



NEWSLETTER

Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA)

ABN 56 370 326 897

WHAT IS: *The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse*

The Family Violence Legal Service Aboriginal Corporation (SA) (FVLSAC) is holding some information sessions with a lawyer from Knowmore legal service and a counsellor from the Victim Support Service to tell people more about the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sex Abuse.

The Royal Commission is hearing stories from lots of different people about the things that happened to them when they were children.

The institutions that the Royal Commission is looking into include schools, churches, foster care arrangements or homes for kids, sporting clubs and scout groups. These are all places where kids should be able to feel safe and happy.

The Royal Commission is looking into some of the things that happened to kids at these places and how these things were responded to by the institutions.

From the information gathered the Royal Commission will

be making recommendations about things that should be done differently in the future to try to make sure that things like this can never again happen to kids.

FVLSAC INVITES

anyone from the community or any service that works with people from the community to join us to have a chat and share lunch.

WORKSHOP DATES

Koonibba—3rd June

Scotdesco—4th June

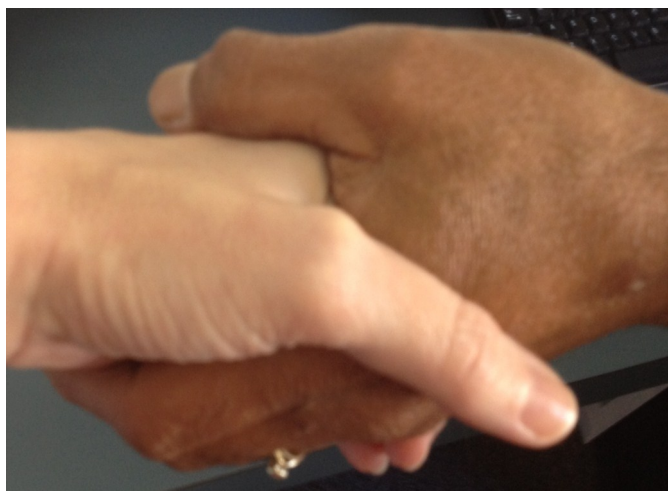
Ceduna –5th June

Yalata & Oak Valley—to be advised

Proudly funded by
the Australian
Government
Department of the
Prime Minister and
Cabinet

Special points of interest:

- > The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and Knowmore.....what is it and how we can help.
- > Let's talk about sex!
- > What is "consent"?
- > It's never too late to report sexual abuse.
- > Our first strategic planning day!
- > Recipes, staff profiles and a few extras.....



Let's talk about sex! Well, actually about sexual assault.....

**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE
TO REPORT!!!
WE CAN HELP IF YOU
WANT TO TALK TO
SAPOL!!**



**YOU CAN
REPORT
A RAPE
OR
SEXUAL
ASSAULT
EVEN
FROM
MANY
YEARS
AGO!**

Sexual assault is making people do sexual acts against their will. This includes any intimate contact like kissing and touching in unwanted places.

Rape is when someone has sex with another person who does not consent or has withdrawn their consent.

What does consent mean? Consent means to agree and say yes!

A person is **ONLY** consenting to have sex if they are doing so **FREELY** and because they **WANT** to (hungary way!)

The law says that a person does not consent if:

- They have been threatened and they are scared to say no.
- They have been locked up by the other person.
- They are asleep or passed out.
- They are so drunk they cannot agree or disagree with sex happening.
- They have a mental disability
- They don't understand it is sex (eg they think it is a medical examination).
- They want to have sex but they think it is with someone else.
- They did want to "fool around" a bit but not to have full sex.....
- Anything less than **FREE CONSENT** could be seen as a rape by the law now.....

There is no time limit to report sexual offences!

In the past there used to be a time limit for sexual offences. That has been removed and now people can report rapes or sexual crimes which happened.....even those that happened years ago. This is why you see cases on the news where people are talking about abuse that happened to them when they were children and the offenders can sometimes be successfully taken to court

and given punishments for crimes that happened years ago.....

If you want to talk about something that happened years ago there are a number of ways you can do it.....

You can talk to one of our solicitors.....we can tell you about your options, including going to the police if you want to do that.

You can talk to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses if you were in a home or institution as a child and you were sexually abused....

Our service will be running workshops soon with Knowmore — a free legal service set up to help people with the Royal Commission — and Victim Support Services. — Come along and have a yarn with us!

When is too young to have sex by law?

Some people think it is okay for kids aged 16 years old or even younger to have sex. Many different cultures through the years have also thought this.....

NOW the law says a person has to be 17 years of age to be old enough to consent to sex.

If one person is under 17 and the other person is over 18 then the older person could get charged with an offence. This is called Unlawful Sexual Intercourse.

The reason the law says this is because in South Australia the law says kids should be able to grow up and not have to worry about adult things until they are mature enough to handle the results. After all, sex can lead to lots of consequences such as babies! Even if a kid thinks they are old enough, if their partner is an adult the chances are the adult will have all the power in the relationship and this can lead to trouble and abuse.

The law wants kids to be kids as long as possible.

The law wants kids to wait because it is well known that young people take risks and do things they later regret.

The law tries to make kids "off limits" to any adults who want to have sex with them.

The law places harsh penalties on adults who have sex with kids and they will be charged, sentenced and treated as a child sex offender.

If you have questions about the laws around the age of consent please contact us.



Our Strategic Planning

Recently our staff came together in Port Lincoln to talk about our service, and how we can make it better.....



Nicolle Coleman and Geeta Bansal

Geeta has recently joined us and she is located at the Ceduna office. Geeta is pictured above with our Ceduna Community Engagement Office Nicolle Coleman. We asked Geeta a few get-to-know-you questions....

How old are you? 27 years

What is your family history? My background is Indian, my

family moved from India some time ago and I was born in Sydney and lived there until I was three.

How do you find living in Ceduna? I enjoy the laid back lifestyle of Ceduna. I did live in the Riverland for a while so I am familiar with the country lifestyle. I've played my first season of lawn bowls so I am slowly becoming a local!

What is your favourite food? I love all sorts of foods, Chinese, Thai, Mexican, I'm open to all Cuisines!

Favourite time off hobby? I'm a homebody! I'm happy to stay on the couch eating or I might do twenty minutes on the treadmill!

We welcome Geeta to our organisation and hope she will enjoy her time with us!

Introducing Geeta Bansal, Solicitor at Ceduna FVLSAC(SA)

Clockwise:

Jack Crombie, June Lennon; Sharlene Pickett, Bethany Lohmeyer, Lisa Abinett; Jack Crombie, Robert Vandeburgh; Jane Anderson, Iris Furtado, Johanna Boylan, Lisa Abinett, Amanda Spalding

BETH'S SPICY DAHL RECIPE

Peanut oil

One large brown onion (chopped up fine)

Ginger, a thumb sized bit, shredded

2-3 cloves garlic, finely chopped

Couple of pinches of salt

1 cup red lentils

2 tablespoons tomato paste

4-5 cups water

1 can or 5 chopped tomatoes

Juice of one lime

Bit of fresh coriander

2 teaspoons mustard seeds

1 teaspoon fenugreek

1 teaspoon coriander seeds

1 teaspoon cumin seeds

6 whole cloves

4 whole cardamom pods

2 dried red chillies

1 cinnamon stick

Dry fry spices over a medium heat (not the cinnamon stick) until they are roasted. Crush the spices up. Heat oil in a

large saucepan or wok on medium heat. Add onion, ginger and garlic and fry.

Add spices, then lentils, water, salt tomatoes and tomato paste. Cook for 20-30 minutes or until lentils are soft. Add more water if too thick. Take off heat and add lime and coriander. Serve with rice or flat bread YUM!!



"I love to see a young girl go out and grab the world by the lapels.

Life's a b#h.*

You've got to go out and kick ass"

- Maya Angelou

**Violence
is never
okay.....
don't be
shame
talk up
and get
help!**

DID YOU KNOW??

- ♦ Until 1891 the law said that a husband could beat his wife with a stick as long as it was no thicker than his thumb—this led to the saying “Rule of Thumb”.
- ♦ In 1967 the Referendum for Citizenship for Aboriginal People was successful in deleting offensive clauses of the Commonwealth Constitution to give Aboriginal people the same rights as every other citizen of Australia.



Lisa Abinett and Bethany Lohmeyer

Some of the things we do for clients include:

- We apply to the Court for an Intervention Order or a change to an existing Order to prevent abuse.
- We can help to deal with government departments, explain letters, and how to fill in forms.
- We can find other services that could offer help in certain circumstances.
- We help people to get Family Court Orders about their children or property when they split with their partner.
- We provide advice on Family law matters and link up with mediation services,
- We provide advice and represent clients in Care and Protection matters and negotiations with Families SA (Welfare).
- We provide representation and help claim for compensation when people have been Victims of Crime.
- We maintain our community links to ensure we are aware of issues in the community.
- We assist other community programs to provide Community Legal Education.
- We will assist you to approach Police if you want to report a crime or talk to them about a situation.

What can we do for you?

Family Violence Legal
Service Aboriginal
Corporation (SA)
ABN 56 370 326 897

Our Vision : An equitable and safe society for ATSI communities.

Our purpose : To eliminate family and sexual violence through quality holistic legal services, education and community partnerships.

We believe that client safety and trust is created when we keep confidentiality at the centre of everything we do.

PORT AUGUSTA

26 Jervois Street,
Port Augusta, 5700

PH: 08 8641 2195

Freecall: 1800 111 052

Fax: 08 8641 2348

PORT LINCOLN

32 Napoleon Street,
Port Lincoln, 5606

Ph: 0886 83 1896

Fax: 08 8682 4825

CEDUNA

17 McKenzie Street,
Ceduna, 5690

Ph: 08 8625 3800

Freecall: 1800 839 059