

Fair Work Ombudsman supports White Ribbon

26 November 2012

Fair Work Ombudsman Nicholas Wilson has pledged his commitment to White Ribbon by supporting the view that workplaces can play a strong role in assisting those who are victims of domestic violence.

White Ribbon is Australia's campaign to stop violence against women. Through primary prevention initiatives and an annual campaign, White Ribbon seeks to change the attitudes and behaviours that lead to and perpetuate violence against women.

"There is no reason why workplaces can't provide support to employees who are victims of domestic violence - especially because finding this support at work might be what they need to stay in paid employment," said Mr Wilson, who is a White Ribbon Day Ambassador.

"I am personally committed to assisting victims on their pathway out of violence and the Fair Work Ombudsman is working closely with other government agencies and leaders in the field of domestic violence prevention to develop progressive policy around domestic violence," he said.

"The Fair Work Ombudsman's policy is in line with the Australian Public Service Commission's leadership on this issue, and ensures a consistent, respectful and supportive action is taken across Australian Government workplaces in relation to employees who are affected by domestic or family violence.

"Besides from it being the right thing to do, we also expect to unearth a range of benefits to the running of the Agency, such as a reduction in recruitment and training costs by retaining employees who might otherwise leave the workplace because of their private circumstances, as well as impacts on the health and safety of women in our agency, their wellbeing and their productivity.

"Violence against women is unacceptable but sadly it still occurs. I am a strong supporter of White Ribbon, an advocate for White Ribbon Day, and I cannot stress the difference that a supportive workplace could make to someone who is a victim of domestic violence," he said.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has a range of resources for employers on its website, including a suite of Best Practice Guides and a regular eNewsletter that contains important updates on workplace obligations.

Employers and employees seeking information and advice should visit www.fairwork.gov.au or call the Infoline on 13 13 94.

Follow the Fair Work Ombudsman on [Twitter @fairwork_gov_au](https://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au)  (http://twitter.com/fairwork_gov_au) or find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/fairwork.gov.au)  (<https://www.facebook.com/fairwork.gov.au>) .

Media inquiries:

Penny Rowe, Media & Stakeholder Relations
0457 924 146
penelope.rowe@fwo.gov.au

Page reference No: 3623

Contact us

Fair Work Online: www.fairwork.gov.au

Fair Work Infoline: 13 13 94

Need language help?

Contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50

Hearing & speech assistance

Call through the National Relay Service (NRS):

For TTY: 13 36 77. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

Speak & Listen: 1300 555 727. Ask for the Fair Work Infoline 13 13 94

The Fair Work Ombudsman is committed to providing advice that you can rely on. The information contained on this website is general in nature. If you are unsure about how it applies to your situation you can call our Infoline on 13 13 94 or speak with a union, industry association or workplace relations professional. Visitors are warned that this site may inadvertently contain names or pictures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have recently died.