

KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING

As a community, we know that violence against women is wrong. We want to help break the cycle for the next generation.

We have started to understand that what we say and do as adults can contribute to this cycle – often without realising it.

Our words and actions guide young people about what is and isn't acceptable. We need to keep asking – could we be teaching our children disrespect?

Conversations about disrespect can sometimes be difficult to have, but they are important. Like anything tricky or challenging, these conversations will become easier with practice.

This guide provides tips on continuing conversations about respect with the young people in your life.

MAKE RESPECT AN ONGOING CONVERSATION

Preventative conversations help prepare our children for the future. Then, when they face a situation, they know there are options, and that there are different ways they can react.

USEFUL TIPS

Some young people are reluctant to talk about difficult issues with adults. If this happens, there are a few things you can do to increase the chances of a more open conversation next time.

Listen out for cues and be ready to respond.

Calmly set out the issues as you see them, and encourage your children to think about them.

Always work at keeping the conversation open and let them know you appreciate them speaking to you.

Discuss the difficult issues they face, and acknowledge it can be challenging to work out what is right.

Talk about successes as well as hard times. Recall a time that they showed respect, or reacted to a situation in a positive way.

Let them know if they ever want to talk, or if they feel unsure, they can come to you.

By setting a good example, and talking about these issues regularly, we can teach our children that respect is an automatic starting point for all relationships.

See the full **Conversation Guide** for more tips and advice (including topics, starters and opening lines) to help you talk with young people about respect.



The **Excuse Interpreter** explores the hidden meanings behind the words we all use to talk about disrespect between men and women.



The **Respect Checklist** is a practical tool to help you identify some important aspects of respect and gender equality to talk about with your children.



For more information visit www.respect.gov.au

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
LET'S STOP IT
AT THE START