

National Redress Scheme

For people who have experienced
institutional child sexual abuse

Free support services

Easy Read fact sheet



How to use this document



We want to warn you that this fact sheet talks about **child sexual abuse** in **institutions**.



We explain what these words mean in the word list on page 10.



This subject may be very hard to:

- read about
- talk about.

It may bring up difficult feelings and memories.



The Australian Government wrote this fact sheet. When you see the word 'we', it means the Australian Government.



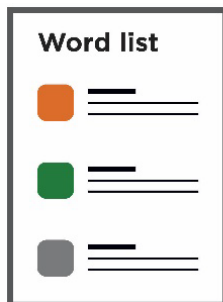
We have written this fact sheet to make it as easy to read as we can.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.



You may decide to ask for help to read this fact sheet.

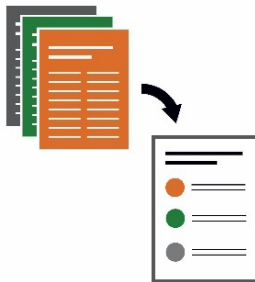
A support person like a friend or family member may be able to help you.



We have written some words in **bold**.

We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 10.



This fact sheet is from a set of fact sheets about the National Redress Scheme.



You can find the whole set on our website at www.nationalredress.gov.au/about/resources



You can also call the National Redress Scheme on **1800 737 377**.

Free support services for applying



Redress Support Services can help you before, during and after you apply to the National Redress Scheme.

We have services that can help you:



- understand the National Redress Scheme



- support you when you apply.



A Redress Support Service worker can:

- help you fill in your application
- give you emotional support during the process.



These include services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander survivors that show respect for your:

- culture
- history.



There are also services that can help people with disability.



To help you understand your options, we also have:

- legal support services
- financial support services.



You can contact us if you need to use these support services.



There is no cost for these services.



To find out more about these free services, go to www.nationalredress.gov.au/support

Legal support



You might want a **lawyer** to help you apply to the Scheme.



A lawyer is an expert who knows and understands the law.



You might choose to use a:

- private lawyer that works for you
- free lawyer that the Scheme offers.



A private lawyer may ask you to pay for their services.



If you choose to use a private lawyer, you will need to cover the costs.

The Scheme won't pay these costs for you.



If you don't want to use a private lawyer, there are free services available.



You can contact knowmore to help you work out which option is better for you.



knowmore is a free legal service that supports people who have experienced child sexual abuse.



You can visit their website at
www.knowmore.org.au



There is no cost for this service.

Word list

Child sexual abuse



Child sexual abuse is when a person younger than 18 is included in or shown sexual acts:

- they don't understand
- the community thinks are wrong
- that are against the law.

Child sexual abuse includes:

- sexual touching of any part of the body, with or without clothes, including with an object
- sex of any kind with a child
- showing a child sexual acts.



Child sexual abuse is:

- wrong
- a crime
- never the child's fault.

Institution

An organisation set up:



- by the government
- for a religion
- for teaching and learning
- to run a business
- for a social activity
- for sporting activities.



Lawyer

A lawyer is an expert who knows and understands the law.

Contact us



You can contact us to find out more about the Scheme.



1800 737 377



www.nationalredress.gov.au



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