

Violence against women
is serious, prevalent and driven by

GENDER INEQUALITY

WHICH MEANS

ACCEPTING
violence against
women

**MEN IN
CONTROL**
of decision making
and limits to
women's
independence

**OLD
FASHIONED**
beliefs about
male and female
roles

DISRESPECT
towards women

ACTIONS

that will prevent violence against women:

CHALLENGING
acceptance
of violence
against women

CHANGING
gender
stereotypes and
roles

PROMOTION OF
women's
independence &
decision-making

STRENGTHENING
positive, equal
and respectful
relationships



On average, **ONE WOMAN**
IS MURDERED EVERY WEEK
by her current or former partner

If you or someone you know is in immediate
danger, call **000** and ask for the Police.

Respectful Relationships

Respectful relationships is about valuing people, including people who are different. When you have respect for someone, you feel positive about them and admire or appreciate their actions or behaviour. You can also treat anyone with respect regardless of how you feel about them.

- You are accepted
- Your feelings of self-worth are fostered
- Your points of views and beliefs are valued
- You are listened to and heard
- 'No' is accepted for an answer
- Your rights to be safe, valued and cared for are understood
- You can make mistakes and still be accepted and respected
- Your relationship is never controlling, and encourages personal growth and fulfilment
- Your relationship nurtures a culture of trust, honesty and happiness
- You are able to disagree and say what you think or feel without being put down or hurt in anyway
- You can make your own choices and form your own views consistent with your age and developmental level.

If you are not feeling respected call **1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732)** for 24 hour free advice.

Family/Domestic Violence

By definition, family violence is any violent, threatening, coercive or controlling behaviour that occurs in current or past family, domestic or intimate relationships. This can include (but is not limited to):

- Being kept away from friends and family
- Having no or limited access to money
- Intimidation
- Being checked up on all the time and having to explain whereabouts
- Being criticised, put down or ridiculed
- Being regularly blamed for anything that may go wrong
- Fights where there is hitting, slapping, punching or other physical violence
- Threats of violence to people or animals
- Stalking
- Threats to leave and not allowing contact with children
- Being forced to participate in sexual acts.

A child is exposed to violence if that child sees or hears family violence or otherwise experiences the effects of family violence from one family member to another. For example:

- Overhearing threats of death or personal injury
- Seeing or hearing an assault
- Comforting or providing assistance to a family member where they have been assaulted
- Cleaning up a site after a family member has intentionally damaged property
- Being present when police or ambulance officers attend an incident involving the assault.

TOGETHER **we** CAN

Act now to end Family Violence in Cardinia Shire

Outlook
an inclusive society for all