

IWSS SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAM PROVIDES . . .

To communities from non-English speaking backgrounds - community education and information on sexual assault, the relevant laws and services . . .
talks, seminars, fact sheets, information on the phone.

To sexual assault service providers - resources, service development and training to increase access to services of women from non-English speaking backgrounds . . .
information and training sessions on improving access and equity in services for women who have been sexually assaulted.

To women - if you have been sexually assaulted and are from a non-English speaking background . . .
advocacy and support with health and counselling services and going through the legal processes if you choose to report the sexual assault.

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RELEVANT NUMBERS

Immigrant Women's Support Service

- Sexual Assault Program (07) 3846 5400
Fax (07) 3846 5619
PO Box 5490 West End 4101
Email iwss@powerup.com.au
web address
<http://www.powerup.com.au/~iwss>
- Domestic Violence Program (07) 3846 3490

Police

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- emergency all areas 24 hours a day

Sexual Assault Crisis Line

- (07) 3000 0000 (Brisbane)
- 1800 01 01 20 (outside Brisbane)
- 6 pm to 6 am Monday - Friday
- 24 hours weekends and public holidays

Domestic Violence Crisis Line

1800 811 811 toll free

- all areas 24 hours a day

Women's Legal Service

- (07) 3392 0670 or 1800 677 278
- for legal advice

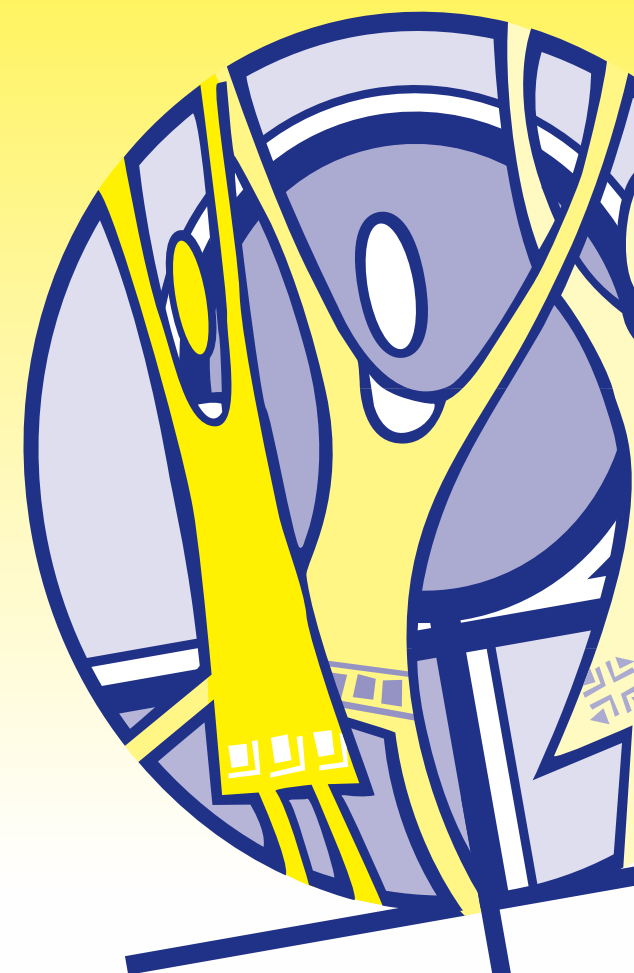
Anti Discrimination Commission

- (07) 3239 3365 or 1800 068 305
- for sexual harassment complaints

South Brisbane Immigration and Community Legal Service

- (07) 3846 3189
- for legal advice on immigration and other issues.

IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S SUPPORT SERVICE



Sexual Violence
is difficult
to speak about

SEXUAL VIOLENCE STRIKES ACROSS ALL CULTURES

Women of non-English speaking backgrounds experience language and cultural barriers as part of their everyday life.

Those who have suffered sexual violence face further barriers of silence and exclusion from help and information.

Women and children suffer 90% of sexual violence.

The majority of sexual violence occurs within the home.

EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT

- to feel safe
- to be believed
- to be listened to
- to be allowed the time and space to make their own decisions about how to deal with the experience.

WHAT IS SEXUAL VIOLENCE?

Sexual violence is against the law.

The impact of sexual violence is great. It may often result in long term physical and mental health problems.

Sexual Violence includes:

- **Sex without consent**
 - **incest**
- **sexual harassment**
 - **child sexual abuse**
- **rape**
 - **ritual abuse**

Sex without consent

Consent means a free and voluntary agreement. The law takes account of the fact that a woman might appear to consent or submit under certain circumstances. Just because a woman is married, she does not have to have sex without her consent.

Sexual harassment

Any unwelcome sexual attention - including unwanted patting or touching, humiliating and suggestive comments about one's body, appearance or private life, displays of offensive materials or exposure.

Incest

Sexual activities imposed on a young person/ child by any person in their direct or extended family. The offender is either a family member, including father, uncle, brother, grandfather, or nephew, or someone with the care of the child such as a step parent, de facto spouse, or foster parent.

Child sexual abuse

Sexual activities imposed on children up to the age of 17 years old by people who are not family members. These activities could include intercourse, penetration with a finger or object, forced masturbation, observation in a sexual or intimidating way, kissing, touching or fondling.

Rape

Legally rape means vaginal and/or anal penetration with the penis without consent. Rape also means penetration with another body part or foreign object, and forced oral sex. This is defined as Sexual Assault under the law. Rape is about control and power, not about sex.

Ritual abuse

Is a brutal form of abuse of children, adolescents, and adults. Consisting of physical, sexual and psychological abuse, and involving the use of rituals. Ritual abuse usually entails repeated abuse over an extended period of time.