



Submission Form

How to make a submission to the Royal Commission

Easy Read version



How to use this document



The Disability Royal Commission (the Commission) wrote this document.

When you see the word 'we', it means the Commission.



We have written this information in an easy to read way. We use pictures to explain some ideas.



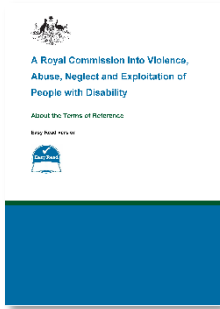
We have written some words in **bold**. We explain what these words mean. There is a list of these words on page 33.



This Easy Read document is a summary of another document.



You can find the other document on our website at disability.royalcommission.gov.au



You might also like to read our Fact Sheet about the Royal Commission.



The Fact Sheet explains:

- what a Royal Commission is

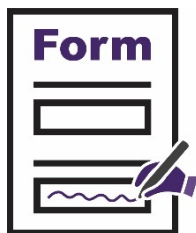


- why we are having a Royal Commission.



You can ask for help to:

- read this document



- fill out the form.



You don't have to fill out the form if you don't want to.

What is a submission?



A **submission** is a document that you can write to talk about your experiences or ideas.



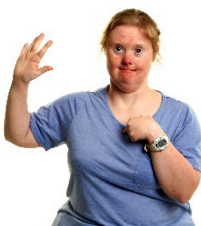
It's a way for you to tell us if something bad has happened to you in the past.

Who can make a submission?



Anyone can make a submission to the Commission.

You might be a:



- person with disability



- family member of a person with disability



- friend of a person with disability



- carer of a person with disability



- support worker or other person who works with people with disability.

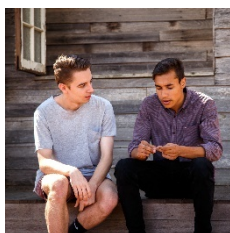
Getting support



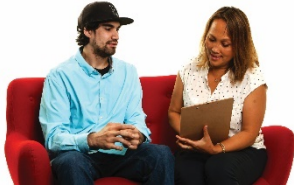
Some people might be upset by some of the ideas in this document.



You can get support if you need it.



A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.



We are also setting up some support services.



We can let you know when those services are available.



Please sign up to get our email newsletters to learn more about this support.

We explain how to do that on page 32.

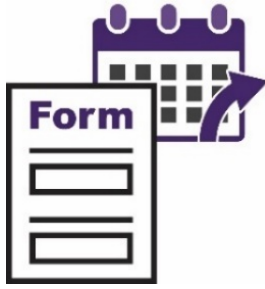
Sharing your experiences



If you fill in this form now and send it to us, in the future people may be able to read the information you share with us.



In the future, you can share your experiences with us privately.



You may like to wait until later to fill out the form.



Then we can keep your experiences private.



If you want to share your experiences now, you need to be careful not to **defame** someone.



This is a legal word that means you are trying to give someone a bad name.



It might be a good idea for you to get legal advice before you say something bad about someone else.



You have a right to speak up.

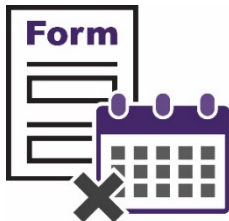


But you can't say something bad about someone that is not true.

Taking your time



You can take your time to think about the information in this document.



At the moment, you don't have to finish the form by a certain date.



This may change in the future.



Please sign up to get our email newsletters so that we can keep you updated.

We explain how to do this on page 32.

Important words

This Royal Commission is about violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disability.



Violence is when someone hurts you physically.



Abuse is when someone treats you badly.



Neglect is if someone is not helping you the way they are supposed to help you



Exploitation is if someone is taking advantage of you.



We want to know if someone has acted in any of these ways to you.

Violence and abuse can include someone:



- hurting your body



- forcing you to do something you don't want to do



- making you have sex or do sexual acts that you:
 - don't want to do
 - are too young to agree to



- putting you down or making you feel embarrassed



- taking away your privacy

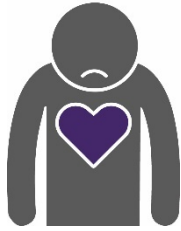


- forcing you to take medicine.

Neglect can be:



- physical



- emotional.



It can happen when you don't get your basic everyday needs met.

You may not:



- be cared for



- be fed properly



- have a good, safe place to live



- be safe from violence or abuse



- have the chance to be included in our community



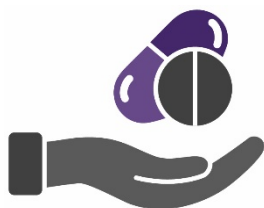
- have support to move around if you need it



- have clothes that are clean and that fit you well



- have the chance to get an education



- get the medicine and medical care that you need.



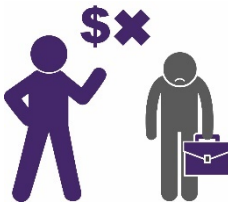
Exploitation happens when someone treats you badly because they have power over you.

It can include someone:

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- taking your money or the things you own



- making you work for free or for very low pay



- making you have sex or do sexual acts that you:
 - don't want to do
 - are too young to do.



Some people hurt or punish other people if they don't do what they are told.



This is not OK.

Filling in the form

If you want to tell us about your experiences, please use the form that starts on page 16.

There are 3 sections in the form.



- Section 1: Questions about your experiences



- Section 2: Anything else you would like to tell us about



- Section 3: Questions about you



The form has questions for you to think about.



And it has space for you to type or write into.



If you need more space, you can add extra pages.



You don't have to answer every question.



You only need to answer the questions that relate to you.



When you have finished the form, you can email it to us.

The email address to send it to is:



DRCsubmissions@royalcommission.gov.au

In the email subject line, please write:

Subject:

Disability Royal Commission – Submission form

Section 1: Questions about your experiences

Question 1 – Being treated badly



Have you been treated badly because of your disability?

Or, has someone that you know been treated badly because of their disability?

If you said yes, what happened?

Did this happen once?

Or did it happen more than once?

Please write your answer below.

Question 2 – Telling someone what happened



If you or someone you know has been treated badly, did you tell anyone?

If you said yes, who did you tell?

Did they do anything about it?

What did they do?

Were you happy with the way they acted when you told them you were treated badly?

Question 3 – Using a service or visiting a place



Has there even been a time when you couldn't use a service or visit a place because of your disability?

If you said yes, what happened?

Did you tell anyone?

If you said yes, who did you tell?

Did they do anything about it?

What did they do?

Were you happy with the way they acted when you told them you couldn't use the service or visit the place?

Question 4 – Using disability services



Have you used a disability service where you thought you were unsafe?

If you said yes, what kind of service was it?

What happened to make you feel unsafe?

Did you tell anyone about it?

If you said yes, who did you tell?

Were you happy with the way they acted when you told them you felt unsafe?

Question 5 – Providing support



Do you provide support to a person with disability?

If you said yes, do you get paid to do this?

Is the support formal – does the person pay for it?

Or is the support informal – does it include support that is done for free?

What type of support do you provide?

And why do you provide it?

Question 6 – Using new ideas to make things better for people with disability



Have you ever tried to make things better for people with disability?

Are there ideas that you can share with us to help us understand the best ways to work with people with disability?

Do you have ideas about how we can keep people with disability safe?

If you have been using these ideas in your work, please give us all the details, including:

- where you have used them
- how they work
- if they have been tested
- the results they have achieved.

Question 7 – First Nations Peoples



Have you, or someone that you know, missed out on services or care because you are from a First Nations community?

This includes Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Has being a person from a First Nations community put you, or someone you know, at risk or made you feel unsafe?

If you said yes, what happened?

Please tell us what part of Australia this happened in.

Question 8 – Receiving services



Do you think that you have been treated badly or have missed out on services because of your disability and your:

- gender – whether you are male, female or another gender
- age
- place of birth, if that was outside of Australia
- language, if your first language is not English.

You can tell us about any other bad treatment because of your personal situation.

Please tell us what happened.

Question 9 – Making our community more inclusive



Do you have any ideas about making sure that our community includes people with disability?

Please share your ideas below.

Question 10 – Reporting when people with disability are treated badly



We want to know about things that are working well to keep people with disability safe.

For example, are there ways of reporting and keeping good records?

Are there good ways of looking into and solving problems?

Are there ways to stop people with disability from being treated badly?

Please share your ideas below.

Section 2: Is there anything else you would like to tell us about?



You can tell us about anything else that is part of our Terms of Reference. The Terms of Reference are in a document that explains the role of the Royal Commission and the problems that we are looking into.

You can find it on our website.

Please share any other ideas or experiences here.

Section 3: Questions about you

Question 11

What is your name?

Question 12

What is your
email address?

Question 13

What is the best
phone number to call
you on during
the day?

Question 14

Which state or territory do you live in?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACT	NSW	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	NT	QLD	Outside Australia

Question 15

What age group are you in?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Under 18	18-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	65+

Question 16

Are you an Australian citizen?

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 17

What is your gender?

Man <input type="checkbox"/>	Woman <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 18

Please tell us if you:

Are a First Nations Person <input type="checkbox"/>	Are from a culturally diverse background <input type="checkbox"/>	Identify as LGBTQI+ <input type="checkbox"/>
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Question 19

Please tell us who you are making this submission for:

Yourself

Another person

An institution, such as a
business or organisation

Please write the name of the
business or organisation.

The Government of Australia,
any state or territory
government or a local council

Please write the name of the
part of government you are
making the submission for.

Question 20

Do you provide care to a person with disability?

Yes

No

Question 21

If you said Yes to question 20, what is your relationship to the person you provide care for?

Parent or guardian

Sibling

Friend

Husband or wife

Son or daughter

Support worker

Other

If you wrote other, please tell us about your relationship.

Question 22

If you said Yes to question 20, do you get paid to provide care?

Yes, I get paid

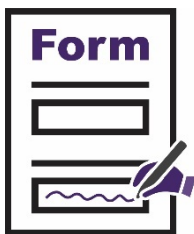
No, I don't get paid

Question 23

About your disability.

If you want to, you can tell us about your disability, or the disability of the person you are making the submission for.

Send us your answers



When you have finished the form, you can email it to us.



Use the button below to send us your answers by email.

Contact us



You can contact us on our website:
disability.royalcommission.gov.au/



You can sign up for our email newsletter
to get updates about the Royal Commission.



If you need help with your submission, you can
call us on 1800 517 199.



We are available on Monday to Friday between
9 am and 5 pm.

Word list



Abuse

When someone treats you badly.



Exploitation

If someone is taking advantage of you.



Defame

A legal word that means you are trying to give someone a bad name.



Neglect

If someone is not helping you the way they are supposed to help you.



Submission

A document that explains an experience or idea.



Violence

When someone hurts you physically.

This is Version 1 of the Easy Read Submission Form.

It was published on 29 July 2019.



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