



Australian Government Department of Social Services
SecondActionPlan@dss.gov.au

31st July 2026

Re: the Consultation Paper in support of the National Plan to End Violence against Women and their Children 2022-2032.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Paper. I note older women are missing from the Paper and believe this omission contributes to gender inequalities for older women and the failure to address the violence older women experience.

In 2024 we brought together a range of experts and project partners for a project called *The [un]Silencing of Older Women*. As part of the project, we developed a report on a life stages approach to the National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Their Children. The report recognises the value of a life stages approach and suggests this approach has not yet progressed beyond definition.

Our report proposes that gender inequalities increase as women age – because they are silenced, or invisibilised. The silencing of older women includes the National Plan to End Violence and the Consultation Paper.

I urge you to read the [un]Silencing report (link below) and ensure older women are included in all initiatives to prevent violence against women.

Yours truly



Web: <https://celebrateageing.com>

Report: <https://celebrateageing.exposure.co/a-lifestages-approach-to-family-violence>