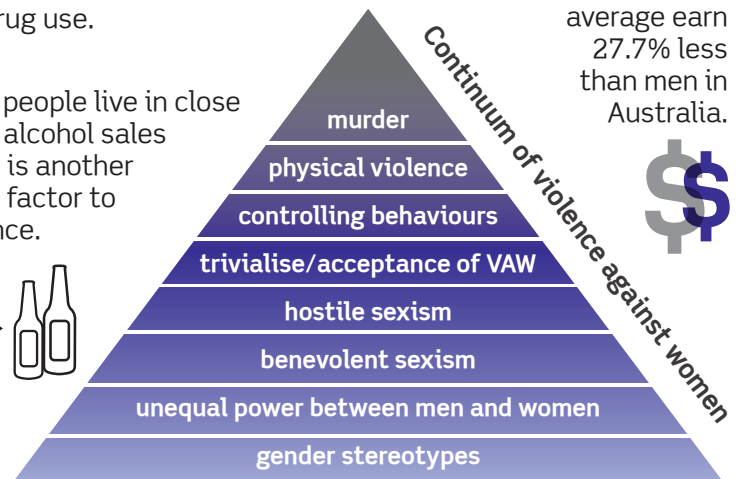
Women on average earn 27.7% less than men in Australia.



Who is most vulnerable?

- Women with disabilities
- Aboriginal women
- Women in rural and remote areas
- Immigrant and refugee women
- Young women
- Women who are pregnant
- Women who are temporarily or recently separated

In Wodonga, people live in close proximity to alcohol sales outlets. This is another contributing factor to family violence.



In Wodonga, 75.1 per cent of people said they would act if they saw an incident of violence against a woman. And together the community MUST act.

REFERENCES: ABS, AIC, CSV, Dept. of Human Services, Dept. of Social Services, VicHealth, Victoria Police, Dept. of Health, Dept. of Parliamentary Services, MAV, Livingston et al 2011, Crime Statistics Agency.



Prevention of violence against women and children

WHAT COUNCIL IS DOING

Wodonga Council is committed to playing its role in an effort to prevent violence against women and children before it occurs. To do this, council works with the community to raise awareness and understanding of gender equity and by ensuring that public spaces are safe and inclusive of the needs of women.

The council has identified *key objectives* to work toward over the next five years to reduce and prevent violence against women and children:

1. Work with community stakeholders to strengthen services to better support women and children escaping violence;
2. Promote and support gender equity and respectful relationships where people live, learn, work and play; and,
3. Influence and encourage gender equity and the safety of women through the council’s culture and practices.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Although the council plays a role, it is up to everyone to work together to prevent violence against women and children.

Gender inequality, harmful gender stereotypes and power imbalances are key contributors of men’s violence against women.

The council is working with clubs, schools and workplaces to improve gender equality by challenging unconscious gender biases and promoting respectful relationships.

- **Workplaces** (does your organisation have a gender equity strategy? Does your current enterprise bargaining agreement support family violence leave?)
- **Schools and early learning services** (Does your child’s school teach respectful relationships? Is your child being exposed to harmful gender stereotypes?)
- **Community and sporting organisations** (Is your sporting club inclusive of all people, including women? Are harmful gender stereotypes challenged in your club?)
- **Communities** (What happens in your home and neighbourhood? Does language support gender equality? What do you see reinforcing harmful biases and gender stereotypes?)

To find out more phone Wodonga Council on (02) 6022 9300

OUR ACTIONS

Primary Prevention of Intimate Partner Violence in Wodonga Project

Wodonga Council was successful in obtaining a grant to undertake a project in the primary prevention of intimate partner violence. The project is overseen by a Taskforce which is made up of key partners working in different settings and with different population groups within our community.

Council Gender Equity Strategy

To improve gender equality in the workplace, Wodonga Council is implementing a Gender Equity Strategy to improve culture, leadership and employment for women.

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence.

Wodonga Council supports the 16 Days of Activism campaign by developing and promoting various local events to raise awareness and help prevent gender-based violence.

Land use planning

Wodonga council’s licensing and regulation teams are exploring levers for reducing alcohol-related violence. The council is also updating and improving our city’s lighting to improve community safety.

If you, or someone you know is experiencing violence or is at risk of violence please call:

- Emergency Police: 000
- Wodonga Police: (02) 6049 2600
- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1800 RESPECT

