01 Introduction

This chapter outlines The STOP Campaign and the Safe Response Toolkit (SRT). This includes why and how it has been created and the volunteer team who produced it.

What's in this chapter?

Content warning:

This chapter mentions sexual violence and institutional betrayal.

Key terms:

• Safe Response Toolkit (SRT)

Key organisations mentioned:

- The STOP Campaign
- YWCA Canberra

The STOP Campaign

About Us

The STOP Campaign aims to empower young people to create and sustain positive socio-cultural change regarding sex and sexual violence. We are an intersectional feminist organisation run by passionate volunteers and rely on public donations to fund our initiatives and impact.

The Campaign has successfully implemented a number of projects in the ACT since our formation in 2018. These projects include:

- The creation of educational materials and resources on safe sex and consent, sexual violence and sex positivity
- Facilitating peer-led education sessions in university colleges
- Facilitating programs for young people (particularly victim-survivors) focused on empowerment and confidence
- Building a platform for victim-survivors in our community to publicly share their experiences and journeys towards healing.

In 2022, our goal was to expand our outreach and audience to the wider ACT community, hence the creation of the Safe Response Toolkit.

Mission

We are a grassroots movement empowering people to create and sustain positive sociocultural change in Australian learning communities through empowerment, education, activism and awareness.

Vision

We envision a world where Australian learning communities are free from sexual violence and stigmatisation.

Values

- Intersectionality
- Respect
- Integrity
- Passion

The Safe Response Toolkit

What It Is

The Safe Response Toolkit: A Toolkit for Sexual Violence Victim-Survivors and Their Supporters (SRT) is a physical and online resource that provides information to victim-survivors and their supporters about how to safely respond to sexual violence disclosures and access support services in the ACT. The SRT is available online and has been distributed in hardcopy across the community, targeting legal, medical and education settings.

What It Does

The SRT's primary goals are to:

- 1. Raise community awareness about sexual violence
- 2. Advocate for victim-survivors and their rights
- 3. Inform victim-survivors, their supporters and the general community about the avenues available to victim-survivors after an experience of sexual violence
- 4. Empower victim-survivors to seek help and support
- 5. Ultimately, to help victim-survivors heal and thrive.

What It Includes

The SRT covers topics including:

- Key concepts to understand sexual violence, gendered violence, sexual health and wellbeing and destigmatisation
- Sexual violence and the law, including the criminal, civil and restorative justice processes
- Reporting sexual violence to law enforcement and reporting sexual violence that occurs in institutional settings (including workplaces, schools and universities)
- Support services in the ACT and nationally, including those available in the immediate aftermath of sexual violence
- The process of sharing an experience of sexual violence publicly
- Sexual violence activism and advocacy.

Purpose and Impact

Purpose

Currently, there is a lack of clear, trauma-informed and accessible information for victim-survivors and their supporters regarding the personal, legal and medical considerations when disclosing and reporting sexual violence in the ACT. Information on these topics is often vague, outdated and spread across multiple websites and platforms. The purpose of the SRT is to collate information about sexual violence and support services in the ACT in one place.

Impact

The SRT provides clear, accurate and easily accessible information about the process of seeking support following an experience of sexual violence. We hope that the SRT can:

- Alleviate some of the complexities involved in police, legal and health processes
- Make the process of seeking support less intimidating
- Ensure that victim-survivors ultimately feel empowered to access the support they need.

Addressing sexual violence in the ACT through this comprehensive resource will also work to destigmatise disclosures of sexual violence and encourage broader behavioural and cultural change.



You can find the online version of the Safe Response Toolkit at www.saferesponsetoolkit.com.au



The SRT Team

Executive Team

The Executive Team, being the Director and Deputy Director, was responsible for the creative direction and leadership of the SRT.

Research Team

The Research Team was responsible for conducting opensource research into sexual violence in the ACT and the support services available to victim-survivors.

Advertising and Communications Team

The Advertising and Communications Team was responsible for producing outreach materials and advertising the SRT.

Stakeholder Engagement Team

The Stakeholder Engagement Team was responsible for consulting with organisations involved in the production of the SRT.

Content Formulation and Design Team

The Content Formulation and Design Team was responsible for synthesising research and designing the physical SRT.

Web Design Team

The Web Design Team was responsible for the creation and maintenance of the online SRT.

Event Team

The Event Team was responsible for organising the SRT launch event.

Thank You YWCA Canberra

The Safe Response Toolkit was made possible by **YWCA Canberra** through their 2021 Great Ydeas Small Grants Program. Founder and Director of The STOP Campaign, Camille Schloeffel, was awarded \$2,500 to commence this project.

About YWCA Canberra

YWCA Canberra is a feminist not-for-profit organisation that has represented women's issues in Canberra since 1929. Their mission statement is 'We strengthen communities by supporting girls and women through our services and advocacy' and their vision is 'Girls and women thriving'.

The Great Ydeas Small Grants Program

YWCA Canberra's Great Ydeas Small Grants Program provides grants of up to \$2,500 to support women, girls and non-binary people in the ACT to pursue their passions and improve our community.

Since its launch in 2010, Great Ydeas grants have helped over 60 local women and girls progress their projects. Priority is given to projects that empower women in the local community and have the potential to grow beyond the initial funding provided.



Thank You CanPrint Communications

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Want the SRT in your community?

The SRT is a necessary resource for victim-survivors of sexual violence and their supporters in the ACT. Distributing this resource across the ACT will raise awareness of sexual violence prevention and support and equip members of the community with the skills to respond appropriately to sexual violence.

If you would like the SRT in your community, workplace, organisation or another community hub, **contact The STOP Campaign.** We will do our best to ensure the SRT is available where it needs to be and that copies are easily accessible.

Visit The STOP Campaign website to contact us.





Find us on social media @thestopcampaignaus

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