

A stylized rainbow graphic with a white center, yellow and orange bands, and blue outer bands, surrounded by white dots.

**REACH OUT
FOR HELP**







**ASK
QUESTIONS.**

**KNOW
YOUR NEXT
STEP.**

**YOU'RE
NOT
ALONE.**

DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE IS NOT OKAY

.....

**Domestic and family violence is not part of
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.**

**All of us, including our children, families
and partners, should be safe, protected
and free from fear.**



▶ **DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE CAN HAPPEN IN MANY WAYS.**

Domestic and family violence is abusive behaviour that often happens over a period of time and may involve fear and control.

Domestic and family violence can include:

- » **Punching, hitting, strangling or choking.**
- » **Sexual abuse/assault.**
- » **Damage to your property.**
- » **Following you, threats or constant calls or texts.**
- » **Insulting you in public or private.**
- » **Making you do things you're not okay with.**
- » **Taking your money.**
- » **Stopping you from contacting your family and friends.**

▶ **YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN HAVE THE RIGHT TO LIVE FREE FROM VIOLENCE. YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**

If you're experiencing domestic and family violence, there is help available. This can include support with the children or finding somewhere safe to live.

If you're going to court, there's support available to help you understand the court process and get the best possible outcome for you, your family and your safety.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORDERS



Domestic violence orders can help to protect the safety of all members of our community and help to stop the violence.

An order is made by a magistrate in a court and helps to protect people in domestic and family violence situations. A magistrate can make an order quickly if you need urgent protection.

▶ IT CAN INCLUDE PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN, RELATIVES OR FRIENDS IF THEY'RE AT RISK OF VIOLENCE.



YOU CAN:



GET HELP

Police, someone from the court or someone from a domestic and family violence service or a lawyer may be able to help you.



ASK

Ask a friend or family member for support.
You can also ask them to apply for an order for you.



APPLY

Apply to the court yourself for an order.

▶ **THE POLICE MAY ISSUE A POLICE PROTECTION NOTICE, WHICH CAN PROVIDE TEMPORARY PROTECTION TO YOU AND OTHER FRIENDS OR RELATIVES AT RISK OF VIOLENCE BEFORE THE APPLICATION GOES TO COURT.**

The person who has used violence will be given a copy of the application.

▶ **THEY MUST FOLLOW ALL OF THE RULES ON A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORDER OR POLICE PROTECTION NOTICE.**

These rules make the person who has used violence stop so they can't hurt you anymore.

If they break the rules, the Police can charge them with a criminal offence.

Family and friends can support them to follow the rules.





BEFORE YOU GO TO COURT



▶ **GET ALL THE INFORMATION AND SUPPORT YOU NEED.**

It's important you have the support you need when you go to court. Understanding the process and having all your questions answered will help you in the future.

You may also want to get some legal advice to help you understand all of your options.

▶ **YOU CAN BE SUPPORTED IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE ALONE.**

You can take someone who is an adult with you to court.

You can also get help to understand what is happening and to get the best possible outcomes for you and your loved ones.

If you ever feel unsafe at court or need a question answered, tell the court staff and they will help you.



SOME THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU GO TO COURT:

- » Think about whether you want to take someone with you to support you.
- » Make sure you have the whole day free, as it may take a while for your turn in the court.
- » Make sure you know where the court is and what time you need to be there.
- » Make plans for someone to look after your children and other family members while you're in court.
- » Let the court know if you will need an interpreter.





WHEN YOU GO TO COURT



The person who has used violence will have been given a copy of your application. At court the magistrate will ask the person who has used violence (the respondent) if they agree to the domestic violence order being made.

▶ IF THEY AGREE:

The court may make the order straight away.

▶ IF THEY DISAGREE:

The magistrate may make a temporary order and the application will be dealt with at a hearing. This is when all the evidence is considered, and both parties are given an opportunity to present their case (speak about why the order should or shouldn't be made). If the respondent doesn't show up, an order can still be made.

You may find this difficult. But the court will help you feel safe and help you find a support person if you want one. For more information about going to court, please visit **www.courts.qld.gov.au**

After you go to court, you may want to get some more legal advice to understand the order, what the court has decided, and how it affects you.

**IF SOMEONE
SAYS YOU'VE
USED DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE**



▶ **IF SOMEONE SAYS YOU'VE USED DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

If you're given an application for a protection order by a police officer, read the paperwork carefully. It will tell you:

- » **why you are going to court (the allegations made against you);**
- » **the date and time you must go to court; and**
- » **which court to go to.**

It's important you go to court, and you have the support and information you need to understand the process. Ask lots of questions to understand what the process will be and what your options are.

If you don't go to court, a domestic violence order can be made without you getting to have your say.

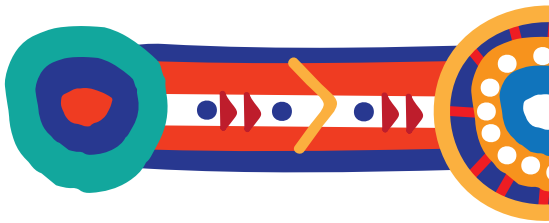
▶ **REMEMBER—YOU NEED TO KNOW AND FOLLOW THE RULES ON A DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORDER, EVEN IF IT IS A TEMPORARY ORDER.**

It's against the law to not obey these rules, so it's important you understand them and follow them. If you don't follow them, you could be charged with a criminal offence.

If your children are named on the order, you may not be able to see them, or there may be special conditions about when and where you can see them.

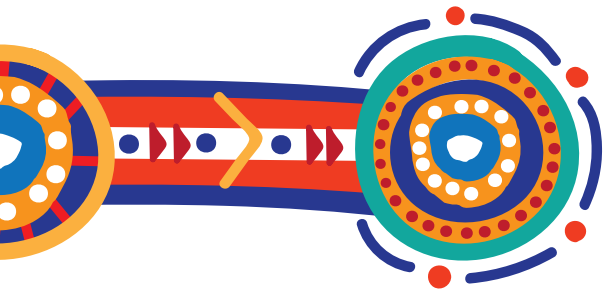
Getting legal advice will help you to understand the rules of an order.

This element represents the journey through the domestic and family violence court process. The circle elements increase in complexity representing the importance of understanding the court process and the support available to help navigate the journey safely.



Artwork elements created by Gilimbaa artist
Rachael Sarra, Goreng Goreng





Service provider contact details:

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....





Queensland
Government

