

# Say **NO** to violence against women and children Say **YES** to equality and respect

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## The MonashLink Organisational Statement for the Prevention of Violence against Women

***MonashLink is committed to gender equality and zero tolerance for violence against women and children.***

*Violence against women is a health and human rights concern that affects us all. Gender inequality and men's violence against women are public, not private, issues. Intimate partner violence is more damaging to the health of Victorian women aged 15-44 years than any other well-known risk factor such as high blood pressure, obesity and smoking. MonashLink works with others to promote a community where every girl and boy grows up to be equally valued, heard and respected, with equal access to opportunities. We ensure both men and women have equal access to our services.*

The Organisational Statement tells our broader community about MonashLink's values and actions to prevent violence against women. Gender inequality and pro-violent and sexist attitudes are underlying causes of violence against women in our society and across the world. The Organisational Statement acknowledges that everyone has a role to play to prevent violence against women.

Through its research with the *ReClaim Project* during the period 2011-2012 MonashLink identified opportunities to improve its capacity to promote and model non-violent and equitable relationships. One of these was the development of an Organisational Statement. The *Generating Equality and Respect* program progressed the development of the Statement during 2013 through a series of consultation activities with key stakeholders across the organisation. At least 100 people have contributed to this process to date including consumers, volunteers, staff and the Board of Management.

The Statement was developed to reflect the values expressed through this consultation process while keeping in mind its acceptability and comprehensibility. Please share it with your family and friends.

For further information please contact Bronwyn Upston, Prevention Practitioner (Violence Against Women), telephone 1300 552 509.