



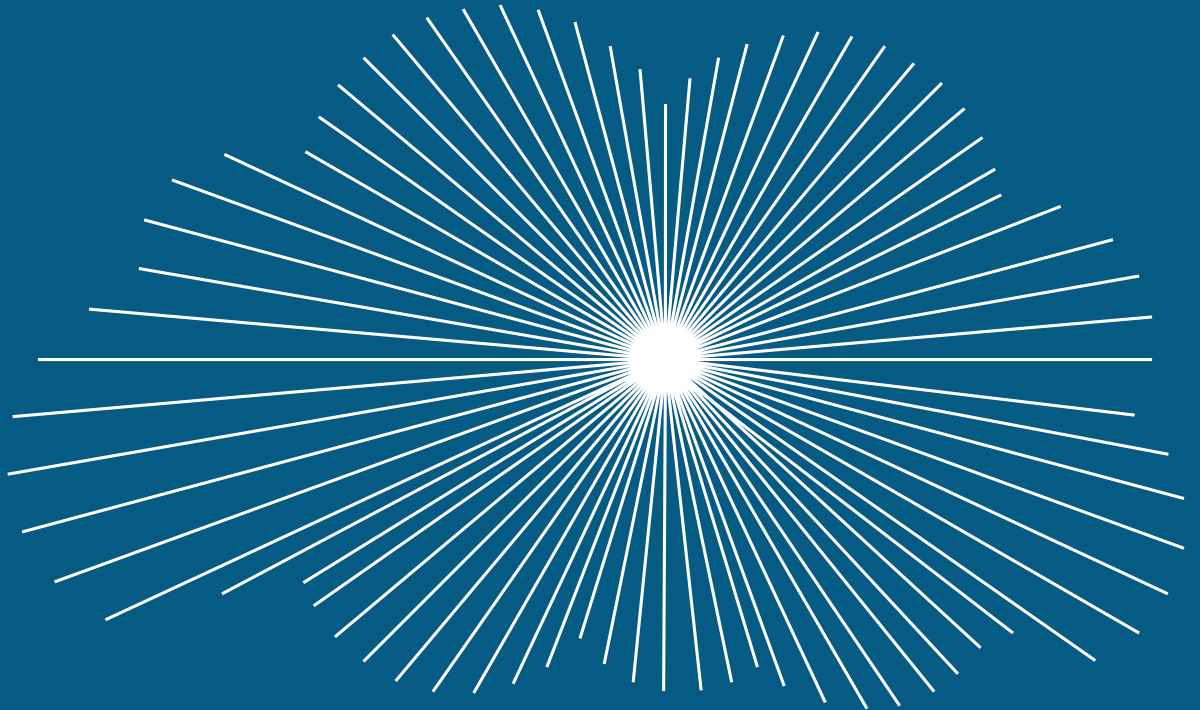
Victorian
Law Reform
Commission

Your ideas - help for victims of sexual assault

Victorian Law Reform Commission



Easy English



Hard words



This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the word is in **blue**

- we write what the hard word means.

You can get help with this book



You can get someone to help you

- read this book

- know what this book is about

- find more information.



About this book



This book is written by
the Victorian Law Reform Commission or **VLRC**.

VLRC check that laws are fair in Victoria.



We want your help to make it easier for **victims**
of **sexual assault** to get help.



Victims are people who had a crime happen
to them.

Sexual assault is sexual activity that a person
does **not** want.

For example



- kissing you do **not** want

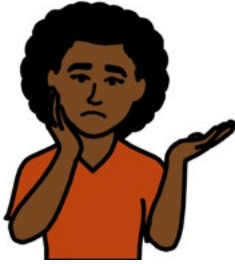


- touching you do **not** want



- sex you do **not** want.

Why did we make this book?



People who are sexually assaulted find it

- hard to speak up or get help
- hard to get **justice**.

Justice means the person who did the crime must face what they did. For example, the person might



– go to court

– meet with the victim in a safe place with someone to support them.



The Victorian Government asked us to think of ways to make it easier for victims to get help.



We made this book to ask you some questions and get your ideas.

Who can give us ideas?



We want to hear from adults from Victoria who

- were sexually assaulted

or



- know someone who was sexually assaulted.



You can give us ideas even

- if you did **not** tell the police about the assault



- if you did **not** go to court.

We will listen to all ideas seriously.

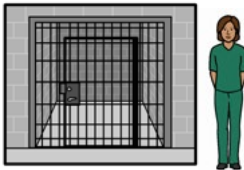


We want ideas from people

- with disability



- in aged care



- in prison



- in different parts of Australia



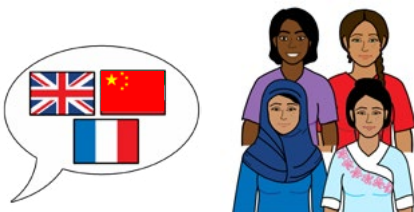
- of different genders and sexualities.
For example, gay people.



We will also listen to people who are Aboriginal or have a **CALD** background.

CALD means

- you speak a different language
- you or your parents were born outside Australia.



How will we use your ideas?



We will

- get ideas from lots of people



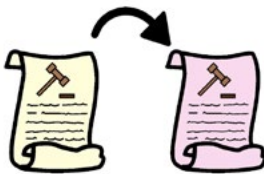
- write a report



- give the report to the government.



The government will use our report to help victims of sexual assault in the future.



The government might

- change laws



- change support programs



- keep good programs going.

How to answer the questions

We will ask you questions about 3 topics.



1. Ways to get help



2. The police



3. Going to court



You can

- type your answers in the boxes



- print the form and write your answers



- send us a voice recording or video.

It is okay to say nothing if you do **not** have an answer.



You do **not** need to tell us

- about the assault



- names of people who were part of the assault.



If you are an adult we will **not** tell anyone your name or contact information.



We might have to tell the police if you are under 16.

This is a law that keeps children safe.



The law says we must tell the police if

- the police do **not** know about the assault

and



2014

- you were 16 or younger **on** 27 October 2014.

Questions start here

1. Did you get help?



Think about when the sexual assault happened.



Did you know who could help you after the sexual assault happened?

Tick 1 box

Yes

No



Write about who helped you. Did they know what to do?

2. Did you talk to the police?



Did you talk to the police about the sexual assault?

Tick 1 box

Yes

No



Write about what made it easier to talk to the police. For example, did police show respect?



Write about what was hard to do if you talked to the police.



Write about what helped you tell your story.
For example, did police give you time to talk?



Were you offered help from anyone to talk?

For example, a counsellor or interpreter.

Tick 1 box

Yes

No

Write who helped you, if you ticked **yes** above.



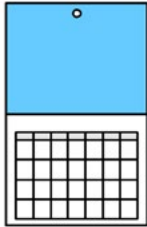
If you talked to the police, write about what the

police did after you told them. For example, did

they talk to other people, or charge anyone?



Write about your ideas to make it easier for victims to talk to the police in the future.



Write the year that you made a police report.

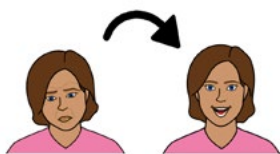


Write the name of the place where you gave a report. For example, a police station or centre with counsellors.



Write how long you waited to make a report after the sexual assault.

Other ways to deal with sexual assault



There are other ways for victims to get better after sexual assault.



Victims can get help to talk to the person who hurt them to tell them how much they were hurt.



Write about the ways you tried to get better after the sexual assault.



Write about ideas you have for different ways to get better after sexual assault.

3. When you went to court



Did you go to court about the sexual assault?

Tick 1 box

Yes

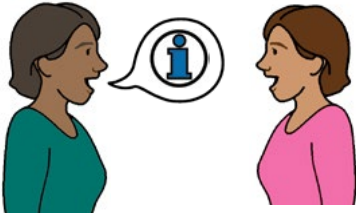
No



Write about what was easy to do if you went to court.



Write about what was hard to do if you went to court.



Did you get the help and information you needed when you went to court?

Tick 1 box

Yes

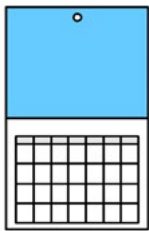
No



Write about what happened to your case.



Write about what we can do to make going to court easier for victims of sexual assault in the future.



Write what year you went to court.



Write the name of the court you went to.

Other ideas



Write about your ideas for ways to make it easier or better when you go to court.

Write other ideas here.

Questions end here

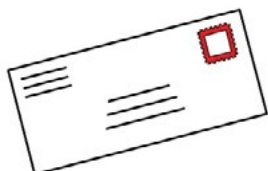
How to give us this form

There are lots of ways you can send us the form.



You **must** give us your ideas by
23 December 2020.

Post



GPO Box 4637
Melbourne
Victoria 3001

Email



Email law.reform@lawreform.vic.gov.au



You can email

- a PDF of the form after you type on it
- a scan of the paper form after you write your answers.



- a video or voice recording of your ideas



More information

Contact us if you need more information or help for sexual assault.



Website www.lawreform.vic.gov.au



Phone 03 8608 7800



If you need help to speak or listen

Contact the Victorian Law Reform Commission through the National Relay Service or NRS.



Call the NRS help desk

1800 555 660



Go to the NRS website

communications.gov.au/accesshub/nrs

Notes

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Scope's Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre wrote the Easy English version in October, 2020.

To contact Scope call 1300 472 673 or visit www.scopeaust.org.au

To see the original contact the Victorian Law Reform Commission.

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