

DV Sunday Fact Sheet

- DV Sunday is an initiative from the Archbishop and supported by the Sydney Synod
- The aim of DV Sunday is to continue to raise awareness about the presence of domestic abuse, not only in the community but the church as well.
- Domestic Abuse has no place in the life of the church.
- There is no place for violence in marriage and God's word instead calls for husbands and wives to love one another.
- All forms of domestic abuse cause damage to the victim and are wrong. Perpetrators must stop.
- **Definition: Domestic abuse** involves a pattern of behaviour that seeks to coerce, control, intimidate, hurt or frighten a person in an intimate or family relationship. Domestic abuse may include, but is not limited to emotional, verbal, financial, psychological, spiritual, cultural, physical and sexual abuse. It can also include social isolation, stalking, image-based or technology facilitated abuse, and threats to harm other people including children, property or pets.
- The Anglican Diocese of Sydney is committed to promoting and supporting safer environments that:
 - Recognise equality between all people, including husbands and wives. \
 - Promote a culture of healthy relationships of mutual responsibility and respect in marriages, families and congregations.
 - Ensure that all people feel welcomed, respected and safe from abuse.
 - Strive to follow good practice in protecting those experiencing domestic abuse.
 - Refuse to condone any form of abuse.
 - Enable concerns to be raised and responded to appropriately and consistently.
- Domestic Abuse Key numbers and websites for help

1800 Respect: Ph: 1800 737 732 / 1800respect.org.au

Anglicare Domestic Violence Adviser 0438 826 556

Advice to clergy and lay ministers in the Anglican Diocese of Sydney especially for domestic abuse in a church-related setting

Diocesan Policy and other resources:

[Domestic & Family Abuse – Safe Ministry](#) (including the Diocesan Domestic use and misuse of scripture booklet found under “Links to other Resources”)

A timeline of Diocesan Initiatives

- 2015: Standing Committee in responding to Synod motion establishes a Domestic Violence Task force and then a monitoring committee (2018)
- 2017: Synod receives a provisional policy for Domestic Abuse from the DVTF
- 2018: Synod passes the Domestic Abuse and Good Practice Guidelines Policy
- 2018: Synod received the Doctrine Commission “Use and Misuse of Scripture” Report
- 2018: Standing Committee establishes the Ministry Spouse Support Fund
- 2018: Safe Ministry produced online resources and training for church workers
- 2019: Synod receives the Doctrine Commission report on the Implications of Domestic Abuse for Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage
- 2019: A report was prepared for Standing Committee regarding leave in relation to Domestic Abuse
- 2021: National Report on Domestic Violence in the Anglican Church was released
- 2023: Synod passes an updated version of the Domestic Abuse Policy and Good Practice Guidelines.