

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP

Minister for Prevention of Family Violence
Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Youth



Tuesday, 25 October 2022

EMPOWERING YOUNG PEOPLE TO UNDERSTAND CONSENT

The Andrews Labor Government is ensuring young people are supported to understand affirmative consent so their relationships can thrive.

Minister for Prevention of Family Violence Ros Spence today announced the recipients who will share in a \$3.5 million investment to provide consent education across the state.

The program targets young people in out-of-school settings, including an after-school digital program on the gaming platform 'Twitch', multimedia campaigns and peer-led initiatives.

This tailored approach is designed to help young people develop an early understanding of affirmative consent and how they can and must seek it as they become sexually active.

The education program backs the Labor Government's recent adoption of an affirmative consent model. These reforms make it clear that everyone has a responsibility to get consent before and while engaging in sexual activity.

The Supporting Young People to Understand Affirmative Consent Program will support 12 projects to ensure young people aged 12-25 years understand the new affirmative consent model.

The successful organisations are:

- Australian Childhood Foundation
- Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights
- Body Safety Australia
- Centre Against Sexual Assault Central Victoria
- Drummond Street Services Inc
- Sexual Health Victoria
- The Man Cave
- Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency
- Women's Health East
- Women's Health in the North
- Young People's Legal Rights Centre (Youthlaw)
- Youth Affairs Council of Victoria Inc.

The program is funded through the *Victorian Budget 2022/23* and forms part of the Government's agenda to end all forms of violence against women, including sexual and family violence.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Prevention of Family Violence Ros Spence

"We want young Victorians to understand how to seek and give affirmative consent – these programs will ensure young people have the tools they need to have healthy and consensual relationships from the start."

"By equipping young people with the skills, information and support they need, we're challenging the harmful behaviours, attitudes and assumptions that lead to sexual violence."

Media contact: Emily Bourke 0428 889 493 | emily.bourke@minstaff.vic.gov.au