



Myth Busting Domestic Violence At Work #DVatWork | Starts 12.00pm (AEDT)

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TO ASK A QUESTION

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Myth Busting Domestic & Family Violence at Work



USING EVIDENCE TO DEBUNK COMMON MYTHS AND ASSUMPTIONS







- 1. Why this project?
- 2. A note on language
- 3. Addressing myths & providing workplace resources



A NOTE ON LANGUAGE

This report uses the term DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE to describe violence that occurs between intimate partners and family members as it's the most accessible and relevant term for workplaces.

However, this resource recognises the importance of understanding the gendered nature of domestic and family violence. We note that domestic and family violence are overwhelmingly perpetrated by men against women and represents a large proportion of violence against women in Australia.

We apologise if this causes any offense – this is not our intention.







"Domestic and family violence doesn't have anything to do with the workplace."









REALITY: Domestic and family violence is a workplace issue. If an employee is living with, or using, domestic and family violence, it will have an impact on the workplace.











Address
domestic and
family violence
as part of your
D&I POLICIES
AND STRATEGIES



HOLD LEADERS
ACCOUNTABLE
for minimising
or justifying
sexism, violence
or harassment



IMPLEMENT A
SAFETY PLAN
to address
instances of
assault, stalking
or harassment







"There aren't any 'perpetrators' or 'victims' at our workplace."









reality: There is no 'typical' or 'standard' person who uses or experiences domestic and family violence.











RECOGNISE: Identify and raise awareness of the signs of domestic and family violence



RESPOND: Manage the workplace impacts of the domestic and family violence



RECORD INCIDENTS: ensure privacy, and the record is kept separate from employment files







"It's not that bad, he doesn't hit her."









REALITY: Violence can take many forms, and physical violence is only one of them.











Workplaces can be a setting to SPEAK UP against disrespectful relationships



Workplaces
can set out
CLEAR POLICIES
that address
violence in all
it's forms



Some
workplaces
can provide
SUPPORT
TO THE
COMMUNITY







"I don't want to get involved – its none of my business..."









REALITY: Violence is everyone's business, including workplaces. If you see it, or hear about it, it becomes your business.











Give staff
the skills to
ADDRESS SEXIST
LANGUAGE and
jokes



ADDRESS
WORKPLACE
PRACTICES and
policies that
DISCRIMINATE
against women



QUESTION
STEREOTYPED
IDEAS about
masculinity and
femininity







"We aren't therapists or lawyers, there's nothing we can do."









BEALITY: HR or managers can often be first responders to disclosures or revelations of domestic and family violence.











LISTEN TO THE PERSON, show you believe them and take the disclosure seriously



Establish
whether
there is an
IMMEDIATE
RISK to safety



Provide
ACCURATE
INFORMATION
about where
to get support
or assistance







"Domestic and family violence only happens to [straight-cisgender] women."









REALITY: Men can be victims of domestic and family violence. However, women and gender diverse people experience domestic and family violence at rates much higher than men.











Take an
INTERSECTIONAL
APPROACH
to developing
responses to
domestic and
family violence



Ensure that
a DIVERSITY
OF PEOPLE
contribute to the
development of
your workplace
response



Develop a response that involves initiatives that will address the experiences of DIFFERENT GROUPS







"If anyone at our organisation did that, we would just fire them..."









reality: There is no 'one-size-fits-all' approach to perpetrators.











Maintain a
SAFE WORK
ENVIRONMENT for
victim/survivors
and staff who
have witnessed
violence



PRIORITISE the safety of the victim/survivor both within and outside the workplace



SUPPORT
INITIATIVES to
address the
underlying
drivers of
violence against
women



Diversity Council Australia is proud to have partnered with Our Watch on this important resource. Thank you to and sincerely thank all of today's speakers.





