

Domestic & Family Violence

The Greens (WA) recognise that domestic and family violence is a significant cause of death, injury and distress in our community. While women and children are primarily the victims, we acknowledge that other family members may also be victims. The impact of family and domestic violence on families and the broader community is significant in emotional, physical and economic terms. The Greens (WA) are committed to eliminating family and domestic violence.

Aims

The Greens (WA) seek to:

- promote evidence-based primary (prevention), secondary (early intervention) and tertiary (rehabilitation) responses and support services
- change community attitudes about domestic violence, so that violence and abuse are no longer justified or accepted
- address the social and economic determinants of gender inequality that contribute to and cause family and domestic violence
- create an community where all Western Australians can live free from harassment, fear, violence and abuse in families and intimate relationships
- improve awareness of family and domestic violence including information about available interventions and supports among all social groups, especially vulnerable groups, including: children, people with disabilities, the LGBTIQ+ community, the elderly, indigenous Western Australians, migrants, refugees and minority ethnic groups
- provide adequate evidence-based safety and support services for victims escaping family and domestic violence across the state, including rural and remote areas
- promote early intervention measures that prevent instances of domestic and family violence
- support reasonable and appropriate judicial outcomes, behavior change programs and other appropriate interventions for perpetrators of domestic violence (see also The Greens (WA) [Justice](#) policy)

Measures

The Greens (WA) will initiate and support legislation and actions that:

- adequately fund evidence-based non-government and government services for victims, including refuges, legal, advocacy and counselling services and long-term housing that are gender, age, disability and culturally and language appropriate including regional, rural and remote areas of Western Australia (see also The Greens (WA) [Regions](#) policy)
- adequately fund evidence-based behaviour change programs within the justice and support systems for perpetrators of domestic violence
- ensure appropriate judicial responses for offenders, particularly repeat offenders

- adequately fund and support programs that immediately remove perpetrators of family and domestic violence from the family home *e.g.* police orders, and/or allow victims and children to safely remain in the home *e.g.* [Safe at Home program](#)
- provides appropriate resources to facilitate the presence of trained, rapid-response domestic violence specialists within WA Police, child protection and other relevant systems
- provide a realistic and robust framework for effective, coordinated interagency responses to domestic violence
- ensure that those working in the criminal justice and family court system (particularly magistrates and judges) have adequate knowledge to identify situations of family and domestic violence and make decisions that focus on safety
- actively consult with Western Australians with lived and/or other relevant experience of domestic violence, as well as review evidence-based research, in the design of interventions and programs to address domestic violence as well as in the training of staff and professionals
- support an entitlement of ten days paid domestic and family violence leave per year, with two days unpaid per occasion (see also The Greens (WA) [Workplace Relations](#) policy)
- provide primary prevention and early intervention programs that include, but are not limited to:
 - targeted, public education campaigns and programs that seek to address gender inequality, social determinants and other causes of domestic violence
 - education programs in primary, secondary and tertiary educational institutions (see also The Greens (WA) [Education](#) policy)
 - appropriately resourced primary and secondary school contacts for children to seek support in dealing with situations of domestic violence
 - workplace resources to facilitate an understanding of family and domestic violence and its impact on employees, and appropriate workplace responses for victims and perpetrators
- adequately fund support groups, counselling and psychological services for anyone affected by family and domestic violence, including children and extended family (see also The Greens (WA) [Mental Health](#) policy)

The Greens (WA) Domestic & Family Violence policy ratified in 2017