

2014 Victorian Election

NO MORE DEATHS

Keep women and children safe from family violence.



FACT SHEET 3

#nomoreFVdeaths

Hold violent perpetrators to account

In the 2014 Victorian election, we call on all political parties to commit to making men who use violence more accountable for their actions. A coordinated, risk management approach will save lives.

What happens now?

Perpetrators are slipping off the radar

- Despite some great local initiatives, thousands of Victorian perpetrators go undetected when Intervention Orders are not reinforced or supported; this can put women and children at risk, and men do not receive the interventions that can head off future violence.
- Men's behaviour change programs are struggling to cope with the demand and do not have the capacity to fulfil their early intervention potential.
- Lack of family violence specialist knowledge in non-specialist services means that they can blame women for 'failing to leave' violent partners rather than address the men's violence.
- Men in prison or on Community Corrections Orders can miss out on specialist family violence interventions when family violence is not understood as different from other acts of violence.
- 12 month Community Corrections Orders for family violence perpetrators are often insufficient to provide the programs needed to change their behaviour and reduce their risk to family members.

What needs to be done?

- **Extend Community Corrections Orders** for men convicted of a family violence related offence from one year to up to 24 months.
- **Deliver statewide specialised family violence training** for Community Corrections Officers, all Victoria police attending family violence incidents, and child protection workers.
- **Support Victoria Police to undertake data collection, analysis and review** of their 30 Family Violence Units to track success and ongoing challenges.
- **Map different points of intervention with family violence perpetrators** across a range of different service contexts, including child protection, courts, Corrections, police and health services to identify where early intervention could better occur.
- **Overhaul the way child protection and family violence services work together** so that comprehensive support is wrapped around those at highest risk.

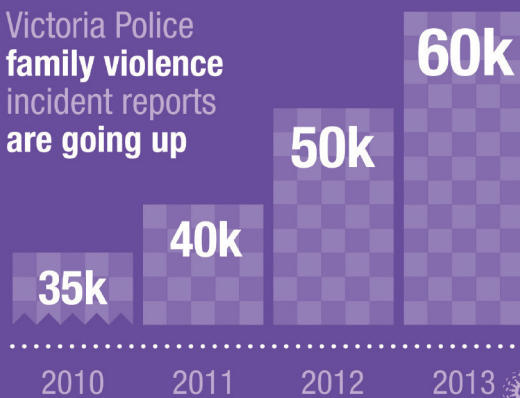
Family violence in Victoria: why we need to act now

Victorians are more **concerned** about **family violence** than street crime, muggings, home burglaries



family violence deaths in Victoria in 2013

Victoria Police family violence incident reports are going up



Family violence intervention orders are going up



Children are present in **1 out of every 3** family violence cases reported to police

Intimate **partner violence** is the **top risk factor** for **death, disability & illness** in **Victorian women** aged 15–44

Sources: 1. Galaxy poll, *Herald Sun*, 29 July 2014; 2. "Police shocked by massive rise in family violence", *Herald Sun*, 25 November 2013; 3. Victoria Police Crime Statistics, 2012/2013; 4. Magistrates Court Victoria, 2014; 5. Victoria Police Crime Statistics, 2011/2012; 6. VicHealth, 2004. Infographics © DVRCV 2014

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