



WALGA

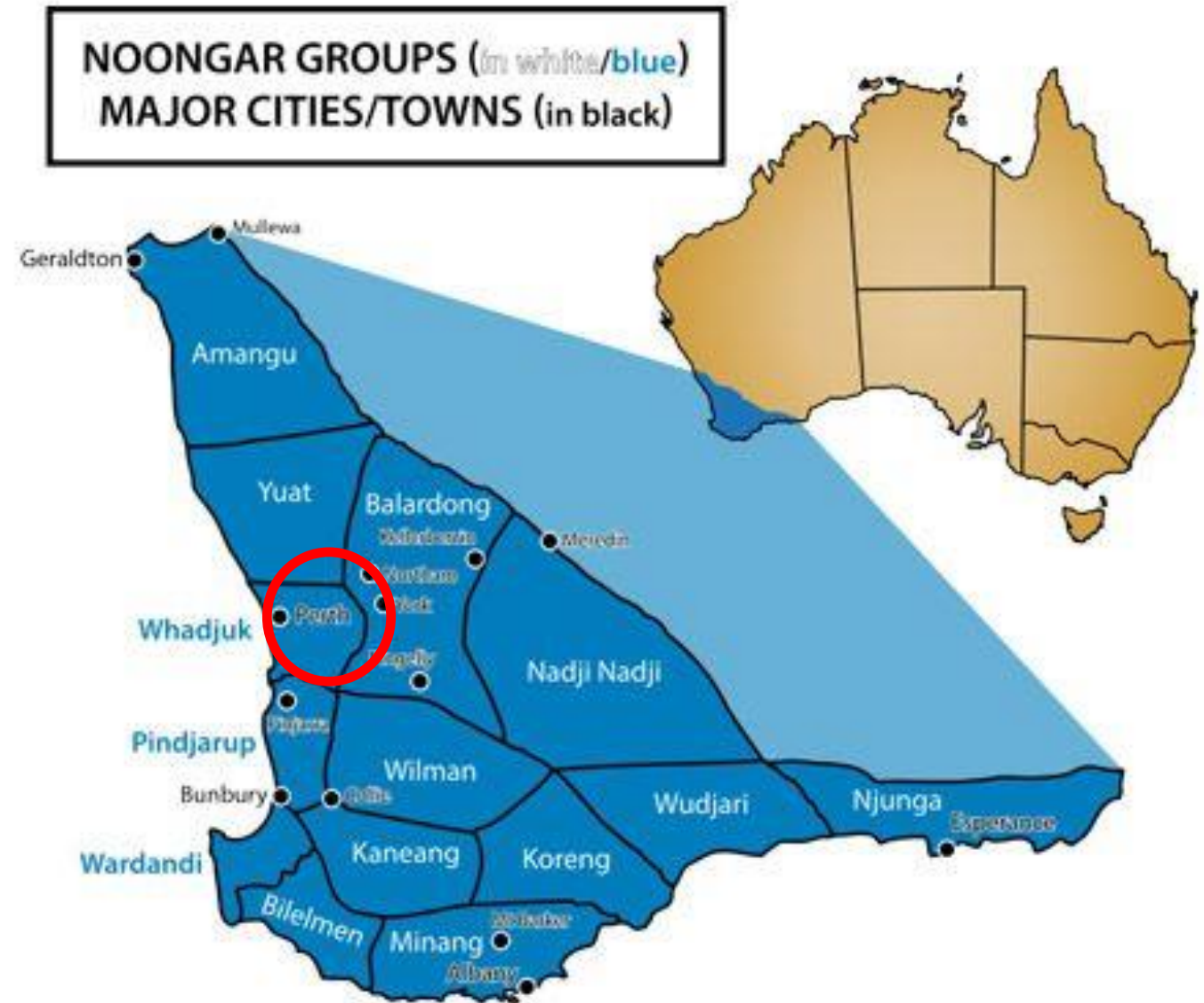
Supporting Family and Domestic Violence Prevention

Kate Jeffries, Sector Development Manager

Acknowledgement of Country

I wish to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country right across Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community.

In particular we would like to pay our respects to the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation whose land we meet upon here today.





Supporting partnerships
that make a **difference**

KEY MESSAGES!

Everyone deserves to live
without fear of violence



KEY MESSAGES!

- Increase **safety** for women and children experiencing family and domestic violence
- Pivot to the **cause of harm** and hold perpetrators accountable
- Hold **high expectations** of fathers as parents

FOUR PILLARS



SUPPORTING PRIMARY PREVENTION



PRIMARY PREVENTION INITIATIVES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT



Educate their staff on the factors underlying FDV and the issues residents who have or are experiencing FDV may have.



Review their policies to ensure that they support gender equality both for their own staff and for residents in their Local Government Area



Focus youth activities on developing respectful relationships and gender equality.



Support Local and State Events to increase awareness for staff and community members
e.g. Conferences, Forums, Silent Marches



CENTRE FOR
Women's Safety
and Wellbeing



BRINGING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE INTO VIEW

FDV Conference 2021

Bringing Children And Young People Into View

Strengthening policy and practice responses
for children and young people experiencing
family, domestic and sexual violence

13 - 15 September

Perth

GENDERED BIAS & ASSUMPTIONS

MOTHERS

Childcare

School updates

Health updates

Clean/Care/Meals

School drop off/pick up

Parent meetings

Household Chores & Routines



FATHERS

Financially Provide

Sport and other activities

GENDERED BIAS & ASSUMPTIONS



Why doesn't she leave?

It must not be that bad, she didn't call the police?

She must protect the children

She let him back in the house

He deserves to see his children

We must shift from a failure to protect to a **strengths based lens**

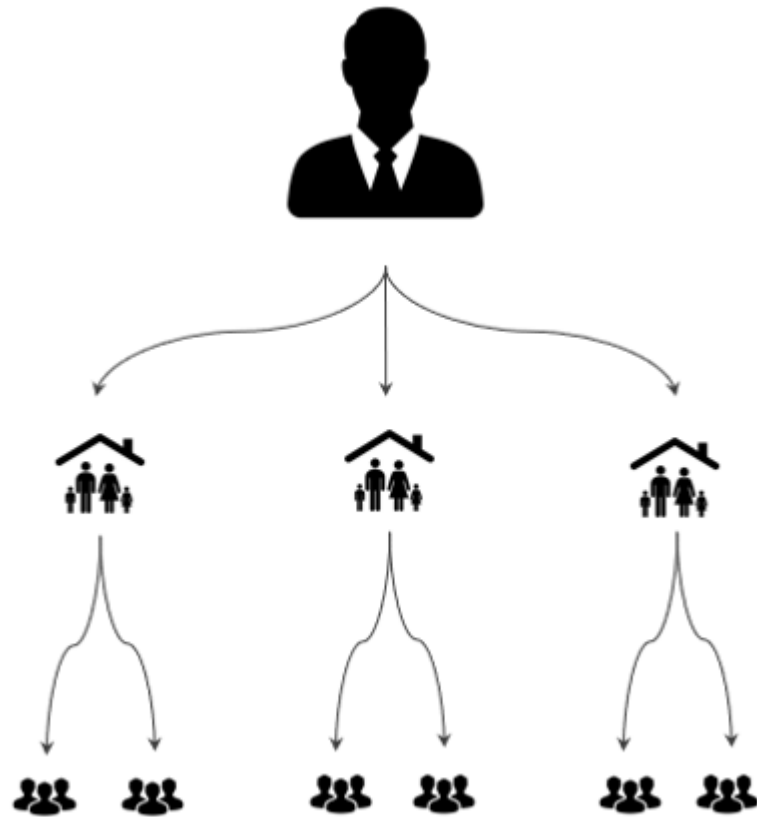
GENDERED BIAS & ASSUMPTIONS

Why Doesn't She **Leave**?



Why Doesn't He **Stop**?

WHY DO PERPETRATOR INTERVENTION



On average for man who perpetrates family and domestic violence

He will have an ongoing influence on **three** current or former partners and potential numerous future families

On average each family will have an average of **two to three** children

The vast majority of perpetrators still see their children. One study found **70% see their children frequently**

MULTIPLE IMPACTS ON CHILDREN

Perpetrator's Patterns

- coercive control towards the adult victim-survivor
- actions taken to harm the children

Children's Trauma & Safety

- physical abuse
- Seeing, hearing or learning about the violence

Effects on Family Ecology

- Loss of income
- Loss of contact with extended family
- Housing instability
- Educational and social disruptions

Harm to Child

- Behaviour, Social, Emotional Educational
- Developmental
- Physical Injury

Effects on Partner's Parenting

- Depression, PTSD, anxiety, alcohol and substance use
- Loss of parenting authority
- Energy directed towards perpetrator to stay safe instead of the children
- Interference with day to day routine and basic care

FDV INFORMED WA LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

WEAK

STRONG

Adult Issues



Integrated with Children's Issues

Use a "Failure to Protect" & Incident Based



Perpetrator Patterned Based

Blame Adult Victim-Survivors



Pivot to the cause of harm

See a Child with a problem behaviour



See impacts on children and family functioning

Fathers are invisible



Fathers are invisible

Child versus Adult Survivor



Child Safety and Wellbeing tied to Adult

CHALLENGE LANGUAGE

"It is a DV Relationship"

MUTUALISING

"Why does she keep choosing violent men?"

VICTIM BLAMING

"If it's that bad, why doesn't she leave?"

MINIMISING & VICTIM BLAMING

"They are always fighting"

MUTUALISING

"He has childhood trauma; he cannot help it"

MINIMISING & JUSTIFYING

"She must have done something?"

VICTIM BLAMING

"The children are really naughty; I think they have ADHD?"

JUSTIFYING & VICTIM BLAMING

CHALLENGE UNHELPFUL BELIEFS



If we continue to treat the issues in silos....

Perpetrators remain **invisible** and **lack accountability**

Adult and Child Victim-Survivors are **blamed**

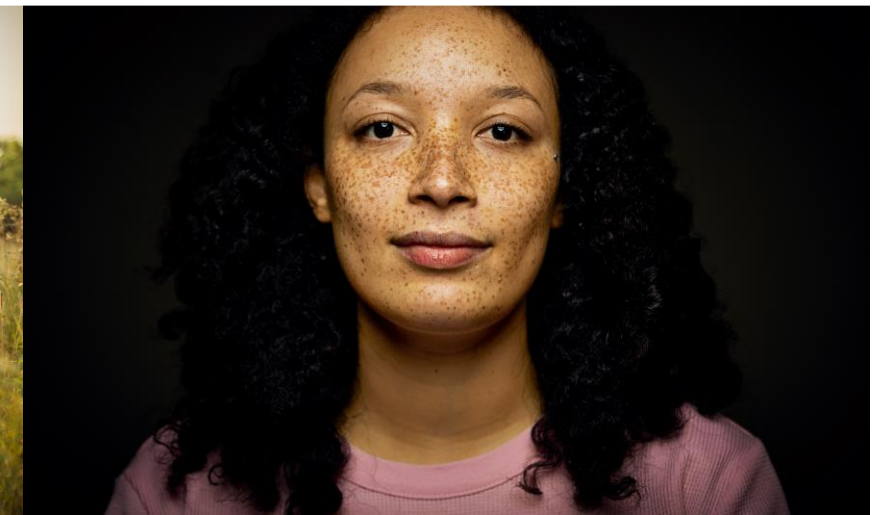
Adult Victim-Survivors are held **responsible** for their children

Pivoting towards the perpetrator means...





Everyone deserves to live **without** fear of violence





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