

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

There are a lot of words used to say very little and some of it doesn't even make sense. For example, violence is defined too broadly to encompass all kinds of abuse rather than confining it to acts of physical force which is what most people understand to be its meaning. This encourages people to accuse others of violence when they have simply been offended. This perhaps contributes to the confusing statistics on p11 which indicate 1 in 2 women have been victims of violence but only 1 in 4 women have been victims of emotional abuse.

**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.**

Again too many words with too little substance. I was not in attendance at the National Summit but I can only hope at least some delegates had more to contribute than just motherhood statements.

**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.**

Is this a plan for action or a marketing document phrased to placate the trans lobby? The conflation of biological sex with the social construct "gender identity", means that the word "gender" is no longer an appropriate descriptive term to use when discussing the need to put in place policies for the protection of women and girls. Males should not be able to access female spaces and facilities by simply asserting that they are women.

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

More verbiage. Do you have any real plans? How about these four for a start:

- 1) introduce a National Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, so women can carry out due diligence when entering a relationship.
- 2) Strengthen gun controls and reform DV and family laws that facilitate male abuse
- 3) Overhaul sexist school curriculum and prosecute media/marketing that encourages misogyny and normalises violence against women.
- 5) Remove funding and tax concessions from churches harbouring sexual criminals and give it to autonomous women's organisations.

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

Is the Government attempting to bore us into submission by wasting our time on endless, pointlessly repetitive survey questions? The current system is chronically under-resourced and undermined by accountability to patriarchal masters who ensure that it is dysfunctional and ineffective. For example, the WDVCAS in NSW are constantly constrained by the need to maintain positive relations with their funders, NSW Legal Aid and key stakeholder, the NSW Police. Unfortunately neither agency is known to be guided by a feminist framework.

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

Women and children need more than empty marketing documents rehashing what we already know all too well. We need actual law reform to ensure our safety from male violence. The Family Law system is an epicentre of human rights abuse for women and children and I do not see any commitment to family law reform in this plan. The presumption of shared parental responsibility must be replaced by a presumption that children remain with mothers unless there are exceptional circumstances.

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

You are wasting the time of all women with all this verbiage which evinces no real commitment to change. And stop including men who claim to be women. Biology is real and the Government needs to repeal all the laws which have been passed to placate the powerful trans lobby backed by pharmaceutical companies riding high on the sale of hormones to young and vulnerable people.

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

We know that the women's refuges established by community based feminist activists from the 1970s worked. However, the Government has dismantled this highly successful movement by tendering it out and awarding contracts instead to the churches and other bodies established by those with corporate backgrounds. Wasting women's time on endless research is just another strategy to avoid doing anything that actually works.

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

It seems the government is determined to tie women up with bureaucratic red tape and endless paperwork so that they won't have time or energy to help each other. The government just wants pretty figures to put in their report to CEDAW but nothing will conceal the fact that no progress is going to be made while men hold the purse strings and dictate on what terms women can help each other. This is macro abuse

mirroring the coercive behaviour occurring on a micro level within every home. How about mandating wage transparency and governance quotas?