

# VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN DOESN'T JUST START. IT GROWS.

On average, one woman is killed every week at the hands of a current or former partner. One in three women has been a victim of physical or sexual violence, since the age of 15, from someone known to them. One in four young people are prepared to excuse violence from a partner.

This is a cycle of violence, which starts with disrespect.

Not all disrespect towards women results in violence.  
But all violence against women starts with disrespectful behaviour.

When we make excuses like *"It's just boys being boys"*, we allow boys to develop attitudes that can lead to violence. We raise girls to expect ridicule from boys when we tell them *"He's only doing it because he likes you"*. When we do confront unacceptable behaviour, we play it down by saying *"Don't worry, it wasn't that bad"*.

We're allowing disrespect to become a normal part of growing up.

By doing so, we are unintentionally part of the problem.  
We can all become part of the solution.

**STOP** the excuses.  
**START** a conversation about respect with boys and girls.

**LEARN** more at [australia.gov.au/respect](https://australia.gov.au/respect)

## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN LET'S STOP IT AT THE START



Australian Government

A joint Australian, state and territory government initiative.

