

## What is the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse?

**The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has been set up to investigate child sexual abuse that occurred in institutions such as government agencies, schools, orphanages, foster care, churches, mosques or missions, and how those institutions responded.**

The Royal Commission is interested in hearing – in writing, over the phone or in private informal meetings – from people who were abused, or who witnessed abuse or the institution's response. The abuse can have occurred at any time.

**knowmore** is here to provide you with legal information, advice and counselling/social worker support to put you in the best position to decide if you want to tell your story or provide information to the Royal Commission, and, if you do, what is the best option for you to do so. We can also help you with writing a statement about your experience, or a submission about how procedures or laws could be improved.

## How to contact knowmore

**Free advice line 1800 605 762**  
**Our website [www.knowmore.org.au](http://www.knowmore.org.au)**  
**Email [info@knowmore.org.au](mailto:info@knowmore.org.au)**

### Our Offices

#### Brisbane

Suite 1, Level 16, 141 Queen St, Brisbane QLD 4000  
PO Box 2151, Brisbane QLD 4001  
**T** 07 3218 4500 **F** 07 3218 4590

#### Sydney

Suite G02, Ground Floor, 233 Castlereagh St,  
Sydney NSW 2000  
PO Box 20319, World Square NSW 2002  
**T** 02 8267 7400 **F** 02 8267 7490


#### Melbourne

Level 1, 180 Flinders St, Melbourne 3000  
PO Box 84, Flinders Lane VIC 8009  
**T** 03 8663 7400 **F** 03 8663 7490

#### Perth

Level 9, 41 St Georges Terrace, Perth WA 6000  
PO Box 8095, Cloisters Square, WA 6850  
**T** 08 9225 0200 **F** 08 9225 0290

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# know more

## Free legal help to navigate the Royal Commission

## Were you or someone you know sexually abused as a child in an institution?

A Royal Commission has been set up to investigate child sexual abuse in institutions such as government agencies, sporting clubs, churches, missions and foster care, and how those institutions responded.

If you think that this might be the right time and place for you to tell your story or provide information, **knowmore** provides free and confidential legal advice about your options for talking with the Royal Commission, and about related issues such as confidentiality agreements and compensation.

## What is knowmore?

**knowmore is a free legal service that can advise you about engaging with the Royal Commission, and issues such as witness protection and confidentiality agreements. knowmore is completely separate from the Royal Commission and government.**

Our staff are here to help you and act in your interest, they are experienced in providing culturally safe and trauma-sensitive advice.

**knowmore** has been established by the National Association of Community Legal Centres Inc, with funding from the Australian Government represented by the Attorney-General's Department.

### Privacy and confidentiality

**knowmore** is a confidential legal service. None of your personal information, or any information that identifies you, will be passed on to the Royal Commission, the government or any other party unless you ask us to or unless we are compelled or authorised by law to do so.

### Culturally safe services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

We are committed to ensuring that our services are delivered in ways that are culturally safe and respectful for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We have Aboriginal staff who can support you.

## What can knowmore do?

**Provide free legal advice and information and specialist counselling/social worker support to access our services.**

**knowmore** offers a free national advice line and where possible will see people in person as needed.

**knowmore** can help you with:

- legal information and advice about the Royal Commission's powers, procedures and guidelines and the range of options available to you for engaging with the Royal Commission
- advice on related legal issues such as the effect of confidentiality agreements in past proceedings and the availability of compensation
- linking you with specialist counselling and support services
- help with writing statements and submissions

**knowmore** does not provide legal representation for people appearing before the Royal Commission but, if needed, we can help you to find suitable representation and to access funding for it.

**You can find out more by calling our free advice line: 1800 605 762**

## Who can knowmore help?

**Any member of the public who is considering giving information or speaking with the Royal Commission, or someone calling on their behalf.**

If you have experienced or witnessed child sexual abuse in an institution, or have information about an institution's response to such abuse, **knowmore** can provide you with free legal advice and support specific to your situation.

If for some reason, **knowmore** is unable to assist you, we will find you someone who can help.

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person, you may like to speak with our cultural liaison officers.

### Helpful Numbers

**Lifeline** – 13 11 14

24-hour crisis support and suicide prevention

**Suicide Call Back Service** – 1300 659 467

24-hour crisis support and suicide prevention

**Adults Surviving Child Abuse** 1300 657 380 (9–5pm)

Counselling and support for survivors, supporters & workers

**Kids Helpline** – 1800 55 1800

24-hour support for young people

**Sexual Assault Counselling Australia** – 1800 211 028

Telephone counselling, information and support service for people affected by the Royal Commission and staffed with qualified trauma specialist counsellors. Monday-Friday 8am–11pm AEDT (Sydney Time)

