



## Draft National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032

### Survey

Most questions request a response in the form of a rating scale of 5 as follows:

1. Strongly disagree, 2. Disagree, 3. Neutral 4. Agree, 5. Strongly agree

#### Key Survey Questions:

1. *The draft National Plan includes a clear explanation of the prevalence, drivers, and different forms of gender-based violence in Australia.*

**Response:** 2. Disagree

**Written Response:** The prevalence of gender-based violence is clear, although it does not appear to take into consideration the underreporting of experiences of violence by culturally diverse communities. However in the drivers and forms of violence there is not an acceptable acknowledgement of racial violence or cultural violence. The drivers of violence doesn't adequately address the driver that migration, whether forced or by choice, the trauma that can precede and/or follow the migration experience. The drivers and forms do not adequately explore the intersectional experiences of culturally diverse women and how this intersection can create further vulnerabilities and increase the probability of experiencing various forms of violence.

2. *The draft National Plan meaningfully reflects issues highlighted through stakeholder consultations and the National Summit on Women's Safety, including the experiences of victim-survivors.*

**Response:** 2. Disagree

**Written Response:** The consultations didn't adequately enable appropriate engagement with culturally diverse women and children in a way which is an accurate representation of multicultural Australia. The consultations also did not include engagement with perpetrators and/or men. We believe that men and perpetrators need to be engaged in developing a plan, especially one that includes prevention and early intervention as the change in their behaviour will be key to ending violence against women and children. For a consultation to be holistic it must be community wide.

3. *The four Foundation Principles (gender equality, the diverse lived-experiences of victim-survivors are informing policies and solutions, Closing the Gap, and intersectionality) appropriately underpin the National Pillars and actions within the National Plan.*

**Response:** 3. Neutral

**Written Response:** We agree that the inclusion of the role of technology in Pillar 3 is a fundamental action, however technology should underpin all pillars. We believe that the second Principle of lived-experience is essential. However, this needs to include the lived-experience of perpetrators particularly in regards to early intervention and prevention. It is through changing the behaviour of perpetrators that prevention will be achieved, thus including perpetrators in the development of the plan for prevention is key. Broadly, the principles and pillars are deficit-based, which lends itself to seeing victims as weak and in need of 'saving'. Both the pillars and principles should have an undercarriage of the strengths of victims and survivors. This will enable a strengths-based approach to achieving the pillars.

4. *The four National Pillars in the draft National Plan provide a holistic approach to identifying and responding to gender-based violence.*

**Response:** 3. Neutral



**Written Response:** The pillars are broadly holistic but they are working from a deficit-based model. By continuing to look at deficits of victims rather than strengths of survivors the plan will perpetrate the cycle of victimhood and need rather than support future prevention and recovery of women and children

5. *The four National Pillars in the draft National Plan reflect the family, domestic and sexual violence service system.*

**Response:** 2. Disagree

**Written Response:** The service system in the plan does not adequately acknowledge the role that social support system provide in the response to violence for collectivist communities. Some culturally diverse communities are more likely to engage with informal supports, such as ethnic associations or groups in both the response and recover phases which the plan does not acknowledge. The formal service system should also mandate cultural responsiveness training to improve the likelihood of CALD women and children engaging with that system. The Plan also does not adequately acknowledge that those intersections with higher prevalence, such as culturally diverse communities will require a more substantial commitment (monetary and otherwise) from the service system.

6. *The draft National Plan reflects the needs and experiences of women and children.*

**Response:** 4. Agree

**Written Response:** N/A

7. *The draft National Plan reflects the needs and experiences of diverse communities and individuals'*

**Response:** 2. Disagree

**Written Response:** Broadly the Plan does capture the needs and experiences of diverse vulnerable communities. However the plan does not adequately capture the intersection of Migrant and refugee women who are culturally diverse, or women with disabilities who are culturally diverse or older culturally diverse women etc. The plan does not adequately explore the nuances of how culture and migration intersect with experiences of violence.

8. *The draft National Plan supports building further evidence on what works for gender based violence prevention, early intervention, response and recovery.*

**Response:** 4. Agree

**Written Response:** N/A

9. *The draft indicators and outcome measures provide a strong framework for measuring progress towards the next National Plan goals.*

**Response:** 2. Disagree

**Written Response:** We believe that data is crucial to measure change. While the plan is clear of methods of data collection, those methods listed do not have a consistent data set. The plan proposes to utilise some state or territory data collections, each data set utilises different meanings and responses which will not enable a consistent analysis of data. The data sources listed do not adequately enable collection of data from vulnerable groups who are less likely to engage in formal supports. Without a plan to gather this data, any analysis of data will produce incomplete results.

10. *What would you not change about the draft National Plan? (Response in Red)*

- a) **Emphasis on the requirement for national definitions**
- b) Understanding of gender-based violence
- c) **The four pillars (prevention, intervention, response, recovery)**



- d) The foundation principles
- e) Targets
- f) Outcomes framework

11. *What would you change about the draft National Plan? (Response in Red)*

- a) Emphasis on the requirement for national definitions
- b) Understanding of gender-based violence
- c) The four pillars (prevention, intervention, response, recovery)
- d) **The foundation principles**
- e) Targets
- f) Outcomes framework
- g) **Other – include more recognition of the intersection of culture and violence and racism and violence. Include specific consultation with men and perpetrators**

12. *Is there any other feedback or additional information you wish to provide?*

**Written Response:**

- a. To enable holistic engagement and feedback from all of community especially those from vulnerable and culturally diverse communities we suggest that a synopsis of the plan is provided. A synopsis will enable more individuals to become involved and understand the content and intent of the plan.
- b. Although ECCQ agrees that the prevalence of violence is clear, we believe that there has been an increase in violence against women and children in recent years which has not been acknowledged
- c. We believe that the success of this plan hinges on the success of each state and territories individual plans to reduce or end violence against women and children. For success of each plan, and the national plan there must be consistencies in all areas but specifically in data collection, inclusion of lived-experience at all levels and with all intersections and definitions.