

PUTTING A FULL STOP TO SEXUAL, DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE.

📞 1800 FULL STOP
1800 385 578
💬 fullstop.org.au

PRESS RELEASE.

Sexual Violence Must be Part of National Conversation as BOCSAR Releases New Data

Date: 29 May 2024

Notes to Editors: The contents of this press release can be used as quotes attributable to Full Stop Australia Director of Client and Clinical Services, Tara Hunter.

BOCSAR has today released [data](#) showing that NSW conviction rates for sexual assault remain unacceptably low as reported incidents continue to rise.

In summary, only 8% of child sexual abuse and 6% of adult sexual abuse result in a conviction. And ABS data shows only 8% of sexual violence matters are reported to police. Clearly, the justice system is not delivering justice to victim-survivors of the most serious crimes. See BOCSAR's full report [here](#).

Full Stop Australia advocates for a stronger focus on prevention and early intervention to address sexual violence. This requires adequate resourcing which acknowledges the ongoing impacts of sexual violence on individuals and the broader community.

We support the recently released campaign which encourages conversations about consent and respectful relationships. We need to see this kind of support across the continuum with adequate resourcing to address the impacts of sexual violence, particularly in terms of the justice response.

There are significant waitlists for people to access counselling and ongoing support following sexual assault. We need adequate trauma-specialist support to reduce the barriers for victim-survivors navigating the justice system.

Full Stop Australia Director of Client and Clinical Services, Tara Hunter, said *“sexual violence remains an invisible form of abuse, with very little accountability for perpetrators and almost no justice for victim-survivors. It is so important that research like this is made available so that we can shine a light on this crisis that impacts communities in every state and territory.”*

E: info@fullstop.org.au

P: 02 8585 0333 F: 02 9555 5911

PO Box 555, Drummoyne, NSW, 2047

ABN: 58 023 656 939



PUTTING A FULL STOP TO SEXUAL, DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE.

 **1800 FULL STOP**
1800 385 578
 **fullstop.org.au**

The Australian Law Reform Commission inquiry into justice responses to sexual violence aims to improve the way the justice system responds to sexual violence. Full Stop Australia is preparing to make a comprehensive submission to the inquiry, which focuses on:

- Maximising victim-survivor autonomy and providing a range of options for seeking support.
- Recognising the impacts of trauma and the drivers and consequences of sexual violence and embedding this across the justice system.
- Increasing accessibility and practical support, particularly for communities who experience unique barriers to being heard and believed.
- Ensuring all people who use sexual violence are held to account.

Our submission to the ALRC recommends that funding be made available for legal representation, system navigators and trauma-specialists at police stations, to support victim-survivors through every part of the system.

“We know what needs to be done to change these conviction rates. We know what needs to be done to support victim-survivors through the system. We encourage those in decision-making positions to continue working with specialist services to bring about much needed reform” said Full Stop Australia Director of Client and Clinical Services, Tara Hunter.

If anyone in NSW has been impacted by sexual violence, free trauma-specialist counselling is available 24/7 at 1800 424 017.

Free trauma-specialist counselling is also available to anyone in Australia who has been impacted by sexual, domestic and family violence. Call 1800 FULL STOP (1800 385 578).

END

Media Inquiries

0448 716 265

media@fullstop.org.au

E: info@fullstop.org.au

P: 02 8585 0333 F: 02 9555 5911

PO Box 555, Drummoyne, NSW, 2047

ABN: 58 023 656 939

