

Disability Royal Commission

Tell Your Story

with Help from an Advocate



Easy English

2020

This fact sheet is about



- the Disability Royal Commission



- how you can tell your story



- how an advocate can help you tell your story

Easy Read



Hard Words

This book has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word

- the hard word is in **blue**
- we will write what the hard word means



You **can** get help with this book.

You **can** get someone to help you

- read this book
- know what it says
- find more information

What is the Disability Royal Commission?



A **Royal Commission** is a formal way for us to find out about **big problems**.

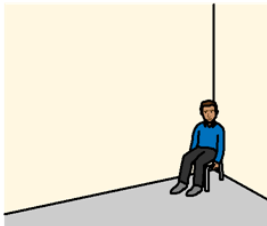
Many people with a **disability** have big problems with



- **violence** - when a person hurts you physically



- **abuse** – when a person treats you badly



- **neglect** – when a person does **not** look after you in the way they should



- **exploitation** – when a person treats you unfairly to help themselves.



In 2019 the Australian Government opened the **Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability.**

We call it the **Disability Royal Commission.**

The **Disability Royal Commission** wants to



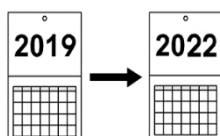
- **stop** violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with disabilities



- learn about what went wrong



- find out how we can fix these big problems



The Disability Royal Commission will go for **3** years.

Tell your Story



The Disability Royal Commission wants to **hear stories** from people with disabilities about these **big problems**.

If you



- have a disability



- are the family, friend, carer or supporter of a person with a disability

and



- have had a problem with violence, abuse, neglect or exploitation



the Disability Royal Commission wants you to **tell your story**.

How can I tell my story?



The Disability Royal Commission wants to make it **easy** for you to tell your story.

There are **2** main ways you can tell your story to the Disability Royal Commission.

You can



- **make a submission**

or



- have a **private session** with a Commissioner

Make A Submission

My story



Make a submission means you **give** the Disability Royal Commission a **record of your story**.

You can make a submission in different ways, like



- on the telephone



- online through their website



- in an email



- by post



- as an audio or video story

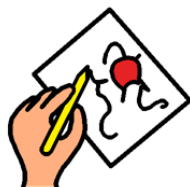


You can tell your story in a way that is easy for you.

You can



- write your story



- draw your story



- speak your story



- ask someone else to write or speak your story

You can tell your story



- in your own words



- in your own language

You can tell your story



- by yourself

or



- with help from family, support person or an advocate



It is ok if you do **not** remember everything about your story.



To find out more about how to make a submission, go to the Royal Commission website



<https://disability.royalcommission.gov.au>

Have a **private session** with a **Commissioner**



A **private session** is a meeting between you and a Commissioner.



A **Commissioner** is a person who works for the Royal Commission.



You tell your story **directly** to a Commissioner.

You can have a private session



- in person



- on the telephone



- via video conference

The Commissioner will



- keep what you say private



- keep **who you are** a secret



This is the law.



To find out more about how to have a private session with a commissioner, go to the Royal Commission website



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How can an **advocate** help me?

If you



- want to know more about the Disability Royal Commission



- need some help to tell your story

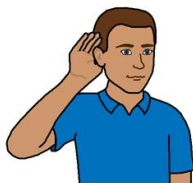


- want to tell your story, but you do **not** know how



- are worried about telling your story

you can get help from an **advocate**.



An **advocate** is a person who listens to you and helps you to be treated fairly.

An advocate can help you



- understand more about the Disability Royal Commission



- tell your story



- protect your rights



- find easy ways to communicate

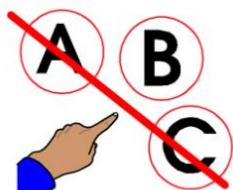


- find someone to help you with the law

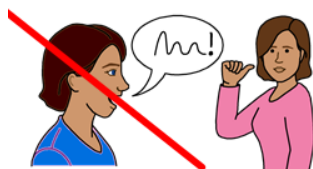


- find someone to help you with money problems

An advocate will **not**



- make decisions for you



- tell you what to do

Help from an advocate is



- **free**. You do not have to pay to get help from an advocate.



- **Independent**

Independent means free from outside control.

Advocates are from a disability organisation.



Advocates are **not** from the Australian Government or from the Disability Royal Commission.

How do I find an advocate?



Advocacy for Inclusion is a Canberra organisation.



We have advocates who can help you tell your story to the Disability Royal Commission.

You can call us on



(02) 6257 4005

or



you can email us at

info@advocacyforinclusion.org

Advocacy for Inclusion made the Easy English resource

Contact details

2.02 Griffin Centre, 20 Genge Street Canberra City ACT 2601

Phone: 6257 4005

Email: info@advocacyforinclusion.org

ABN: 90 670 934 099

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website - Easy Read Documents and Factsheets.

<https://disability.royalcommission.gov.au>