



Media Release

We need more men! Let's Stop Domestic Violence in SA

Domestic violence is a blight on our modern society. Thousands of South Australian women experience domestic violence every year, many fleeing home with their children, turning to friends and services for help and often ending up homeless. **It's hard to believe that most of our responses to domestic violence happen after someone's been hurt.** This [Research Report](#) and [Poster](#) confirm what we know about current domestic violence policy and practice in South Australia – we need to do better and here are some ideas about how.

Shelter SA brought together 50 South Australians to look at what works to prevent DV. Our minds were racing with new ideas for action! Everyone agreed that **we need more men** working with **victims and perpetrators** and as **role models** to educate other men and stand up against violence. For so long, women have been fighting the fight for women. Its time for more men to step up and speak out!

Dr. Alice Clark, Executive Director of Shelter SA said, “DV is a leading cause of homelessness and there's a critical lack of public housing for DV victims who can't establish a new home due to a lack of affordable options” and, “we don't have enough services for men with Apprehended Violence Orders either, we're only skimming the surface, and we desperately need more”.

Culturally safe services for Aboriginal people like Kornar Winmil Yunti have been successful in preventing violence from reoccurring but again, we don't have nearly enough services to help everyone. Changing attitudes about gender equality must start with our youngest citizens. Dr. Clark said, “Education in schools about respectful behaviours is currently only delivered to a relatively small number of children and must immediately be expanded to cover every school in the State”.

It was fantastic to see so many people, passionate about 'tipping the scales' to focus on the prevention of domestic violence. Take a look at Shelter SA's [DV Prevention Workshop Report](#), recommendations for change and the event [video](#) to find out more and please share!

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