

Practitioner support guide

Working together to end violence against women

MEN IN FOCUS: IN PRACTICE - CHAPTER 8

Purpose of the support guide

This is a supporting guide for the *Working together to end violence against women* video series Chapter 8, which explains the five guiding principles for effective and ethical practice from Our Watch's *Men in focus practice guide: Addressing masculinities and working with men in the prevention of men's violence against women* (*Men in focus practice guide*). It includes:

1. Introduction to Chapter 8.
2. Reflection prompts and resources for applying the five guiding principles to prevention practice.
3. Suggested further reading.
4. Supports available.



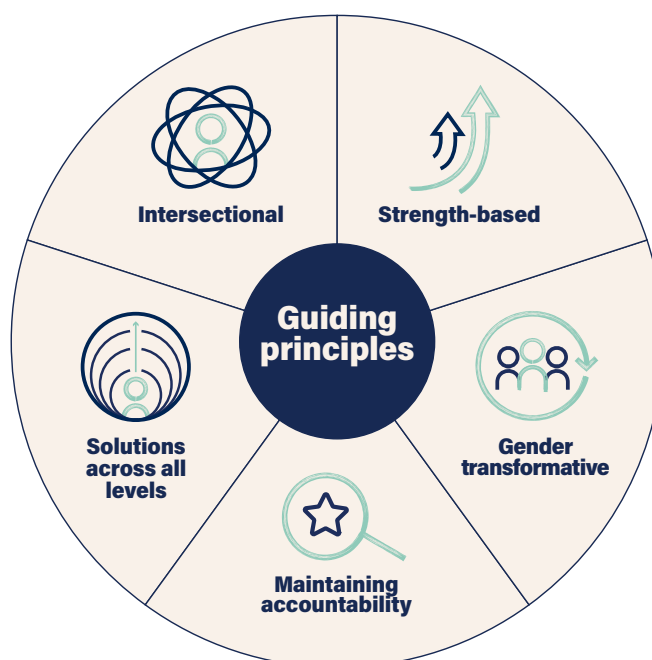
Men in focus practice guide

ourwatch.org.au/change-the-story/men-in-focus

About Chapter 8

This video is relevant to anyone working with men and boys and seeking to challenge and transform masculinities in the prevention of men's violence against women. Chapter 8 introduces Our Watch's *Men in focus practice guide* and discusses the five guiding principles outlined on pages 31-60. The infographic *The five guiding principles for working with men and addressing masculinities* offers quick reference to what the five guiding principles look like in practice.

The five guiding principles for working with men and addressing masculinities



Prompts for self-reflection

The guiding principles can be used to reflect on the strengths of current initiatives as well as areas for growth and development.

The video *Men in focus: Practitioner reflections*, Chapter 3 provides further information for how to apply the five guiding principles to prevention initiatives.

Guiding principle	Prompts for self-reflection	Supporting resources
Intersectional approaches	How might your own experiences of power and privilege, discrimination and oppression impact the way you approach and undertake this work?	Use the activities on pages 81–85 in the Men in focus practice guide , as a tool for critical self-reflection.
	What unconscious biases and assumptions might influence the way we work with men, boys, and people of all genders from diverse backgrounds? How do we address these to meaningfully engage everyone in prevention work?	Take Project Implicit's Implicit Association Test to find out more about your unconscious biases.
Gender transformative approaches	What opportunities do you have in your sphere of influence to transform unequal gender norms, practices and structures?	Use the gender transformative continuum in the Men in focus practice guide page 41 to help assess how gender transformative an initiative is.
Strengths-based approaches	What positive values that most men and boys have do you think you could work with?	<p>Use VicHealth's Framing gender equality: Message guide for information on using values-based messaging to foster positive behaviour.</p> <p>Use the Values map and definitions resource from Common Cause Australia to help identify participant's values.</p>

Guiding principle	Prompts for self-reflection	Supporting resources
Strengths-based approaches	How could these values be used to help people break free from outdated masculine stereotypes?	Read Thomas Mayor's book <i>Dear Son</i> , an anthology of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander fathers' letters to their sons and family on Indigenous masculinity and fatherhood.
Maintaining accountability to women	Are a diverse range of women's voices and experiences guiding your work and meaningfully embedded in it?	Read the <i>Men in focus practice guide</i> on pages 47-49 for practitioners' reflections on how gender dynamics play out in prevention work.
	Does your work include mutually beneficial partnerships with women's organisations representing First Nations women, women with disabilities, and other groups of diverse women as relevant?	For an example of how to build partnerships with community organisations, read Rainbow Health Australia's <i>Pride in Prevention partnership guide: A guide for partnerships to support primary prevention of family violence experienced by LGBTIQ communities</i> to develop an understanding of the principles and approaches required to develop strong cross-sector partnerships that can deliver effective primary prevention.
Solutions across all levels of society	How does your work encourage men and boys to take action to end men's violence against women? At what level/s of society does it work at?	See <i>Change the story: A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women and their children in Australia</i> pages 34-35 for an explanation of the socio-ecological model, which views men's violence against women as the outcome of interactions among many factors at different levels of society.
	How can the work move beyond awareness raising to challenging and changing inequitable norms, structures and practices?	Read Amber Schultz's article <i>Knowing it's a problem is the first step. Too often it's also the last</i> which discusses the importance of moving beyond awareness raising in primary prevention.

Further reading

- *Change the story: A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women in Australia* is Our Watch's evidence-based framework to guide a coordinated and effective national approach to preventing violence against women.
- *Changing the landscape: A national resource to prevent violence against women and girls with disabilities* is Our Watch's evidence-based framework to guide the prevention of violence against women and girls with disabilities.
- *Men in focus practice guide: Addressing masculinities and working with men in the prevention of men's violence against women* is designed to support practitioners to address masculinities and work with men in the prevention of men's violence against women. The five guiding principles are explored between pages 31-60.
- *Intersectionality matters: A guide to engaging immigrant and refugee communities to prevent violence against women* by the Multicultural Centre for Women's Health helps practitioners develop violence prevention approaches, strategies and activities in a way that effectively engages immigrant and refugee communities to prevent violence against women.
- *Towards gender transformative change: A guide for practitioners* by Women's Health Victoria supports practitioners to develop and enhance the critical thinking and reflection skills needed to apply a gender transformative lens to their current and future work.
- *Working together with men 2.0* by Shelley Hewson-Munro and Dr. Sarah McCook provides tools and templates to ensure that prevention initiatives remain accountable to women.
- *Towards an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander violence prevention framework for men and boys* by The Healing Foundation and White Ribbon Australia explores the essential principles required for the development of an effective violence prevention framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men and boys, to reduce and prevent violence against women and children.
- The Pride in Prevention resources from Rainbow Health Australia forge new ground in the primary prevention of family violence experienced by LGBTIQ communities, seeking to address critical evidence gaps, strengthen understanding of the drivers of violence, and build expertise for both LGBTIQ organisations and family violence primary prevention organisations to effectively deliver evidence-based programs.



Read **Change the story**

A shared framework for the primary prevention of violence against women in Australia (2nd ed.)

Support is available

Violence against women is widespread across our society and impacts the lives of many people. If the content in these resources raises any issues for you, the following supports are available:

1800 RESPECT

☎ 1800 737 732 ⌚ 24-hours 🖱 1800respect.org.au

Free national family and domestic violence telephone, online chat, and online video counselling services.

Australian Human Rights Commission National Information Service (NIS)

☎ 1300 656 419 or 02 9284 9888

🖱 humanrights.gov.au/complaints

Information and referrals regarding workplace sexual harassment, for individuals and employers.

Men's Referral Service

☎ 1300 766 491 ⌚ 24-hours 🖱 ntv.org.au/mrs

Information and referral for men who are concerned about their use of violent or abusive behaviour.

13 Yarn

☎ 13 92 76 ⌚ 24-hours 🖱 13yarn.org.au

Crisis support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

QLife

☎ 1800 184 527

⌚ 3pm-midnight, 7 days a week 🖱 qlife.org.au

LGBTIQA+ peer support and referrals for people wanting to talk about a range of issues.

Find out more at ourwatch.org.au



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**Our
Watch**

Preventing violence
against women