

WWDA youth network

Position Statement 3  
**Participation**



# WWDA YOUTH BELIEVE,



We all have the right to equal participation in political, economic, social and cultural life.



Participation requires access to information that is accurate and accessible.



Meaningful participation requires freedom from all forms of violence.



Meaningful participation requires Gender and disability equality.

# THE FACTS



Women and girls with disability are often denied the right to participate and make choices about their lives.



Women and girls with disability living in institutions and group homes are often denied information, education and support to participate equally.



Abuse, bullying and discrimination can stop young women and girls with disability from participating.



Women and girls with disability are leading the global push for their human rights to be acknowledged and respected.

More info on  
Page 5!

# WHAT IT MEANS



## PARTICIPATION

To make a decision or choose to something after you have been provided with information and support to understand the consequences of making that choice.



## EQUALITY

Having access to the same rights and opportunities as everyone else, along with the support to act on those rights and opportunities.



## DISCRIMINATION

Being treated unfairly or differently because of who you are, where you live, what you believe, or because you have a disability.



## HUMAN RIGHTS

Rights to freedom, dignity and fairness that all people have, no matter their race, ethnicity, nationality, age, sex, gender, sexuality, disability or political beliefs. Human rights are protected by international law.

# LEARN MORE



## HUMAN RIGHTS AND PARTICIPATION

Human rights are protected under international law. These rights are described in documents called conventions or treaties. Countries such as Australia can agree to be bound by these laws.



### **CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC)**

The CRC describes and protects the human rights of children and young people. Check out the “For Youth” page to learn more about your rights:

[www.unicef.org/rightsite/433.htm](http://www.unicef.org/rightsite/433.htm)



### **CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD)**

The CRPD describes and protects the rights of all people with disability. You can find an easy to understand version of the convention at:

[www.unicef.org/publications/index\\_43893.html](http://www.unicef.org/publications/index_43893.html)



### **AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

The Commission has put together some great ideas about how to get involved in human rights and make a difference. Visit:

[www.humanrights.gov.au/education/students/get-involved-students](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/education/students/get-involved-students)



### **WWDA YOUTH HUMAN RIGHTS WORKBOOK**

The WWDA Youth Human Rights Workbook explores and explains the Convention on the Right of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence Against Women (CEDAW).

<http://youth.wwda.org.au/workbook>

# HELP & SUPPORT



## CONNECT WITH SOMEONE



### IN AN EMERGENCY

If you or another person is in immediate danger, Call 000 (Triple Zero)



### E-HEADSPACE

The eheadspace online and telephone service supports young people and their families going through a tough time. Visit: <https://www.eheadspace.org.au/>



### KIDS HELPLINE

If you need to talk about anything, you can call, email, or have an online chat with Kids Helpline. Visit [www.kidshelpline.com.au](http://www.kidshelpline.com.au) or call 1800 55 1800



### 1800 RESPECT

Support if you have or are currently experiencing sexual, domestic or family violence. Visit [www.1800respect.org.au](http://www.1800respect.org.au) or call 1800 737 732



### DISABILITY ADVOCACY SERVICES

A disability advocate can help you to access support around your human rights. To find an advocate near you, visit: [finder.dss.gov.au/disability/ndap/](http://finder.dss.gov.au/disability/ndap/)

# GET INVOLVED



## UNITED NATIONS YOUTH ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA (UNYA)

UN Youth Australia is a national youth-led organisation that aims to educate and empower young Australians on global issues.

[www.unyouth.org.au](http://www.unyouth.org.au)



## WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES AUSTRALIA (WWDA)

WWDA represents more than 2 million disabled women and girls in Australia. We are run by and for women with disabilities. We operate as a transnational human rights and systemic advocacy organisation. [www.wwda.org.au](http://www.wwda.org.au)



## WWDA YOUTH NETWORK

WWDA Youth Network aims to empower young women and girls with disabilities to become strong, confident, proud and educated on their rights and options. Follow us and get involved at:



[youth.wwda.org.au](http://youth.wwda.org.au)



[facebook.com/WWDAYouth](https://facebook.com/WWDAYouth)



[twitter.com/WWDA\\_Youth](https://twitter.com/WWDA_Youth)



[goo.gl/BqDQ47](https://goo.gl/BqDQ47) (YouTube)



[instagram.com/WWDA\\_Youth](https://instagram.com/WWDA_Youth)



WWDA Youth Network, *Position Statement 3: Participation*, Women With Disabilities Australia (WWDA): Hobart, Tasmania, 1st Edition, June 2017.

ISBN: 978-0-9775305-8-8

The development of this position statement was made possible through project funding from the Australian Government, Office for Women. WWDA thanks the women and girls with disability who contributed to the development of this statement. Position Statement prepared by Cashelle Dunn and Chris Brophy for Women with Disabilities Australia (WWDA).

For further information and citations, please access:

WWDA Human Rights Toolkit and comprehensive WWDA Position Statements available at, <http://www.wwda.org.au/papers/toolkit>  
WWDA Youth Human Rights Workbook and WWDA Youth Position Statements available at, <http://youth.wwda.org.au/workbook/>

© Women with Disabilities Australia (WWDA) 2017.