

WWDA youth network

**Position Statement 6**  
**Justice**



# WWDA YOUTH BELIEVE,



- ✓ Access to justice is one of the most important civil and political human rights.
- ✓ Women and girls with disability have the right to be recognised as equal before the law.
- ✓ Women and girls with disability have the right to legal capacity and to receive support and advice to make legal decisions.
- ✓ Accurate and easy to understand information must be made available so that women and girls with disability can give their informed consent.

# THE FACTS



A large number of young people with disability are in detention and the youth justice system.



There are more women with disability in prisons than men with disability.



Violence against women and girls with disability happens a lot in Australia. Many survivors do not get justice.



Women and girls with disability are often denied the right to make legal decisions. Instead, decisions are made for them by parents, courts, doctors and government officials.

More info on  
Page 5!

# WHAT IT MEANS



## JUSTICE

Justice is a legal word that means being treated justly or fairly. It also means that people who break the law, including seriously hurting someone else, should pay for their crimes.



## INFORMED CONSENT

To give your permission or agree for something to happen or be done, after you have been provided with information and support to understand the consequences of that decision.



## LEGAL CAPACITY

Being recognised as able to make decisions that have legal consequences. You can do things like consent to a medical operation, get a loan, sign a lease for an apartment or get married.



## EQUALITY BEFORE THE LAW

Being offered the same rights and protection as everyone else in the legal system.



## HUMAN RIGHTS

Human Rights are basic 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

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)



### **LAWSTUFF**

Lawstuff is a website dedicated to providing legal information to children and young people in Australia. Check it out at:  
[www.lawstuff.org.au](http://www.lawstuff.org.au)



### **WWDA YOUTH NETWORK 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)



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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/>

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