

Prevention matters



Stay in regular contact with older loved ones – call and visit often.



Encourage older people to stay active in their local community.



Be alert to changes in health, wellbeing or behaviour.



Be cautious of extended family, friends or carers who may be seeking financial help.

How to report

Triple Zero 000

In an emergency or when there is an immediate threat to life

Police Assistance Line 131 444

To report non-urgent crimes and events

Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000

Report crime information anonymously

Need support?

Seniors Rights Victoria 1300 368 821

ELDERHelp 1800 353 374

Understanding Elder Abuse



Scan to learn more
about elder abuse

Q Crime Stoppers Victoria



What is elder abuse?

Elder abuse is any act which causes harm to an older person.

It is often carried out by someone a victim knows and trusts, such as family, friends or carers.

At least one in six older Australians aged over 65 experience elder abuse in their lifetime. Many cases go unreported because victims feel scared, ashamed, or dependent on the abuser.

What defines an older person?

Any person aged over 65 years of age is generally defined as an 'older person'.



This initiative received grant funding from the Australian Government.

Who are the abusers?

The majority of perpetrators are other family members—most commonly adult children and grandchildren.

Others can include intimate partners, relatives, or carers.

These crimes must be reported so offenders can be held accountable and victims protected.

Types of elder abuse

- **Financial** – misuse of money, property or assets
- **Emotional & psychological** – threats, intimidation, humiliation
- **Neglect** – failure to provide food, care or medication
- **Social** – isolation from family, friends or community
- **Physical** – pushing, hitting, restraining
- **Sexual** – unwanted sexual contact or behaviour

Warning signs

- Sudden financial changes or missing valuables.
- Poor hygiene, lack of food or medical care.
- Injuries such as bruises, cuts or broken bones.
- Withdrawal, fear, anxiety or confusion.
- Being prevented from speaking or making decisions.