

More men asking for help in the wake of Queensland killings

"I want help because I don't want to be THAT man." That's the message coming through to No To Violence (NTV), a peak body that helps to end men's use of family violence.

In the aftermath of the devastation caused by the horrendous actions of Rowan Baxter last week, specialist family violence counselling service Men's Referral Service (part of No To Violence) has seen more than a 25% boost in calls and high numbers of callers are citing the case as a motivating factor in their calls.

No To Violence is welcoming these calls.

"We are here and we can help." said Jacqui Watt, CEO No to Violence, "Family violence is a national emergency and the frustration is that this nation is not treating it that way. We've been asking men to call us before they make a decision that everyone will regret."

"I'm just so grateful I didn't kill my family" – said a participant on the final night of a Men's Behaviour Change Program in Melbourne last week when discussing the Brisbane case.

Ms Watt said, "In the last six days there has been a national outcry about this case, and the countless ones that preceded it. We feel if we work together we can implement solutions.

"We support national research body, ANROWS' call for a national summit to put together an integrated response to this scourge and the promise of national resourcing to back up the results.

"It's easy to feel defeated but we as a society, and the family violence sector that has been working in this space for decades, have the knowledge and tools to grow a wide-ranging response.

"We must try new ways of working because what we are doing is not preventing the deaths and destruction of families and communities.



“We must respond with urgency, however we must be mindful of knee jerk reactions where unintended consequence can be deadly. That’s why a measured and integrated response on a national scale is immediately necessary.

“In the meantime, we say to men who are worried their behaviour is hurting those they love, we are here and we can help” Ms Watt concluded.

No to Violence brings skills, knowledge and experience to a national conversation on ending men’s use of family violence.

No To Violence has been working to help end men’s use of family violence for over 25 years. They offer peak services and practice development (especially for member organisations working in men’s behaviour change), training and direct services, especially the Men’s Referral Service counselling service and court support for men going through the family law system.

-ENDS-

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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BACKGROUND – No To Violence (including the Men’s Referral Service)

For more than 25 years, NTV has been working with men who use family violence. We specialise in effective evidence-informed engagement with men

NTV’s primary concern is the safety and wellbeing of women and children.

The men we speak to come from a range of different backgrounds, experiences and environments. But there are common drivers, justifications and minimisations involved in the choice to use violence. Our practice challenges men and gives them the space to reflect on that choice.

Alongside our members, we are the experts who perform this unique work, where the challenge is greatest and where there is the greatest need for men to change their behaviour.

How NTV intervenes

NTV provides counselling, workplace development and training, policy advice and advocacy to end men’s use of family violence.

Through our telephone counselling service, we refer men into behavioural change programs that have been shown to be effective in mitigating the very worst of the harm of family violence - hospital admissions and deaths.

In addition to the telephone counselling service, we design and deliver the workforce development that is needed to deal with the increasing demand for men's behavioural change.

www.ntv.org.au

Men’s Referral Service: 1300 766 491

Specialist counsellors available seven days a week.