



The Hon. Mark Speakman, Attorney General

52 Martin Place, Sydney, 2000

Cc/ Hon Natalie Ward, Minister for Women's Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Sexual Violence

Hon. Michael Daley, Shadow Attorney General

31 August 2022

To the Hon. Mark Speakman,

established in NSW. Under the proposed draft bill, coercive control perpetrated by a person against their intimate partner would be a crime, but the same behaviour perpetrated in other circumstances would not be classified as a crime. For example, coercive control perpetrated by an adult child against their aged parent, or by a carer against a person with a disability who is dependent on their care, or by an extended family member or kin against another family member (including Indigenous kin relationships), would not be covered by the proposed draft bill. In effect this further marginalises priority populations including older people, people with disability, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and people from migrant and refugee background by denying them the same access to the justice system as those in intimate partner relationships.

3. Immediate establishment of an independent implementation taskforce

We call for the NSW Government to immediately establish an independent coercive control implementation taskforce before the Bill is introduced into Parliament. This taskforce should have oversight of the draft legislation, consultation processes, and the implementation process, including systems and cultural reform as well as training, and ongoing monitoring and evaluation. If the NSW police and justice system aren't sufficiently trained with significant cultural reform undertaken, if our communities don't understand what coercive control is, and if support services aren't funded to provide support to women throughout the process, the proposed legislation will not provide justice for those it has been designed for and who need it most. We must have independent, transparent oversight and evaluation to ensure the legislation leads to appropriate convictions, and that it is not harming victim-survivors.

The NSW Women's Alliance and undersigned supporters ask you to listen to the advice of sexual, domestic, and family abuse experts in the development of this bill. At an absolute minimum we urgently request a second round of consultation on the amended exposure bill.

The changes we need to see in policy and legislation regarding domestic and family violence MUST be informed by those who have lived it. We MUST consider all communities within NSW, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We MUST ensure police, the courts and the legal fraternity are trained appropriately and cultural and systems reforms are implemented, to ensure victim-survivors of coercive control are not re-traumatised. We MUST take the time to criminalise coercive control in order to keep victim-survivors in NSW safe.

The co-signees ask that the above concerns be immediately addressed by the NSW Government before this proposed legislation is passed.

| Organisation | Representative |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Aboriginal Health Worker | Heidi Bell |
| Aboriginal Health Worker | Kayla Webb |
| Aboriginal Maternal and Infant Health Midwife | Janaya Lewis |
| Aboriginal Maternal Health service, midwife | Olive Hall |
| ACON | Teddy Cook |
| Advocate | Daniel John Kofler |

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| Advocate | Kat Docherty |
| Albury Wodonga Aboriginal Health Service, Community Health/AOD Counsellor | Yvonne Nichol |
| Animal Defenders Office, Managing Solicitor | Tara Ward |
| Australian Centre for Disability Law, Principal Solicitor | Mark Patrick |
| Barnardos Australia, CEO | Deirdre Cheers |
| Birra-Li Maternal & Child Health Service | Malia Donaldson |
| Blue Mountains Women's Health & Resource Centre Inc., Manager | Gina Vizza |
| Bondi Beach Cottage, Specialist DFV Counsellor | Eleanor Campbell |
| Bonnie Support Services Ltd, Executive Officer | Tracy Phillips |
| BWDVCAS, DFV Specialist Worker (Multicultural Focus) | Annie Cheng |
| Carries Place Domestic Violence and Homelessness Services | Jayne Clowes |
| CASPA Family Supports Casino, Team Leader | Maureen Gill |
| Central Coast WDV CAS | Karin Whelan |
| Central Tablelands and Blue Mountains Community Legal Centre | Arlia Fleming |
| Central West WDV CAS | Penny Watt |
| Centre for Women's Safety & Wellbeing, Director | Alison Evans |
| Centre Manager Central West Women's Health Centre Inc | Karen Boyde |
| CFHN Birra Li Aboriginal Maternal and Child Health Service | Kathryn Linsley |
| Clarence WDV CAS | Leonie Duroux |
| Coffs /Clarance, DFV Specialist Worker | Georgie Tebbs |
| Country Women's Association of NSW, CEO | Danica Leys |
| Cumberland Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service, Manager | Oloa Savaiinaea |
| DFSV Homelssness and Disability Consultant Advocate | Talie Star |
| Domestic and Family Specialist | Nicolle Woodleigh |
| Domestic Family Violence Specialist | Karen Vella |
| Domestic Violence NSW | Elise Phillips |
| Domestic Violence NSW Service Management | Nicole Diab |
| Domestic Violence Service Management | Kath Donovan |
| Domestic Violence Service Management (Wilcannia safe House) | Mary Ronayne |
| Domestic Violence Service Management, General Manager | Sally Grimsley-Ballard |
| Domestic Violence Specialist Worker | Kelly Clifton |
| DV West | Catherine Gander |
| DVNSW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Steering committee | |
| DVNSW Lived Expertise Policy Advisory Committee | |
| Educator/Advocate/Survivor | Ashlee Donohue |
| Embolden SA, Policy & Communications Manager | Jennifer Kingwell |
| Enough Is Enough Anti Violence Movement Inc | Simone Marslew |
| FACAA, President | Adam Washbourne |
| Faculty of Law, UTS, Associate Professor | Jane Wangmann |
| Family and friend of victim survivors and 2 deceased victims | Jacy harding |
| Family Support Barnardos, Program Manager | Melissa Cooke |
| Family Support Network Inc | Helen Lieschke |
| Family Support Newcastle | Mark Hoppe |
| Family Support Newcastle (Family Skills), Group Worker | Danielle Simmonette |

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| Macarthur Womens Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service-Disability Focused Caseworker | Lisa Stark |
| Make A Seat Australia, Survivor Advocaet and Founder | Amanda Morgan |
| Manager Monaro Hume Womens Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service | Julie Hathaway |
| Marrickville Legal Centre | Lucy Carroll |
| Mary's House Services, CEO | Claire Barber |
| Mid Coast WDVCS | Sandra Sheridan |
| Mid Coast WDVCS, Aboriginal Domestic and Family Violence Specialist | Laura Schmidt |
| Mid Coast WDVCS, Domestic & Family Violence Specialist | Danielle Mead |
| Mid Coast WDVCS, Domestic & Family Violence Specialist | Kate Fernandes |
| Mid Coast WDVCS, Domestic & Family Violence Specialist | Makiita Chilcott |
| Mid Coast WDVCS, Domestic & Family Violence Specialist | Kate Moulton |
| Mid North Coast Legal Centre, Assistant Principal Solicitor | Sarah Dahlenburg |
| Mid Western - WDVCS, SAM Coordinator | Jasanna Pilon |
| Mid Western WDVCS, Domestic Violence Specialist Worker | Ellen Newton |

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| Nova for Women and Children | Immogen Rodier |
| Nova for Women and Children | Katherine Terlato |
| Nova for women and children | Lee Liewes |
| Nova for Women and Children | Michelle Apschner |
| Nova for Women and Children | Wendy Pinch |
| Nova for Women and Children | Georgia Robson |
| NOVA for women and children | Tanya Rowney |
| Nova for Women and Children, case worker | Emma Ginn |
| Nova for Women and Children, CEO | Kelly Hansen |
| Nova for Women and Children, Rapid Response Case Worker | Teegan MacDonald |
| NSS Multicultural Families Team, Manager | Pet Kelly |
| NSW Council of Social Service, CEO | Joanna Quilty |
| NWDVCAS, manager | Suellyn Moore |
| Older Women's Network NSW | Yumi Lee |
| Oxley WDVCS | Frances Price |
| Oxley WDVCS, DFV Specialist Worker | Ashley White |
| Parramatta Women's Shelter, Shelter Manager | Tania Smith |
| Picking Up the Pieces, Birrang, DFV Program Manager | Keren Barker |
| Port Stephens Family and Neighbourhood Services, Assistant Manager | Ann Fletcher |
| Redfern Legal Centre, CEO | Katherine McKernan |
| Riverina Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service | Julie Mecham |
| Riverina Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service | Veronica Maloney |
| Riverina Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service | Melissa Harris |
| Service Manager TFSS Womens and Children's refuge and Staying Home Leaving Violence | Lynda Townsend |
| Settlement Services International, CEO | Violet Roumeliotis |
| Settlement Services International, Program Manager, DFV | Juliana Nkrumah AM |
| SEWACS, Staying Home Leaving Violence, Bega | Tahnee Austin |
| Shoalcoast Community Legal Centre | Emma Wood |
| Shoalhaven Women's Health Centre, Manager | Tracy Lumb |
| South Coast WDVCS | Sarah Totterdell |
| South Coast WDVCS | Skye Gunning |
| South West Sydney Legal Centre | Joshua Mestroni |
| South West Sydney Legal Centre, CEO | Yvette Vignando |
| South West Sydney WDVCS, DFV Specialist Worker | Patricia Ho |
| Southern Cross University, Social Work Field Education Officer | Inga Lie |
| Staying Home Leaving Violence, Case manager | Julie Dowse |
| Staying Home Leaving Violence, Case manager | Madeleine Taylor |
| Staying Home Leaving Violence, Caseworker | Laura Noonan |
| Staying Home Leaving Violence, Referral & Intake worker | Sophie Harley |

