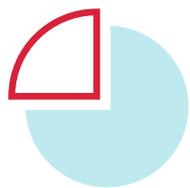


# Factsheet: Family Violence



**25%** of women have experienced physical or sexual violence from a partner.



Each week **ONE WOMAN** is murdered by a current or ex-partner.



**1 IN 4** children are exposed to family violence.



Family violence is the **MAIN CAUSE** of homelessness for women.



**Family violence is a pattern of behaviours used by one person to assert power and control over a family member or someone they are in a relationship with. It can include both physical and non-physical forms of violence.**

Violence that occurs within relationships is called intimate partner violence. Women make up 77% of victims of intimate partner violence, with the majority of perpetrators being men. However, violence can occur in any intimate relationship regardless of the gender of the people in the relationship, or their relationship status.

Family violence occurs across all sectors of Australian society regardless of socioeconomic status. Research has shown that women with disabilities and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are at a higher risk of experiencing family violence. Women from marginalised backgrounds including CALD women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, LGBTIQ+ people and women with disabilities may also experience added barriers to seeking help and support.

Although family violence is most common in intimate relationships it can also occur in any type of family relationship. For example, between an elderly parent and their adult child, a teenage child and other family members or between adult siblings.

## TYPES OF VIOLENCE

There are a number of different behaviours that can be considered abusive, these include:

**Physical abuse** - the use of physical violence such as punching or kicking or threatening to use physical violence against someone, their family members or children.

**Emotional abuse** - constantly putting someone down, gaslighting or using emotional blackmail like threatening to commit suicide if they leave.

**Financial abuse** - controlling someone's access to money.

**Sexual abuse** - forcing someone to participate in sexual activity without their consent.

**Social abuse** - stopping someone from engaging socially with other people, like family members, friends or colleagues.

**Spiritual abuse** - denying someone their right to practice their religion or using religion to control someone.

**Stalking** - constantly following or contacting someone against their will.

**Image-based abuse** - sharing, or threatening to share, intimate images of someone.

Abusers may use a number of different forms of violence to assert control over their partner or a family member, this may or may not include physical violence.

## FIND OUT MORE

[www.womenandmoney.org.au](http://www.womenandmoney.org.au)