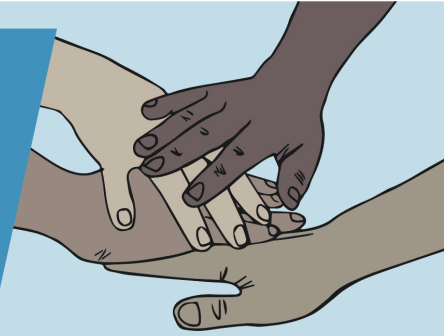


Reflection and Hope

Building good families and community



Good Family Life

Good family life is where people give and get respect, trust and support each other, are free to follow their faith and beliefs, and obey the law. Good families build good communities.

Peacefully Dealing with Conflict

Conflict and arguments are normal in all relationships and families.

Good families respect and listen deeply to each other, and find ways to work through their problems peacefully, fairly and without force or fear.

Family Violence

Sometimes a family member uses force or fear to control a family relationship. This is family violence and is against the law.

Family violence can be physical actions or threats, or emotional or mental abuse.

Women suffer much more harm and fear from family violence than men. Children are harmed by seeing and hearing family violence in the home.

‘Coercive Control’

From May 2025 in Queensland, it is a serious crime if a person over 18 uses ‘Coercive Control’ in a current or former marriage/partner or dating relationship, or towards a family member.

‘Coercive control’ is when someone repeatedly hurts, scares or isolates another person to control them.

Coercive control can include repeatedly doing actions such as these, to control a partner:

- makes threats to hurt them, or deport them
- stops them seeing family or friends, or practising their religion
- controls who they see and where they go
- checks their phone, emails
- follows them in-person or via technology when they don’t want it
- harshly criticises them and puts them down
- lies or blames them to confuse and control
- controls all the money

With coercive control, the person may feel ongoing fear, feel they have no choice, feel they cannot safely speak up, feel they are being emotionally or mentally abused.

Coercive control behaviours can sometimes start small, or seem minor on their own, but when they're repeated they can cause serious harm.

Coercive control behaviours have always been family violence, but they are now being treated more seriously in the criminal law.

Helping out people suffering harm

Good communities help out when there is need.

If we think someone is facing harm through coercive control and family violence, we can safely help out if we:

- gain their trust
- only share their story if they consent
- safely give them information about family violence and services
- support their choices about what they want to do
- help them contact services if they want to (see below)
- call 000 if they are at risk of immediate serious harm

Helping the person doing the harm

We can try to help people stop doing harm if we safely, carefully and at the right time:

- point out that their behaviour harms their partner and children, and is against the law
- not agree with them if they try to excuse or justify their violence
- refer them to Services (see below)
- around the community speak up for equal, fair healthy family relationships

KEY SERVICES

Emergency 000
Police 131 444
Legal Aid 1300 651 188
DV Connect -1800 811 811
Kids Help Line 1800 55 1800
Relationships Australia. 1300 364 277

Refugee and Immigration Legal Service (RAILS) -
for visa issues - 07 3846 9300

Safe, Healthy and Empowered Relationships (SHER) - program
for Dari-speaking men in Brisbane, Logan, Gold Coast, about
healthy relationships and stopping family violence (Contact
SSI - phone 07 3412 8282. sher@ssi.org.au)



Hazara Association
— of Queensland Australia —



COMMUNITY



Refugee and Immigration
Legal Service



MULTICULTURAL
AUSTRALIA



SCH INC.

FAMILY PEACE BUILDING

This is information only,
not legal advice
education@rails.org.au