

The Clothesline Project

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Hang your shirt on the line and
say **NO** to family violence



Project Kit

This project kit will act as your guide for
running your own Clothesline Project session.



The Clothesline Project

Cardinia Communities for Children is a community partnership building a safe and strong community for children within Cardinia Shire. Using a collaborative approach we are committed to strengthening deep community connection and supports; early childhood development (0-12 years); engagement with education; building parenting capacity and skills; social, emotional and mental well-being and hearing directly from children about what is important in their community.

Safe Kids - Strong Communities

The Clothesline Project is a visual display of t-shirts decorated with messages against family violence, exhibited on clotheslines within the community. First implemented in Massachusetts in 1990 in response to the escalation of violence against women, the Clothesline Project has since been utilised worldwide with purpose:

- to increase awareness and educate the community of the incidence of family violence.
- to empower community members to speak out against family violence.
- to honour the strength of survivors of family violence.
- to pay tribute to loved ones lost to family violence.
- to encourage respectful relationships.

There are unacceptably high rates of family violence evident within our community in which cultural change and education setting can play a crucial role. Developing early awareness on respectful relationships (what they are and what they look like) is vital in encouraging individuals to become successful members of society.

By working together, we can make real and enduring change, helping address gender inequality and prevent family violence. This kit will assist you with your own Clothesline Project. By doing so you will be helping to break the silence that surrounds family violence and expand the Project's audience.

How it Works

Run a Clothesline Project session within your school, organisation or community by following the steps in this self-guided project kit. There is no fee to participate. Simply register your participation using the link/QR code to gain access to further resources and entry into the competition

1

Register

Register your school / org / group for participation using the quick link / QR code to the right.

Registration Form

<https://forms.office.com/r/dwNGcCeDdn>

2

Design

Design your t-shirts with images and messages that say NO to family violence.



3

Display

Creatively display your t-shirts. Then enter a picture of your display into the competition. The link to upload photos will be sent after you have registered.

4

Nominate

Select up to three t-shirts to represent your school / org / group. These will be exhibited and judged for prizes. The link to upload nominations will be sent after you have registered.

5

Celebrate

Come on White Ribbon Day 25th Nov for the exhibition and prizes. There will also be activities and light refreshments. Event information will be released in October.

Getting Started

This activity is designed to raise awareness of family violence and encourage respectful relationships. Before running your own Clothesline Project, consider that Family Violence is a complex issue that needs to be approached with sensitivity. We have provided some tools and guidelines to assist you.

T-Shirts

1. Only t-shirts are to be used for the project. Paper t-shirt templates can be used as a last resort - print as large as possible so they may be displayed well.
2. Participants are encouraged to bring their own t-shirt, but having spare is advised so those who are unable can still be included.
3. Ask participants decorating t-shirts **not** to identify any perpetrators by either their first name, their last name or their race.

Support

5. The activity/display may overwhelm participants and could be upsetting. It is important to consider the physical location of the activity/display. Having a place for anyone to take a quiet moment and offering support is important.
6. It is useful to invite local support services to attend your activity/display. Having them present information on their services is helpful.
7. Family violence is a complex issue. You could consider providing information on various issues such as drug and alcohol, counselling services, and support groups.

Consent

8. Any individuals having their photo taken or being interviewed on the day need to sign a consent form.
9. It is possible that individuals may not want their t-shirts displayed so having a selection of pre-decorated t-shirts will ensure the message is still raised.

Design

Messages that say NO to family violence!

The t-shirts can be designed with words, shapes, pictures etc. As family violence can mean many things, allow participants to really express themselves in their designs.



1

Location

Locate an appropriate area for decorating. Make sure there are enough tables, chairs and room to dry the finished work.

2

Materials

Have a variety of stationary such as pens, markers and paints that can be used to decorate. Quick drying products are best.

3

T-shirts

Have spare t-shirts available for those unable to provide their own, with string and pegs at the ready to hang and dry the artwork.

4

Support

Support any individuals who are overwhelmed by the activity. There is information on support services available for them to take home in the attached 'Care Kit'.

Display

The Clothesline Project refers to the way women used to talk and share information while hanging their clothes out to dry in their yards. Use the spirit of this idea to create a display for your finished artworks.



1

Location

Select a location to display your t-shirts, where the messages might also be seen by the wider community. For example: some schools have pegged their t-shirts along the school fence-line, some organisations have put up a display in their street front window etc.

2

Exhibit

You can even reach out to public venues that might exhibit your display such as: shopping centres, halls, markets, recreational reserves or public libraries.

3

Photos

Make sure to take lots of photos of your display to enter into our competition to be held later in the year.

Last Thing

Make sure to register your participation. As we will need to send information about the competition and exhibition later in the year! Best of luck with your designs and displays.

Contact

Please reach out to the Cardinia Communities for Children Team at Anglicare Victoria, Pakenham office:

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