

What is Seniors Rights Victoria?

Seniors Rights Victoria provides information, support, advice and education to help prevent elder abuse and safeguard the rights, dignity and independence of older people.

Our services include:

- Helpline
- free specialist legal services
- short-term support and advocacy for individuals
- community education.

Seniors Rights Victoria also provides leadership on policy and law reform and works with organisations and groups to raise awareness of elder abuse.



Abuse can happen to any older person

If you, your client or someone you know is experiencing elder abuse contact our free confidential Helpline.

Phone: 1300 368 821
10am-5pm Monday - Friday

If you require an interpreter contact us through the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450



www.seniorsrights.org.au



Seniors Rights Victoria acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government, Victoria Legal Aid and the Commonwealth of Australia Attorney-General's Department.

Seniors Rights Victoria is not liable for any error or omission in this publication. It provides a general summary only and must not be relied upon as legal advice.

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Elder abuse prevention & support

How can Seniors Rights Victoria help?

Our experienced advocates and lawyers provide a welcoming and respectful environment where older people can talk confidentially about their experiences and choose their preferred course of action.



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“
Prior to getting help from Seniors Rights Victoria I felt no one was listening and that I had no options. Seniors Rights Victoria gave me a voice.

”

What is elder abuse?

Elder abuse is any act which causes harm to an older person and is carried out by someone they know and trust such as family or friends.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

Using threats, humiliation or harassment causing anguish and feelings of shame or powerlessness. It often occurs in combination with other forms of abuse.

NEGLECT

Failing to provide the basic necessities of life, either intentionally or unintentionally.

FINANCIAL ABUSE

Using someone's money, property or other assets illegally or improperly, or forcing someone to change their will or sign documents.

PHYSICAL ABUSE

Inflicting pain or injury, by hitting, slapping, pushing or using restraints.

SOCIAL ABUSE

Preventing contact with relatives, friends or service providers or restricting activities.

SEXUAL ABUSE

Any sexual activity for which the person has not consented.

Your Rights

Older people have the right to:

- live in safety
- be treated with dignity and respect
- make their own decisions, even if they seem wrong to others

Elder abuse is when these rights are denied, resulting in harm.

