

WWDA youth network

**Position Statement 4  
Sexual &  
Reproductive Rights**



# WWDA YOUTH BELIEVE,



- ✓ We all have the right to express our sexuality, have relationships and make choices about our bodies, free from violence and discrimination.
- ✓ Women and girls with disability have the right to make a family.
- ✓ We all have the right to information about sexual and reproductive health.
- ✓ No child or young person should be sterilised.

# THE FACTS



Sexual health education often excludes young women and girls with disability.



Forced sterilisation, forced abortion and forced contraception are forms of violence.

**70%**

More than 70% of women with disability have experienced sexual violence.



Authorities take away the children of people with disability at a rate up to ten times higher than other parents.

**3x**

Girls with disability are 3-4 times more likely to experience violence than their friends.

More info on  
Page 5!

# WHAT IT MEANS



## VIOLENCE

To make a decision or choose to something after you have been provided with information and support to understand the consequences of making that choice.



## DISCRIMINATION

Being treated unfairly or differently because of who you are, where you live, what you believe, or because you have a disability.



## STERILISATION

A medical procedure that removes a person's capacity to have children.



## SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Means physical, mental and social wellbeing in all matters relating to your sexuality, your gender identity and the reproductive system. This includes having a safe sex life; having access to acceptable feminine hygiene products and contraception methods of your choice; being informed on how to protect against sexually transmitted diseases; and the freedom to decide if, when and how often you wish to have children.

# LEARN MORE



## HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights are protected under international law. These rights are described in documents called conventions or treaties. Countries such as Australia can agree to be bound by these laws.



### **CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC)**

The CRC describes and protects the human rights of children and young people. Check out the “For Youth” page to learn more about your rights:  
[www.unicef.org/rightsite/433.htm](http://www.unicef.org/rightsite/433.htm)



### **CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD)**

The CRPD describes and protects the rights of all people with disability. You can find an easy to understand version of the convention at:  
[www.unicef.org/publications/index\\_43893.html](http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_43893.html)



### **FAMILY PLANNING NEW SOUTH WALES**

You can find loads of resources about puberty, the body, relationships and sex at the FPNSW BodyTalk website specifically designed for under 25s.  
[www.bodytalk.org.au](http://www.bodytalk.org.au)



### **WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES AUSTRALIA (WWDA) HUMAN RIGHTS TOOLKIT**

WWDA has created a toolkit for women and girls with disability to learn about their human rights and demand their rights.  
[www.wwda.org.au/papers/toolkit](http://www.wwda.org.au/papers/toolkit)

# HELP & SUPPORT



## CONNECT WITH SOMEONE



### IN AN EMERGENCY

If you or another person is in immediate danger, Call 000 (Triple Zero)



### E-HEADSPACE

The eheadspace online and telephone service supports young people and their families going through a tough time. Visit: <https://www.eheadspace.org.au/>



### KIDS HELPLINE

If you need to talk about anything, you can call, email, or have an online chat with Kids Helpline. Visit [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au) or call 1800 55 1800



### 1800 RESPECT

Support if you have or are currently experiencing sexual, domestic or family violence. Visit [www.1800respect.org.au](http://www.1800respect.org.au) or call 1800 737 732



### DISABILITY ADVOCACY SERVICES

A disability advocate can help you to access support around your human rights. To find an advocate near you, visit: [finder.dss.gov.au/disability/ndap/](http://finder.dss.gov.au/disability/ndap/)

# GET INVOLVED



## UNITED NATIONS YOUTH ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA (UNYA)

UN Youth Australia is a national youth-led organisation that aims to educate and empower young Australians on global issues.

[www.unyouth.org.au](http://www.unyouth.org.au)



## WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES AUSTRALIA (WWDA)

WWDA represents more than 2 million disabled women and girls in Australia. We are run by and for women with disabilities. We operate as a transnational human rights and systemic advocacy organisation. [www.wwda.org.au](http://www.wwda.org.au)



## WWDA YOUTH NETWORK

WWDA Youth Network aims to empower young women and girls with disabilities to become strong, confident, proud and educated on their rights and options. Follow us and get involved at:



[youth.wwda.org.au](http://youth.wwda.org.au)



[facebook.com/WWDAYouth](https://facebook.com/WWDAYouth)



[twitter.com/WWDA\\_Youth](https://twitter.com/WWDA_Youth)



[goo.gl/BqDQ47](https://goo.gl/BqDQ47) (YouTube)



[instagram.com/WWDA\\_Youth](https://instagram.com/WWDA_Youth)

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For further information, please access the full Human Rights Toolkit and comprehensive WWDA Position Statements available at, <http://www.wwda.org.au/papers/toolkit>

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